

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

Call to Order: Chair Carl Glimm-R, on April 27, 2023 at 8:07 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. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. Dennis Lenz (R)
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. John Fuller (R)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (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 55 04/26/2023
HB 816 04/26/2023
HB 821 04/26/2023

Executive Action:

HB 819
HB 55
HB 816
HB 821
HB 749
HB 817
HB 949
HB 649 TO TABLE
HB 355
HB 587

HEARING ON HB 55 - An act establishing a tax on electric vehicle charging stations

Opening Statement:

08:08:34 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, opened the hearing on HB 55, An act establishing a tax on electric vehicle charging stations.

Discussion:

08:10:01 Sen. Mike Cuffe left the meeting.

08:12:12 Sen. Mike Lang joined the meeting.

11:03:33 Sen. Glimm withdrew motion on HB 355.

Proponent Testimony:

08:15:14 Amanda Frickle, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)

08:15:58 Duane Williams, Montana Trucking Association (MTA)

08:16:35 Dave Galt, Montana Contractors Association (MCA)

08:17:02 Chris Puyear, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

08:18:11 Sen. Dennis Lenz left the meeting.

08:18:30 Sen. Forrest Mandeville left the meeting.

08:19:55 Karen Alley, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponent Testimony:

08:20:44 Charles Denowh, Tesla

08:23:17 Sen. Mike Cuffe joined the meeting.

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:23:27 Larry Flynn, Department of Transportation (MDT)

08:23:52 Sonja Nowakowski, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Questions from Committee:

08:24:32 Vice Chair Janet Ellis
08:24:44 Larry Flynn, MDT
08:26:26 Vice Chair Carl Glimm
08:28:09 Rep. Denley Loge-R
08:29:07 Sen. Mike Cuffe left the meeting.
08:29:24 Sen. Mike Lang
08:30:16 Charles Denowh, Tesla
08:30:30 Sen. Ellie Boldman joined the meeting.
08:31:02 Sen. Pat Flowers
08:31:22 Sen. Forrest Mandeville joined the meeting.
08:31:28 Chris Puyear, NWE
08:34:09 Vice Chair Carl Glimm
08:34:21 Sen. Kenneth Bogner

Closing Statement:

08:34:50 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, closed the hearing on HB 55.

Discussion:

08:36:06 Vice Chair Janet Ellis left the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 821 - Appropriate money to dept. of ag for weed control

Opening Statement:

08:38:34 Rep. Marty Malone (R), HD 59, opened the hearing on HB 821, Appropriate money to dept. of ag for weed control.

Discussion:

08:39:17 Vice Chair Janet Ellis joined the meeting.

08:39:21 Sen. Dennis Lenz joined the meeting.

08:39:42 Sen. John Fuller joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

08:39:49 Dan Rostad, Yellowstone River Conservation District (YRCD)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:41:58 Sen. Mike Lang

08:42:26 Dan Rostad, YRCD

08:43:26 Sen. Tom McGillvray

08:43:50 Dan Rostad, YRCD

08:44:34 Chair John Esp

08:44:44 Rep. Marty Malone-R

Closing Statement:

08:45:11 Rep. Marty Malone (R), HD 59, closed the hearing on HB 821.

Discussion:

08:45:17 Vice Chair Carl Glimm left the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 816 - Revise distribution of surplus revenue through tax rebates

Opening Statement:

08:46:18 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 816, Revise distribution of surplus revenue through tax rebates.

Discussion:

08:46:24 Sen. Ryan Lynch joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

08:46:53 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
08:50:23 Caitlin Jensen, Zero to Five Montana (ZFM)
08:51:07 Vice Chair Carl Glimm joined the meeting.
08:51:47 Dave Galt, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)

Opponent Testimony:

08:52:42 Sarah Piper, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)
08:52:58 Sen. Mike Cuffe joined the meeting.
08:53:01 Sen. Pat Flowers left the meeting.
08:53:15 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)
08:54:09 Heather O'Loughlin, Montana Budget and Policy Center (MBPC)

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:55:54 Derek Bell, Department of Revenue (DOR)
08:56:13 Aaron McNay, Department of Revenue (DOR)
08:56:29 Sen. Pat Flowers joined the meeting.
08:56:32 Mandy Rambo, Department of Commerce (DOC)
08:57:03 Craig Woods, Department of Commerce (DOC)

Questions from Committee:

08:57:36 Sen. Ellie Boldman
08:57:54 Rep. Joshua Kassmier-R
08:58:21 Sen. Ellie Boldman
08:58:30 Heather O'Loughlin, MBPC
09:00:46 Rose Bender, Montana Budget and Policy Center (MBPC)
09:00:57 Chair John Esp
09:00:58 Sen. Ellie Boldman

09:00:59 get the esp-boldman exchange ts
09:01:36 Chair John Esp
09:01:37 Rose Bender, MBPC
09:01:52 Chair John Esp
09:01:58 Rep. Joshua Kassmier-R

Closing Statement:

09:02:15 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, closed the hearing on HB 816.

