

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

Call to Order: Chair Carl Glimm-R, on April 13, 2023 at 3:54 PM, 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. Mike Cuffe (R)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. Dennis Lenz (R)
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)
Sen. Tom McGillvray (R)
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)
Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)
Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)
Sen. John Fuller (R)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Sen. Shane Morigeau (D)
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)
Sen. Daniel Salomon (R)

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 4 04/11/2023
HB 189 04/12/2023
HB 190 04/12/2023
HB 225 04/12/2023

HB 244 04/12/2023

HB 818 04/11/2023

Executive Action:

HB 2 BE CONCURRED IN AS
AMENDED

HB 244 BE CONCURRED IN

HB 225 BE CONCURRED IN

HB 189 BE CONCURRED IN

HB 707 BE CONCURRED IN AS

AMENDED

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 2 - General Appropriations Act

15:55:59 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 2 BE AMENDED.**

15:56:31 **Motion:** Sen. Glimm moved to reconsider HB000263

15:56:31 **Vote:** Motion carried 11-0 by voice vote.

15:57:32 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 2 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

15:57:41 Sen. Daniel Salomon joined the meeting.

15:57:47 Sen. Tom McGillvray left the meeting.

15:57:50 Sen. Ellie Boldman joined the meeting.

15:58:10 Sen. John Fuller joined the meeting.

15:58:17 Sen. Pat Flowers left the meeting.

15:57:32 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

15:58:24 **Motion:** Sen. Glimm moved to reconsider HB000264

15:58:24 **Vote:** Motion carried 12-0 by voice vote.

15:59:05 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 2 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

15:59:59 Sen. Pat Flowers joined the meeting.

16:00:00 Sen. Shane Morigeau joined the meeting.

16:00:03 Sen. Mike Lang joined the meeting.

15:59:05 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:00:18 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 2 BE AMENDED.**

16:00:18 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:02:36 **Motion:** Sen. Glimm moved to reconsider HB000209

16:02:36 **Vote:** Motion carried 15-0 by voice vote.

16:03:14 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 2 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

16:03:25 Rob Miller, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

16:03:14 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:05:19 **Motion:** Sen. Glimm moved to reconsider HB000226

- 16:05:19 **Vote:** Motion carried 15-0 by voice vote.
- 16:05:53 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 2 BE AMENDED.**
- 16:05:53 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 16:06:40 **Motion:** Sen. Glimm moved to reconsider HB000208
- 16:06:40 **Vote:** Motion carried 15-0 by voice vote.
- 16:07:05 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 2 BE AMENDED.**
- 16:07:05 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 16:09:15 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 2 BE AMENDED.**
- 16:09:15 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 16:09:53 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 2 BE AMENDED.**
- 16:09:53 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 16:11:11 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 2 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**
- 16:11:11 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.
- 16:11:11 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. John Esp

General Discussion

- 16:12:50 Sen. Mike Cuffe

HEARING ON HB 4 - Appropriations by budget amendment

Opening Statement:

- 16:13:35 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 18, opened the hearing on HB 4, Appropriations by budget amendment.

Proponent Testimony:

- 16:14:33 Amy Sassano, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)
- 16:15:03 Sen. Daniel Salomon left the meeting.
- 16:16:43 Sen. Mike Cuffe left the meeting.
- 16:18:05 Sen. Ryan Lynch joined the meeting.
- 16:18:10 Sen. John Fuller left the meeting.

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:19:46 Chris Currie, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

16:20:17 Mark Bostrom, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

16:20:46 Lena Havron, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

16:21:06 Larry Flynn, Department of Transportation (DOT)

16:21:17 Brandi Pierson, Secretary of State's Office (SoS)

16:21:34 Jay Phillips, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

16:21:45 Staci Litschauer, Public Service Commission (PSC)

16:22:02 Melissa Briggs, Montana State Library (MSL)

16:22:15 Natalie Smitham, Department of Corrections (DOC)

16:22:44 Janae Grotbo, Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

16:23:11 Erin Weisgerber, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

16:23:29 Sen. Mike Cuffe joined the meeting.

