

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### 68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON FREE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON HB 260

**Call to Order:** Chair Jason Ellsworth-R, on April 20, 2023 at 10:31 AM, in 350

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:** Sen. Jason Ellsworth, Chair (R)  
Rep. Kim Abbott (D)  
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)  
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)  
Rep. Matt Regier (R)  
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)

**Staff Present:** Jaret Coles  
Jacelyn Sterling, 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:

Executive Action:

HB 260 ACCEPTED AS  
AMENDED

10:32:12            **Committee Discussion:** HB260 discussion

10:32:18            Jaret Coles

10:38:18            Sen. Pat Flowers

10:38:29            Chair Jason Ellsworth

10:38:36            Sen. Pat Flowers

10:38:59            Chair Jason Ellsworth

10:39:16            Sen. Pat Flowers

10:40:29            Chair Jason Ellsworth

10:40:47            Sen. Pat Flowers

10:40:51            Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick

10:41:20            Jaret Coles

10:43:30            Rep. Kim Abbott

10:43:45            Sen. Pat Flowers

10:44:42            Rep. Kim Abbott

10:44:55            Sen. Pat Flowers

10:45:01            Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick

10:45:30            Rep. Kim Abbott

10:45:39            Jaret Coles

10:46:10            Rep. Matt Regier

10:46:19            Jaret Coles

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 260 - Revise laws regarding legislative special counsel**

10:47:02            **Motion:** Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 260 FURTHER AMEND THE DISPUTED AMENDMENT.**

10:47:10            **Motion:** Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 260 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:47:31 Jaret Coles

10:47:10 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

10:48:15 **Motion:** Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 260 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:48:25 Rep. Matt Regier

10:48:15 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:48:51 **Motion:** Rep. Matt Regier moved that **HB 260 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:49:08 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick

10:49:49 Rep. Matt Regier

10:50:22 Rep. Kim Abbott

10:50:45 Sen. Pat Flowers

10:48:51 **Vote:** Motion carried 5 - 1 by roll call vote with Sen. Fitzpatrick, voting no.

10:51:45 **Motion:** Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 260 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:52:00 Sen. Pat Flowers

10:52:32 Chair Jason Ellsworth

10:52:48 Sen. Pat Flowers

10:53:01 Jaret Coles

10:53:49 Chair Jason Ellsworth

10:53:51 Sen. Pat Flowers

10:54:25 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick

10:54:36 Rep. Matt Regier

10:54:41 Chair Jason Ellsworth

10:54:47 **Motion:** Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 260 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:55:02 Jaret Coles

10:55:45 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick

- 10:54:47 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.
- 10:56:26 **Motion:** Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 260 BE AMENDED.**
- 10:56:26 **Vote:** Motion carried 5 - 1 by roll call vote with Sen. Fitzpatrick, voting no.
- 10:56:56 **Motion:** Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 260 BE AMENDED.**
- Discussion:**
- 10:57:15 Rep. Matt Regier
- 10:56:56 **Vote:** Motion carried 5 - 1 by roll call vote with Sen. Ellsworth, voting no.
- 11:00:38 **Motion:** Chair Jason Ellsworth moved that **HB 260 ACCEPTED AS AMENDED.**
- 11:00:38 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 10:58:34

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Jacelyn Sterling, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230420FRSaad\)](#)