

**MINUTES**  
**MONTANA SENATE**  
**68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**  
**COMMITTEE ON (S) HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION**

**Call to Order:** Chair Chris Friedel-R, on March 23, 2023 at 3:03 PM, in 405

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Sen. Chris Friedel, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Andrea Olsen, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Becky Beard (R)  
Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell (D)  
Sen. Carl Glimm (R)  
Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R)  
Sen. Barry Usher (R)  
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Jen Gross (D)  
Sen. Kathy Kelker (D)  
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)  
Sen. Theresa Manzella (R)

**Staff Present:** Trudy Burke, Secretary  
Joe Carroll, 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 327 03/20/2023  
HB 331 03/15/2023  
HB 333 03/15/2023  
HB 489 03/15/2023

Executive Action:

HB 344 TO TABLE  
HB 622 BE AMENDED

**HEARING ON HB 327 - Revise allowed uses of transportation services account**

**Opening Statement:**

15:04:25 Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R), HD 97, opened the hearing on HB 327, Revise allowed uses of transportation services account.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:07:15 Rob Stapley, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:08:26 Sen. Carl Glimm

15:09:29 Rob Stapley, MDT

**Closing Statement:**

15:09:52 Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R), HD 97, closed the hearing on HB 327.

**HEARING ON HB 489 - Update name of Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council in transportation law**

**Opening Statement:**

15:11:08 Rep. Tony Brockman (R), HD 9, opened the hearing on HB 489, Update name of Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council in transportation law.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:13:05 Celia Rigler, On behalf of Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

- 15:14:07 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen
- 15:14:36 Chair Theresa Manzella joined the meeting.
- 15:14:53 Rep. Tony Brockman-R

**Closing Statement:**

- 15:15:01 Rep. Tony Brockman (R), HD 9, closed the hearing on HB 489.

**HEARING ON HB 331 - Generally revise off-highway vehicle grant funding laws**

**Opening Statement:**

- 15:16:04 Rep. Greg Oblander (R), HD 40, opened the hearing on HB 331, Generally revise off-highway vehicle grant funding laws.

**Discussion:**

[EXHIBIT\(230323HISa1\)](#)

**Proponent Testimony:**

- 15:22:20 Roger Hagan, Montana Trail Riders Association (MTVRA)
- 15:23:18 Russ Ehnes, Montana Trail Vehicle Riders Association (MTVRA)
- 15:28:16 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association (TSRA)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

- 15:30:05 Hope Stockwell, Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

**Questions from Committee:**

- 15:30:47 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen
- 15:31:38 Sen. Barry Usher left the meeting.
- 15:35:32 Hope Stockwell. FWP
- 15:35:49 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell
- 15:36:43 Hope Stockwell. FWP

15:37:13 Chair Theresa Manzella  
15:39:20 Russ Ehnes, MTVRA  
15:39:40 Sen. Becky Beard  
15:40:51 Russ Ehnes, MTVRA  
15:41:50 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen  
15:42:18 Rep. Greg Oblander-R

**Closing Statement:**

15:43:48 Rep. Greg Oblander (R), HD 40, closed the hearing on HB 331.

**HEARING ON HB 333 - Generally revise motorized recreation laws**

**Opening Statement:**

15:46:18 Rep. Greg Oblander (R), HD 40, opened the hearing on HB 333, Generally revise motorized recreation laws.

**Discussion:**

15:47:57 Vice Chair Chris Friedel left the meeting.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:55:51 Roger Hagan, Montana Trail Vehicle Riders Association (MTVRA)  
15:56:44 Russ Ehnes, Montana Trail Vehicle Riders Association (MTVRA)  
15:58:09 Fred Bailey, Montana Snowmobile Association (MSA)  
16:00:40 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association (TSRA)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

16:01:33 Hope Stockwell, Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

**Questions from Committee:**

16:02:09 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen

16:02:38 Rep. Greg Oblander-R

**Closing Statement:**

16:03:36 Rep. Greg Oblander (R), HD 40, closed the hearing on HB 333.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 344 - Require new school buses to be equipped with lap-shoulder belts**

16:10:59 **Motion:** Sen. Andrea Olsen moved that **HB 344 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

16:06:44 Sen. Andrea Olsen moved that HB 184 BE CONCURRED IN.

16:09:55 Sen. Andrea Olsen withdrew the motion that HB 184 BE CONCURRED IN.

16:11:42 Sen. Carl Glimm

16:12:39 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

16:13:17 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen

16:10:59 **Vote:** Motion failed 8 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Dunwell, Sen. Gross, Sen. Kelker, Sen. Olsen, voting yes.  
Sen. Gross, Sen. Kelker, By Proxy

16:15:24 **Motion:** Sen. Carl Glimm moved that **HB 344 TO TABLE.**

16:15:24 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 622 - Provide for non-resident titling**

16:16:01 **Motion:** Sen. Andrea Olsen moved that **HB 622 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

16:16:30 Joe Carroll

16:16:40 **Motion:** Sen. Andrea Olsen moved that **HB 622 BE AMENDED.**

16:16:40 **Vote:** Motion carried 9 - 3 by voice vote with Sen. Gross, Sen. Kelker, Sen. Olsen, voting no.  
Sen. Gross, Sen. Kelker, By Proxy

16:17:55 **Committee Discussion:** Sen. Andrea Olsen motioned that HB 622 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.

16:18:17 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen

16:19:15 Chair Theresa Manzella

16:19:24 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

16:19:31 Sen. Shelley Vance

16:19:46 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen

16:20:42 Sen. Shelley Vance

16:21:09 Chair Theresa Manzella

16:21:33 Joe Carroll

16:21:57 Chair Theresa Manzella

16:22:49 **Committee Discussion:** Sen. Andrea Olsen withdrew the motion that HB 622 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 16:24:24

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Trudy Burke, Secretary

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