16:23:34 Nate Thomas, Department of Justice (DOJ)

16:23:47 Cathy Pennie, Judicial Branch

16:24:08 Jenifer Alger, Montana Arts Council (MAC)

16:24:27 Russ Katherman, Department of Administration (DOA)

16:24:45 Craig Woods, Department of Commerce (DCom)

16:25:14 Marci Anderson, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

16:25:45 Emily McKeever, Montana Historical Society (MHS)

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

16:26:19 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 18, closed the hearing on HB 4.

HEARING ON HB 818 - Generally revise laws related to funding for school facilities

Opening Statement:

16:27:35 Rep. Linda Reksten (R), HD 12, opened the hearing on HB 818,
Generally revise laws related to funding for school facilities.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230413FCSb1\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230413FCSb2\)](#)

16:30:43 Sen. John Fuller joined the meeting.

16:30:46 Sen. Christopher Pope joined the meeting.

16:30:58 Sen. Forrest Mandeville left the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:32:28 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

16:32:44 Nancy Hall, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)

16:32:55 Pad McCracken, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

Questions from Committee:

16:33:21 Chair John Esp

16:33:30 Nancy Hall, OBPP

16:34:03 Sen. Pat Flowers

16:34:24 Nancy Hall, OBPP

16:34:49 Chair John Esp

Closing Statement:

16:35:03 Rep. Linda Reksten (R), HD 12, closed the hearing on HB 818.

HEARING ON HB 225 - Establish adoption tax credit

Opening Statement:

16:36:34 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R), HD 7, opened the hearing on HB 225, Establish adoption tax credit.

Discussion:

16:38:58 Sen. Forrest Mandeville joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

16:39:35 Glenn Oppel, Governor's Office

16:39:56 Sen. Tom McGillvray joined the meeting.

16:40:57 Mark Taylor, self

16:42:18 Erica Johnston, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:43:22 Derek Bell, Department of Revenue (DOR)

16:43:38 Aaron McNay, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee:

16:44:00 Chair John Esp

16:44:13 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger-R

Closing Statement:

16:44:19 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R), HD 7, closed the hearing on HB 225.

HB 225 Discussion

16:45:03 Sen. Ellie Boldman
16:45:08 Chair John Esp
16:45:29 Sen. Ellie Boldman

HEARING ON HB 189 - Revise property tax assistance program

Opening Statement:

16:45:46 Rep. George Nikolakakos (R), HD 26, opened the hearing on HB 189, Revise property tax assistance program.

Proponent Testimony:

16:48:51 Glenn Oppel, Governor's Office
16:49:23 Scott Richner, AARP
16:49:54 Melissa Shannon, Montana Housing Coalition (MHC)
16:50:22 Cory Shaw, Montana Building Industry Association (MBIA)
16:50:43 Kory Hofland, Department of Revenue (DOR)
16:52:00 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
16:53:05 Sen. Daniel Salomon joined the meeting.

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:53:25 Dylan Cole, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee:

16:53:50 Sen. Ryan Lynch
16:54:38 Rep. George Nikolakakos-R

Closing Statement:

16:54:43 Rep. George Nikolakakos (R), HD 26, closed the hearing on HB 189.

HEARING ON HB 244 - Revise laws governing the housing Montana fund

Opening Statement:

16:55:36 Rep. Dave Fern (D), HD 5, opened the hearing on HB 244, Revise laws governing the housing Montana fund.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:58:16 Cheryl Cohen, Montana Board of Housing (MBH)

[EXHIBIT\(230413FCSb3\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230413FCSb4\)](#)

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

17:00:19 Rep. Dave Fern (D), HD 5, closed the hearing on HB 244.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 244 - Revise laws governing the housing Montana fund

17:00:56 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 244 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

17:01:15 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn left the meeting.

