

**MINUTES**  
**MONTANA SENATE**  
**68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**  
**COMMITTEE ON (S) AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION**

**Call to Order:** Chair Susan Webber-D, on March 23, 2023 at 3:18 PM, in 335

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Sen. Bruce Gillespie, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Susan Webber, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Dan Bartel (R)  
Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)  
Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D)  
Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Mike Lang (R)  
Sen. Dennis Lenz (R)  
Sen. Wendy McKamey (R)  
Sen. Shane Morigeau (D)  
Sen. Daniel Salomon (R)

**Staff Present:** Cy Walsh, Secretary  
Trevor Graff, Research Analyst  
Heather Vande-Sandt, Attorney

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted:

HB 158 03/21/2023

HB 159 03/21/2023

HB 662 03/21/2023

Executive Action:

**HEARING ON HB 662 - Prohibit grazing on public land without permission**

**Opening Statement:**

15:19:23 Rep. Fred Anderson (R), HD 20, opened the hearing on HB 662, Prohibit grazing on public land without permission.

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

15:20:54 Jay Bodner, Department of Livestock (DOL)

15:21:14 Shawn Thomas, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

**Questions from Committee:**

15:21:48 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn

15:22:24 Shawn Thomas, DNRC

15:23:22 Jay Bodner, DOL

15:24:12 Sen. Dan Bartel

15:24:54 Jay Bodner, DOL

15:26:03 Vice Chair Susan Webber

15:27:12 Rep. Fred Anderson-R

15:27:31 Sen. Daniel Salomon joined the meeting.

15:27:47 Sen. Dennis Lenz joined the meeting.

15:28:20 Vice Chair Bruce Gillespie

15:28:32 Shawn Thomas, DNRC

**Closing Statement:**

15:30:08 Rep. Fred Anderson (R), HD 20, closed the hearing on HB 662.

**HEARING ON HB 158 - Revise custom exempt facilities as required by the Federal Meat Inspection Act**

**Opening Statement:**

15:32:11 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 158, Revise custom exempt facilities as required by the Federal Meat Inspection Act.

**Discussion:**

15:32:39 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn left the meeting.

15:32:41 Sen. Ellie Boldman left the meeting.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:33:06 Mike Honeycutt, Department of Livestock (DOL)

15:35:31 Scott Kulbeck, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:36:52 Vice Chair Susan Webber

15:37:13 Mike Honeycutt, DOL

15:38:50 Vice Chair Bruce Gillespie

15:39:08 Mike Honeycutt, DOL

15:41:30 Vice Chair Susan Webber

15:42:04 Mike Honeycutt, DOL

15:43:20 Sen. Shannon O'Brien

15:44:06 Mike Honeycutt, DOL

**Closing Statement:**

15:44:58 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, closed the hearing on HB 158.

**HEARING ON HB 159 - Repeal Livestock Crimestoppers Act**

**Opening Statement:**

15:45:38 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 159, Repeal Livestock Crimestoppers Act.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:46:15 Jay Bodner, Department of Livestock (DOL)

15:49:21 Raylee Honeycutt, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSA)

15:49:52 Scott Kulbeck, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:50:44 Vice Chair Susan Webber

15:51:18 Jay Bodner, DOL

15:51:54 Sen. Shannon O'Brien

15:52:23 Jay Bodner, DOL

15:53:41 Sen. Daniel Salomon

15:53:56 Jay Bodner, DOL

**Closing Statement:**

15:55:07 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, closed the hearing on HB 159.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 15:55:33

---

Cy Walsh, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230323AGSaad\)](#)