

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: Chair Carl Glimm-R, on March 29, 2023 at 8:00 AM, in 317

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. John Esp, Chair (R)
Sen. Janet Ellis, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Carl Glimm, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Dan Bartel (R)
Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)
Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)
Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)
Sen. John Fuller (R)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Dennis Lenz (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)
Sen. Tom McGillvray (R)
Sen. Shane Morigeau (D)
Sen. Daniel Salomon (R)
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)
Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)

Staff Present: Julie Johnson, Research Analyst
Joe Triem, Fiscal Analyst
Cy Walsh, Secretary

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 188 03/27/2023
HB 457 03/27/2023
SB 122 03/27/2023
SB 145 03/27/2023
SB 298 03/27/2023

Executive Action:

SB 122 DO PASS
HB 188 BE CONCURRED IN
HB 457 BE CONCURRED IN

HEARING ON SB 298 - Revise laws related to hunting by disabled persons

Opening Statement:

08:02:00 Sen. Brad Molnar (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 298, Revise laws related to hunting by disabled persons.

Discussion:

08:02:22 Sen. Pat Flowers joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

08:04:35 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

08:04:55 Chair John Esp left the meeting.

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:06:44 Lena Havron, Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee:

08:07:10 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

08:07:29 Lena Havron, FWP

Closing Statement:

08:07:54 Sen. Brad Molnar (R), SD 28, closed the hearing on SB 298.

HEARING ON SB 145 - Provide for local distribution of lodging tax revenue

Opening Statement:

08:10:15 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB 145, Provide for local distribution of lodging tax revenue.

Discussion:

08:10:27 Sen. Ellie Boldman left the meeting.

08:10:33 Sen. Dennis Lenz left the meeting.

08:13:41 Sen. Kenneth Bogner left the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

08:14:05 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponent Testimony:

08:15:41 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayer Association (MTA)

08:20:12 Todd O'Hair, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:21:07 Jason Lay, Department of Revenue (DOR)

08:21:26 Jared Isom, Department of Revenue (DOR)

08:21:43 Mandy Rambo, Department of Commerce (DOC)

08:22:10 Scott Osterman, Department of Commerce (DOC)

08:22:31 Jenny Pelej, Department of Commerce (DOC)

Questions from Committee:

08:23:04 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

08:23:39 Sen. Keith Regier-R

08:23:56 Sen. Pat Flowers

08:25:15 Scott Osterman, DOC

08:29:26 Sen. Mike Cuffe

08:30:05 Scott Osterman, DOC

08:32:54 Jenny Pelej, DOC

08:35:07 Sen. Mike Cuffe

08:35:36 Sen. Christopher Pope joined the meeting.

08:35:52 Sen. Keith Regier-R

08:43:20 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

08:44:12 Eric Bryson, MACo

08:45:45 Sen. John Fuller

08:46:10 Jenny Pelej, DOC

08:48:06 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

08:48:58 Bob Story, MTA

08:51:46 Sen. Ellie Boldman joined the meeting.

08:52:51 Vice Chair Carl Glimm

08:53:51 Bob Story, MTA

08:54:03 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

08:54:26 Eric Bryson, MACo

08:56:51 Sen. Mike Cuffe

08:58:36 Sen. Keith Regier-R

08:59:28 Sen. Shelley Vance

09:00:08 Jason Lay, DOR

09:00:25 Sen. Shelley Vance

09:00:45 Jared Isom, DOR

09:01:17 Sen. Shelley Vance

09:01:43 Eric Bryson, MACo

09:03:36 Sen. Dan Bartel

09:04:22 Sen. Keith Regier-R

09:04:49 Bob Story, MTA

09:06:01 Sen. Ellie Boldman

09:07:09 Scott Osterman, DOC

09:16:44 Sen. Mike Cuffe left the meeting.

09:17:15 Sen. Pat Flowers left the meeting.

09:18:40 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn

09:19:44 Mandy Rambo, DOC

09:20:10 Sen. John Fuller left the meeting.
09:21:19 Sen. Dennis Lenz joined the meeting.
09:21:22 Jenny Pelej, DOC

Closing Statement:

09:22:53 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, closed the hearing on SB 145.

HEARING ON HB 188 - Extend funding to Coal Board

Opening Statement:

09:24:08 Rep. Gary Parry (R), HD 39, opened the hearing on HB 188, Extend funding to Coal Board.

