

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) FISH AND GAME

Call to Order: Chair Steve Hinebauch-R, on April 06, 2023 at 2:46 PM, in 422

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Steve Hinebauch, Chair (R)
Sen. Bob Brown, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Willis Curdy (D)
Sen. Daniel Emrich (R)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. John Fuller (R)
Sen. Greg Hertz (R)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Sen. Mark Noland (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R)
Sen. Mike Fox (D)
Sen. Terry Vermeire (R)

Staff Present: Casey Pallister, Research Analyst
Lynnette Sena, 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 383 03/29/2023

HB 521 03/29/2023

Executive Action:

HB 419 BE CONCURRED IN

HB 456 BE CONCURRED IN

HB 522 TO TABLE

HB 547 TO TABLE

HB 548 TO TABLE

HB 600 TO TABLE

14:46:50 Sen. Vermeire has arrived

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 419 - Allow bonding for injunctions that prevent hunting or harvesting of game

14:47:40 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Brown moved that **HB 419 BE CONCURRED IN.**

14:48:44 **Vote:** Motion carried 8 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Curdy, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Fox, Sen. McClafferty, voting no.
Sen. Fox, By Proxy

14:48:44 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. John Fuller

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 456 - Revise FWP super tag program laws

14:49:18 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Brown moved that **HB 456 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

14:49:31 Vice Chair Bob Brown

14:50:19 **Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 1 by voice vote with Sen. McClafferty, voting no.

14:50:19 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Bob Brown

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 522 - Provide landowner preference bison tags for landowners near YNP

14:50:43 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Brown moved that **HB 522 TO TABLE.**

14:50:48 **Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 1 by roll call vote with Sen. Hinebauch, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 547 - Provide penalties for selling data/images from trail cams on public land

14:51:44 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Brown moved that **HB 547 BE CONCURRED IN.**

14:52:09 **Motion:** Sen. Willis Curdy moved that **HB 547 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

14:52:29 Sen. Willis Curdy

14:53:09 Sen. Greg Hertz

- 14:54:27 **Vote:** Motion failed 7 - 5 by roll call vote with Sen. Curdy, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Fox, Sen. Fuller, Sen. McClafferty, voting yes.
Sen. Fox, By Proxy
- 14:55:09 **Substitute Motion:** Sen. Greg Hertz moved that **HB 547 TO TABLE.**
- 14:55:11 **Vote:** Substitute Motion carried 8 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Curdy, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Fox, Sen. McClafferty, voting no.
Sen. Fox, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 548 - Revise penalties for criminal trespass while collecting antlers/sheds/horns

- 14:56:05 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Brown moved that **HB 548 BE CONCURRED IN.**
- Discussion:**
- 14:56:38 Chair Steve Hinebauch
- 14:57:27 Sen. Daniel Emrich
- 14:57:31 **Substitute Motion:** Sen. Daniel Emrich moved that **HB 548 TO TABLE.**
- 14:57:39 **Vote:** Substitute Motion carried 8 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Curdy, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Fox, Sen. McClafferty, voting no.
Sen. Fox, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 600 - Revise acreage for landowner preference hunting licenses

- 14:58:53 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Brown moved that **HB 600 BE CONCURRED IN.**
- Discussion:**
- 14:59:10 Sen. Greg Hertz
- 14:59:20 Sen. Pat Flowers
- 15:00:55 Sen. John Fuller
- 15:01:09 Chair Steve Hinebauch
- 15:01:47 Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty
- 15:02:00 **Vote:** Motion failed 9 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Emrich, Sen. Hertz, Sen. Hinebauch, voting yes.
- 15:03:04 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Brown moved that **HB 600 TO TABLE.**
- 15:03:05 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 15:03:29 Sen. Hertz has left

15:03:31 Sen. Flowers has left
15:03:33 Sen. Fuller has left
15:04:06 **Recessed**
15:04:31 Sen. McClafferty has left
15:05:25 **Reconvened**

HEARING ON HB 521 - Revising laws related to conservation licenses on state lands

Opening Statement:

15:05:34 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, opened the hearing on HB 521, Revising laws related to conservation licenses on state lands.

