

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

Call to Order: Chair Carl Glimm-R, on April 26, 2023 at 8:05 AM, 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. Kenneth Bogner (R)
Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)
Sen. John Fuller (R)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Dennis Lenz (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)
Sen. Tom McGillvray (R)
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)
Sen. Daniel Salomon (R)
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)
Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. Shane Morigeau (D)

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 288 04/24/2023
HB 904 04/24/2023
HB 944 04/26/2023

Executive Action:

HB 569 BE CONCURRED IN
HB 927 TO TABLE

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 569 - Generally revise pension laws

08:06:57 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 569 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

08:07:20 Sen. Dennis Lenz left the meeting.

08:08:29 **Motion:** Sen. Glimm moved to withdraw motion on HB 569.

HEARING ON HB 904 - Generally revise commercial driver's license laws

Opening Statement:

08:08:42 Rep. Casey Knudsen (R), HD 33, opened the hearing on HB 904, Generally revise commercial driver's license laws.

Proponent Testimony:

08:10:35 Malcolm Long, Department of Transportation (MDT)

08:11:37 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

08:12:07 Dave Galt, Montana Contractors Association (MCA)

08:12:36 Duane Williams, Montana Trucking Association (MTA)

08:13:23 Laurie Bakri, Department of Transportation (MDT)

08:14:07 Sen. Mike Cuffe left the meeting.

08:14:20 Brad Marten, Department of Transportation (MDT)

08:14:47 Sen. Dennis Lenz joined the meeting.

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:15:39 Larry Flynn, Department of Transportation (MDT)

08:16:06 Nate Thomas, Department of Justice (DOJ)

Questions from Committee:

08:16:28 Sen. Mike Lang

08:16:31 Sen. Mike Cuffe joined the meeting.

08:17:07 Malcolm Long, MDT
08:18:10 Sen. Shelley Vance
08:18:45 Malcolm Long, MDT
08:21:23 Vice Chair Janet Ellis
08:22:13 Nate Thomas, DOJ
08:22:35 Sen. Ellie Boldman joined the meeting.
08:22:46 Vice Chair Carl Glimm
08:23:22 Malcolm Long, MDT
08:23:58 Chair John Esp
08:24:21 Malcolm Long, MDT
08:25:02 Chair John Esp
08:25:33 Rep. Casey Knudsen-R
08:26:53 Chair John Esp
08:27:22 Sen. Mike Cuffe
08:27:57 Malcolm Long, MDT

Closing Statement:

08:28:49 Rep. Casey Knudsen (R), HD 33, closed the hearing on HB 904.

HEARING ON HB 288 - Revise laws related to tuition waivers for American Indian students

Opening Statement:

08:31:21 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D), HD 32, opened the hearing on HB 288, Revise laws related to tuition waivers for American Indian students.

Proponent Testimony:

08:33:53 Keegan Medrano, American Civil Liberties Union of Montana (ACLU)
08:34:37 Vice Chair Janet Ellis left the meeting.

08:34:39 Sen. Ellie Boldman left the meeting.
08:36:43 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe
08:38:09 Rose Bender, Montana Budget and Policy Center (MBPC)
08:38:26 Sen. Kenneth Bogner left the meeting.
08:38:29 Sen. Ryan Lynch left the meeting.
08:38:35 Ta'jin Perez, Western Native Voice (WNV)
08:39:23 Vice Chair Janet Ellis joined the meeting.

Opponent Testimony:

08:40:36 Sue Cliff, self
[EXHIBIT\(230426FCSa1\)](#)

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:45:43 Shauna Lyons, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (CHE)

Questions from Committee:

08:46:12 Sen. Mike Cuffe
08:46:43 Rose Bender, MBPC
08:47:28 Chair John Esp
08:48:03 Vice Chair Carl Glimm
08:48:58 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy-D
08:51:17 Sen. Kenneth Bogner joined the meeting.
08:51:31 Sen. John Fuller
08:51:52 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy-D
08:53:59 Shauna Lyons, CHE
08:55:07 Sen. Dennis Lenz
08:55:39 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy-D
08:56:03 Sen. Shane Morigeau joined the meeting.

08:57:42 Vice Chair Janet Ellis left the meeting.
08:58:55 Sen. Daniel Salomon
08:59:24 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy-D
09:00:43 Sen. Daniel Salomon
09:00:52 Shauna Lyons, CHE
09:01:00 Sen. Shane Morigeau
09:01:48 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy-D
09:05:36 Sen. Mike Lang
09:06:08 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy-D

Closing Statement:

09:07:01 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D), HD 32, closed the hearing on HB 288.

Discussion:

09:09:05 Sen. Ellie Boldman joined the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 944 - Establish the Montana in-demand skilled trades investment pilot program

Opening Statement:

09:10:16 Rep. Paul Tuss (D), HD 28, opened the hearing on HB 944, Establish the Montana in-demand skilled trades investment pilot program.

Discussion:

09:10:59 Sen. Forrest Mandeville left the meeting.

09:11:04 Sen. Mike Cuffe left the meeting.

09:12:08 Sen. Dan Bartel left the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:13:01 Shauna Lyons, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (CHE)

Questions from Committee:

09:13:30 Sen. Christopher Pope
09:13:49 Rep. Paul Tuss-D
09:14:18 Sen. Dan Bartel joined the meeting.
09:14:52 Chair John Esp
09:15:12 Shauna Lyons, CHE
09:15:21 Sen. Mike Cuffe joined the meeting.
09:15:27 Sen. Ellie Boldman left the meeting.
09:15:52 Sen. Tom McGillvray
09:16:01 Sen. Shelley Vance left the meeting.
09:16:26 Rep. Paul Tuss-D
09:17:09 Sen. Forrest Mandeville joined the meeting.

Closing Statement:

09:19:19 Rep. Paul Tuss (D), HD 28, closed the hearing on HB 944.

Discussion:

09:19:46 Sen. Christopher Pope left the meeting.
09:20:06 Sen. Shane Morigeau left the meeting.

09:21:11 **Recessed**

10:11:00 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 927 - Authorize additional authority for coal trust housing loans

10:11:28 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 927 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

- 10:11:41 Chair John Esp
10:11:45 Sen. Christopher Pope joined the meeting.
10:11:48 Sen. Ryan Lynch joined the meeting.
10:11:51 **Substitute Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 927 TO TABLE.**

Discussion:

- 10:11:55 Vice Chair Janet Ellis joined the meeting.
10:12:00 Sen. Pat Flowers joined the meeting.
10:12:12 Sen. Ellie Boldman joined the meeting.
10:11:51 **Vote:** Substitute Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:12:27

Cy Walsh, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230426FCSaad\)](#)