Discussion:

09:24:56 Sen. John Fuller joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

09:29:04 George Harris, Montana Coal Council (MCC)
09:29:26 Sen. Shane Morigeau left the meeting.
09:29:41 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn left the meeting.
09:32:15 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip
09:33:38 Thomas Jodoin, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)
09:34:18 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
09:34:53 Jim Atchison, Southeastern Montana Development Corporation (SEMDC)
09:36:31 Sen. Shane Morigeau joined the meeting.

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:37:26 Renee Lemon, Department of Commerce (DOC)

09:37:49 Jared Isom, Department of Revenue (DOR)

09:38:10 Scott Osterman, Department of Commerce (DOC)

Questions from Committee:

09:39:03 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

09:39:31 Renee Lemon, DOC

09:40:29 Sen. Mike Lang

09:40:49 Renee Lemon, DOC

Closing Statement:

09:41:12 Rep. Gary Parry (R), HD 39, closed the hearing on HB 188.

HEARING ON HB 457 - Criminalize use of date rape drugs

Opening Statement:

09:42:20 Rep. Alice Buckley (D), HD 63, opened the hearing on HB 457, Criminalize use of date rape drugs.

Discussion:

09:42:39 Vice Chair Carl Glimm left the meeting.

09:45:08 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

09:45:36 Brian Thompson, Montana County Attorneys Association (MCAA)

09:46:12 Sen. Ryan Lynch left the meeting.

09:46:32 Dan Smith, Montana Police Protective Association (MPPA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:47:33 Beth Thompson, Department of Justice (DOJ)

09:48:37 Travis Spinder, Department of Justice (DOJ)

09:49:07 Elizabeth Smalley, Department of Justice (DOJ)

Questions from Committee:

09:50:10 Sen. Mike Lang
09:50:31 Elizabeth Smalley, DOJ
09:53:18 Sen. Ryan Lynch joined the meeting.
09:54:03 Sen. Mike Lang
09:54:18 Beth Thompson, DOJ
09:54:26 Sen. Pat Flowers joined the meeting.
09:55:03 Sen. John Fuller
09:56:11 Rep. Alice Buckley-D

Closing Statement:

09:58:20 Rep. Alice Buckley (D), HD 63, closed the hearing on HB 457.

HEARING ON SB 122 - Revise cigar tax based on a fixed amount per cigar

Opening Statement:

09:59:20 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, opened the hearing on SB 122, Revise cigar tax based on a fixed amount per cigar.

Proponent Testimony:

10:00:48 Scott Boulanger, Montana Cigar Association (MCA)

[EXHIBIT\(230329FCSa1\)](#)

10:01:46 Dan Smith, self

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

10:02:44 Jason Lay, Department of Revenue (DOR)

10:03:06 Jared Isom, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee:

10:03:31 Sen. Shane Morigeau

10:03:41 Sen. Greg Hertz-R

10:03:50 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

10:04:35 Sen. Greg Hertz-R

10:05:00 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

10:05:12 Sen. Greg Hertz-R

10:05:28 Sen. Tom McGillvray

10:05:35 Scott Boulanger, MCA

Closing Statement:

10:06:35 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, closed the hearing on SB 122.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 122 - Revise cigar tax based on a fixed amount per cigar

10:07:49 **Motion:** Sen. Daniel Salomon moved that **SB 122 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

10:08:00 Sen. Shane Morigeau

10:07:49 **Vote:** Motion carried 15 - 4 by voice vote with Sen. Ellis, Sen. Glimm, Sen. Lang, Sen. Lenz, voting no.
Sen. Glimm, By Proxy

10:10:07 **Recessed**

10:34:05 **Reconvened**

10:34:11 Chair Esp has arrived

10:34:18 Sen. Cuffe has arrived

10:34:25 Sen. Vance has left

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 188 - Extend funding to Coal Board

10:35:09 **Motion:** Sen. Tom McGillvray moved that **HB 188 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

10:35:43 Sen. Shelley Vance joined the meeting.

10:35:09 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 457 - Criminalize use of date rape drugs

10:35:55 **Motion:** Sen. Tom McGillvray moved that **HB 457 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:35:55 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:39:31

Cy Walsh, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230329FCSaad\)](#)