

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

Call to Order: Chair Steve Hinebauch-R, on April 25, 2023 at 3:05 PM, in 422

ROLL CALL

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

Members Excused: Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. John Fuller (R)
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:

SJ 32 04/20/2023

SJ 36 04/24/2023

Executive Action:

SJ 32 DO PASS

SJ 36 DO PASS

HEARING ON SJ 32 - Interim study on hunter pressure and overcrowding

Opening Statement:

- 15:06:35 Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SJ 32, Interim study on hunter pressure and overcrowding.
- 15:08:11 Sen. John Fuller joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

- 15:10:25 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)
- 15:11:21 Katjana Stutzer, Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (MT BHA)
- 15:12:33 Peggy Trenk, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF)
- 15:13:14 Nick Gevock, Montana Sportsmen Alliance (MSA)
- 15:14:06 Stephen Christian, self

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

- 15:17:30 Chair Steve Hinebauch
- 15:18:22 Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty
- 15:18:42 Chair Steve Hinebauch

Closing Statement:

- 15:19:00 Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D), SD 38, closed the hearing on SJ 32.

HEARING ON SJ 36 - Interim study of outdoor recreation economy

Opening Statement:

- 15:19:26 Sen. Ellie Boldman (D), SD 45, opened the hearing on SJ 36, Interim study of outdoor recreation economy.

Proponent Testimony:

- 15:25:59 Katjana Stutzer, Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (MT BHA)
- 15:26:30 Sen. John Fuller left the meeting.
- 15:27:20 Nick Gevock, Montana Sportsmen Alliance, Bear Creek Council

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

- 15:28:40 Sen. Ellie Boldman (D), SD 45, closed the hearing on SJ 36.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 32 - Interim study on hunter pressure and overcrowding

- 15:29:50 **Motion:** Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty moved that **SJ 32 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

- 15:30:02 Vice Chair Bob Brown
- 15:31:24 Sen. Willis Curdy
- 15:33:39 Sen. Greg Hertz
- 15:34:01 Sen. Willis Curdy
- 15:34:48 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 36 - Interim study of outdoor recreation economy

- 15:35:24 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Brown moved that **SJ 36 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

- 15:35:42 Sen. Daniel Emrich
- 15:35:46 Sen. John Fuller joined the meeting.

15:36:25 Sen. Greg Hertz
15:37:20 Vice Chair Bob Brown
15:38:46 Sen. Mark Noland
15:39:46 Sen. Daniel Emrich
15:41:15 Chair Steve Hinebauch
15:41:23 **Vote:** Motion carried 7 - 5 by roll call vote with Sen. Emrich, Sen. Fuller, Sen. Hinebauch, Sen. Noland, Sen. Vermeire, voting no. Sen. Vermeire, By Proxy

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 15:43:18

Lynnette Sena, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230425FISaad\)](#)