Proponent Testimony:

15:10:22 Quentin Kujala, Chief of Staff, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
[EXHIBIT\(230406FISa1\)](#)
15:13:23 Jessica Hoag, Recreational Use and Public Access Coordinator for Trust Lands, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
15:14:57 Colin Cooney, Trout Unlimited
15:16:30 Mac Minard, Executive Director, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)
15:18:16 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)
15:18:52 Katjana Stutzer, Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (MT BHA)
15:19:45 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon
15:21:37 Jocelyn Leroux, Montana Conservation Voters
15:22:24 Jeff Herbert, Montana Sportsmen Alliance (MSA)
15:23:07 Dale Tribby, Montana Sportsmen Alliance (MSA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:24:37	Chair Steve Hinebauch
15:24:50	Sen. Mark Noland
15:25:03	Shawn Thomas, Division Administrator for Forestry and Trust Land, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
15:25:19	Sen. Mark Noland
15:28:15	Shawn Thomas, DNRC
15:28:31	Sen. Mark Noland
15:30:16	Quentin Kujala, FWP
15:31:08	Chair Steve Hinebauch
15:31:27	Sen. Willis Curdy
15:34:31	Quentin Kujala, FWP
15:34:38	Sen. Daniel Emrich
15:37:57	Quentin Kujala, FWP
15:38:47	Sen. Daniel Emrich
15:38:55	Shawn Thomas, DNRC
15:39:41	Sen. Terry Vermeire
15:40:01	Quentin Kujala, FWP
15:40:11	Sen. Willis Curdy
15:41:14	Quentin Kujala, FWP
15:41:33	Vice Chair Bob Brown
15:42:06	Quentin Kujala, FWP
15:42:16	Vice Chair Bob Brown

15:42:24 Shawn Thomas, DNRC

Closing Statement:

15:43:02 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, closed the hearing on HB 521.

HEARING ON HB 383 - Establish the Montana hunters and anglers community fund

Opening Statement:

15:49:08 Rep. Tom France (D), HD 94, opened the hearing on HB 383, Establish the Montana hunters and anglers community fund.

15:54:36 Sen. Fuller has arrived

Proponent Testimony:

15:54:57 Jasmine Krotkov, Montana Farmers Union

15:56:44 **Questions from Committee:**

15:56:50 Sen. Mark Noland

15:57:20 Jasmine Krotkov, Montana Farmers Union

15:58:21 Sen. Daniel Emrich

15:59:15 Jasmine Krotkov, Montana Farmers Union

16:00:15 **Further Proponents:**

16:00:23 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

16:01:15 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

16:02:15 Jeff Herbert, Montana Sportsmen Alliance (MSA)

16:03:53 Katjana Stutzer, Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (MT BHA)

16:04:34 Peggy Trenk, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF)

16:05:15 Jocelyn Leroux, Montana Conservation Voters

16:05:42 Dale Tribby, self

Opponent Testimony:

16:06:47 Ross Morgan, President, Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association
(RMSGGA)

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:14:21 Renee Lemon, Montana Department of Commerce

Questions from Committee:

16:14:43 Sen. Daniel Emrich
16:15:51 Ross Morgan, RMSGGA
16:16:38 Sen. Mark Noland
16:19:07 Rep. Tom France
16:19:31 Vice Chair Bob Brown
16:21:05 Rep. Tom France
16:23:33 Sen. Daniel Emrich
16:26:17 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon
16:27:07 Sen. Willis Curdy
16:27:20 Rep. Tom France
16:28:45 Sen. John Fuller
16:29:01 Ross Morgan, RMSGGA
16:29:13 Chair Steve Hinebauch
16:29:48 Marcus Strange, MWF
16:30:28 Chair Steve Hinebauch

Closing Statement:

16:30:50 Rep. Tom France (D), HD 94, closed the hearing on HB 383.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:35:28

Lynnette Sena, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230406FISaad\)](#)