

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

Call to Order: Chair Theresa Manzella-R, on April 04, 2023 at 3:15 PM, in 405

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Theresa Manzella, Chair (R)
Sen. Chris Friedel, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Becky Beard (R)
Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell (D)
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)
Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R)
Sen. Barry Usher (R)
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Carl Glimm (R)
Sen. Jen Gross (D)
Sen. Kathy Kelker (D)
Sen. Andrea Olsen (D)

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 679 03/30/2023
HB 750 03/24/2023
HB 761 03/24/2023

Executive Action:

HB 327 BE CONCURRED IN
HB 331 BE CONCURRED IN
HB 333 BE CONCURRED IN AS
AMENDED
HB 365 BE CONCURRED IN AS
AMENDED
HB 439 BE CONCURRED IN AS
AMENDED

HB 470 BE CONCURRED IN AS
AMENDED

HB 491 BE CONCURRED IN AS
AMENDED

HB 519 BE CONCURRED IN

HEARING ON HB 679 - Require certain vehicles to carry traction control devices

Opening Statement:

15:16:58 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, opened the hearing on HB 679, Require certain vehicles to carry traction control devices.

Discussion:

15:17:18 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

15:19:30 Duane Williams, Montana Trucking Association

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:20:47 Jon Swartz, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)

Questions from Committee:

15:21:21 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen

15:23:09 Rep. Denley Loge-R

15:23:44 Sen. Jeremy Trebas

15:23:59 Jon Swartz, MDT

15:24:12 Sen. Barry Usher

15:24:58 Rep. Denley Loge-R

15:25:54 Sen. Barry Usher

15:26:09 Jon Swartz, MDT

15:26:26 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen

15:27:50 Duane Williams, MTA

15:28:25 Chair Theresa Manzella

15:29:24 Jon Swartz, MDT

Closing Statement:

15:29:53 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, closed the hearing on HB 679.

HEARING ON HB 761 - Prohibit airbag fraud

Opening Statement:

15:32:42 Rep. Mike Hopkins (R), HD 92, opened the hearing on HB 761, Prohibit airbag fraud.

Proponent Testimony:

15:34:01 John MacDonald, Alliance for Automotive Innovation (AAI) and on behalf of the Montana Auto Dealers Association

15:38:09 Drew Geiger, Montana Collision Repair Association (MCRA)

15:38:30 Bruce Spencer, National Association of Mutual Insurance Carriers (NAMIC) and Progressive Insurance

15:39:50 Greg VanHorsen, State Farm

15:40:40 Craig Orlan, Honda

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:43:33 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen

15:48:35 Bruce Spencer, NAMIC

15:49:17 Sen. Barry Usher

15:49:57 Bruce Spencer, NAMIC

15:50:10 Sen. Barry Usher
15:50:35 Rep. Mike Hopkins-R
15:51:14 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell
15:51:56 John MacDonald, AAI
15:53:03 Craig Orlan, Honda
15:56:19 Chair Theresa Manzella
15:58:29 Drew Geiger, MCRA
15:59:03 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen
15:59:32 Rep. Mike Hopkins-R
15:59:44 Drew Geiger, MCRA
16:00:54 Chair Theresa Manzella
16:00:57 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen

Closing Statement:

16:01:04 Rep. Mike Hopkins (R), HD 92, closed the hearing on HB 761.

HEARING ON HB 750 - Revise process for replacing vehicle titles removed from department records

Opening Statement:

16:01:48 Rep. Fred Anderson (R), HD 20, opened the hearing on HB 750, Revise process for replacing vehicle titles removed from department records.

Discussion:

16:03:58 Vice Chair Chris Friedel left the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

16:07:26 Laurie Bakri, Motor Vehicle Division, Department of Justice (DOJ)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:08:25 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen
16:09:04 Rep. Fred Anderson -R
16:09:20 Laurie Bakri, DOJ
16:09:54 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen
16:10:22 Lauri Bakri, DOJ

Closing Statement:

16:11:20 Rep. Fred Anderson (R), HD 20, closed the hearing on HB 750.

Additional Questions on HB 750

16:12:38 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen
16:13:08 Laurie Bakri, DOJ
16:14:10 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen
16:14:37 Laurie Bakri, DOJ

16:15:33 **Recessed**

16:30:38 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 327 - Revise allowed uses of transportation services account

16:30:54 **Motion:** Vice Chair Andrea Olsen moved that **HB 327 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

16:31:23 Sen. Barry Usher
16:25:43 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
16:30:54 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Theresa Manzella

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 331 - Generally revise off-highway vehicle grant funding laws

16:32:39 **Motion:** Vice Chair Andrea Olsen moved that **HB 331 BE CONCURRED IN.**

16:25:43 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:32:39 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Barry Usher

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 519 - Authorize digital drivers licenses through a mobile application

17:05:39 **Motion:** Vice Chair Andrea Olsen moved that **HB 519 BE CONCURRED IN.**

17:06:22 **Motion:** Vice Chair Andrea Olsen moved that **HB 519 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:06:36 Sen. Andrea Olsen

17:06:41 Joe Carroll

17:07:17 Chair Theresa Manzella

17:08:34 Sen. Andrea Olsen

17:08:48 Sen. Barry Usher

17:08:57 Joe Carroll

17:09:07 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

17:10:04 Sen. Becky Beard

17:10:29 Sen. Andrea Olsen

17:11:17 Chair Theresa Manzella

17:13:44 Sen. Becky Beard

17:14:05 Joe Carroll

17:14:22 Sen. Barry Usher

17:15:20 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

17:15:53 Sen. Shelley Vance

17:16:32 Sen. Andrea Olsen

16:25:43 **Vote:** Motion failed 8 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Dunwell, Sen. Gross, Sen. Kelker, Sen. Olsen, voting yes.
Sen. Gross, Sen. Kelker, Sen. Olsen, By Proxy

17:17:21 **Motion:** Vice Chair Andrea Olsen moved that **HB 519 BE CONCURRED IN.**

16:25:43 **Vote:** Motion carried 10 - 2 by roll call vote with Sen. Beard, Sen. Olsen,
voting no.
Sen. Olsen, By Proxy

17:17:21 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:21:06

Trudy Burke, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230404HISaad\)](#)