17:00:56 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

17:00:56 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville

HEARING ON HB 190 - Provide for a state government performance and results act

Opening Statement:

17:01:26 Rep. Bill Mercer (R), HD 46, opened the hearing on HB 190, Provide for a state government performance and results act.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

17:05:16 Chris Dorrington, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
17:05:31 Sen. Mike Cuffe left the meeting.
17:05:34 Sen. John Fuller left the meeting.
17:07:20 Amanda Kaster, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
17:07:43 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn joined the meeting.
17:08:53 Misty Ann Giles, Department of Administration (DOA)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

17:09:39 Sen. Dennis Lenz
17:10:23 Rep. Bill Mercer-R
17:14:23 Chair John Esp
17:14:37 Sen. Tom McGillvray
17:15:03 Amanda Kaster, DNRC
17:17:01 Sen. Ryan Lynch
17:17:21 Misty Ann Giles, DOA
17:17:40 Sen. Christopher Pope
17:19:02 Rep. Bill Mercer-R
17:19:14 Sen. Mike Cuffe joined the meeting.
17:21:07 Adam Carpenter, Department of Administration (DOA)
17:21:20 Sen. John Fuller joined the meeting.
17:22:34 Chair John Esp

17:22:38 Sen. Pat Flowers
17:23:04 Rep. Bill Mercer-R
17:23:51 Sen. Pat Flowers
17:24:48 Vice Chair Carl Glimm
17:25:11 Chris Dorrington, DEQ
17:26:55 Sen. Pat Flowers left the meeting.
17:29:10 Chair John Esp

Closing Statement:

17:29:42 Rep. Bill Mercer (R), HD 46, closed the hearing on HB 190.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 225 - Establish adoption tax credit

17:32:10 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 225 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

17:32:25 Sen. Ellie Boldman
17:32:27 Sen. Mike Cuffe left the meeting.
17:33:02 Chair John Esp
17:32:10 **Vote:** Motion carried 15 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Ellis, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Pope, voting no.
Sen. Flowers, By Proxy
17:32:10 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Greg Hertz

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 189 - Revise property tax assistance program

17:34:21 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 189 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

17:34:29 Sen. Mike Cuffe joined the meeting.
17:34:21 **Vote:** Motion carried 17 - 2 by voice vote with Sen. Bartel, Sen. Cuffe, voting no.
17:34:21 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Greg Hertz

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 707 - Allow certain elementary districts to create new high school district

17:36:32 **Motion:** Sen. Tom McGillvray moved that **HB 707 TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE.**

Discussion:

17:36:50 Sen. John Fuller

17:38:03 Chair John Esp

17:38:06 Sen. Tom McGillvray

17:39:02 Sen. John Fuller

17:40:01 Sen. Christopher Pope

17:36:32 **Vote:** Motion carried 10 - 7 by roll call vote with Sen. Bartel, Sen. Cuffe, Sen. Esp, Sen. Fuller, Sen. Glimm, Sen. Lang, Sen. Lenz, voting no.

17:41:27 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 707 BE CONCURRED IN.**

17:41:37 **Motion:** Sen. Daniel Salomon moved that **HB 707 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:42:10 Chair John Esp

17:42:24 Vice Chair Carl Glimm

17:43:42 Sen. Tom McGillvray

17:43:52 Chair John Esp

17:44:10 Sen. Tom McGillvray

17:44:37 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

17:41:37 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

17:46:23 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 707 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:46:35 Sen. Mike Lang

17:46:37 Chair John Esp

17:46:23 **Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 8 by roll call vote with Sen. Bartel, Sen. Bogner, Sen. Cuffe, Sen. Esp, Sen. Fuller, Sen. Glimm, Sen. Lang, Sen. Lenz, voting no.
Sen. Bogner, By Proxy

17:46:23 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Chris Friedel

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:48:12

Cy Walsh, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230413FCSbad\)](#)