09:03:24 **Recessed**

10:01:56 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 819 - Create Montana community reinvestment act to fund workforce housing

10:02:12 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 819 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:02:30 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 819 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:02:46 Sen. Ellie Boldman
10:05:11 Sen. Kenneth Bogner left the meeting.
10:07:05 Sen. Pat Flowers
10:07:25 Sen. Ellie Boldman
10:07:33 Vice Chair Carl Glimm
10:07:36 Sen. Ellie Boldman
10:08:06 Sen. Pat Flowers
10:08:23 Julie Johnson
10:08:44 Sen. Ellie Boldman
10:08:48 Julie Johnson
10:09:48 Sen. Pat Flowers
10:10:09 Chair John Esp

10:10:23 Sen. Pat Flowers
10:10:49 Chair John Esp
10:10:58 Sen. Pat Flowers
10:11:21 Julie Johnson
10:11:57 Chair John Esp
10:12:40 Sen. Kenneth Bogner joined the meeting.
10:12:49 Sen. Ellie Boldman
10:14:09 Chair John Esp
10:15:12 Vice Chair Carl Glimm
10:15:53 Julie Johnson
10:16:33 Chair John Esp
10:16:39 Joe Triem
10:18:01 Sen. Ellie Boldman
10:18:27 Chair John Esp
10:18:35 Sen. Pat Flowers
10:53:26 Sen. Mike Lang left the meeting.
10:53:31 Sen. Dan Bartel left the meeting.
10:53:35 Sen. Dennis Lenz left the meeting.
10:53:39 Sen. Kenneth Bogner left the meeting.
10:02:30 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
10:52:23 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 819 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**
Discussion:
10:53:53 Sen. Dan Bartel joined the meeting.
10:53:54 Sen. Mike Lang joined the meeting.
10:53:55 Sen. Dennis Lenz joined the meeting.
10:52:23 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.
10:52:23 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Jason Small
10:18:42 **Recessed**

10:50:54 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 55 - An act establishing a tax on electric vehicle charging stations

10:54:12 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 55 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:54:12 **Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 8 by roll call vote with Sen. Bartel, Sen. Bogner, Sen. Esp, Sen. Lang, Sen. Lenz, Sen. Mandeville, Sen. McGillvray, Sen. Welborn, voting no.
Sen. Bogner, By Proxy

10:54:12 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Daniel Salomon

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 816 - Revise distribution of surplus revenue through tax rebates

10:55:28 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 816 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:55:34 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 816 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:55:56 Julie Johnson

10:56:32 Chair John Esp

10:56:56 Sen. Tom McGillvray

10:56:57 Chair John Esp

10:55:34 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:57:35 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 816 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

10:57:35 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:57:35 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 821 - Appropriate money to dept. of ag for weed control

10:58:06 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 821 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

10:58:26 Chair John Esp

10:58:30 Sen. Mike Lang

10:58:48 **Motion:** Sen. Mike Lang moved that **HB 821 BE AMENDED.**

10:58:48 **Vote:** Motion carried 14 - 5 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Lynch, Sen. McGillvray, Sen. Morigeau, voting no. Sen. Morigeau, By Proxy

11:00:03 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 821 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

11:00:12 Sen. Tom McGillvray

11:02:23 Chair John Esp

11:00:03 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:00:03 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Mike Lang

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 749 - Revise Montana digital academy laws

11:04:24 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 749 TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE.**

11:04:24 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:05:15 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 749 BE CONCURRED IN.**

11:05:15 **Vote:** Motion carried 13 - 6 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Pope, voting no. Sen. Morigeau, By Proxy

11:05:15 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Daniel Salomon

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 817 - Provide for capital projects

11:06:17 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 817 TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE.**

Discussion:

11:06:43 Sen. Ellie Boldman

11:07:03 Chair John Esp

11:07:08 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

11:07:20 Chair John Esp

11:06:17 **Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 6 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Pope, Sen. Welborn, voting no.

11:08:20 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 817 BE CONCURRED IN.**

11:08:33 **Motion:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville moved that **HB 817 BE AMENDED.**

11:08:33 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:09:32 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 817 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

11:09:51 Chair John Esp

11:10:32 Julie Johnson

11:11:28 Sen. Ryan Lynch

11:11:41 Chair John Esp

11:11:58 Julie Johnson

11:12:17 Sen. Ellie Boldman

11:09:32 **Vote:** Motion carried 12 - 7 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Pope, Sen. Welborn, voting no.
Sen. Morigeau, By Proxy

11:09:32 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. John Esp

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 949 - Generally revise education laws related to data governance

11:14:13 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 949 TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE.**

11:14:13 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:14:54 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 949 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

11:15:04 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

11:15:25 Sen. Daniel Salomon

11:16:01 **Motion:** Sen. Daniel Salomon moved that **HB 949 BE AMENDED.**

11:16:01 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:16:19 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 949 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

11:16:27 Chair John Esp

11:16:19 **Vote:** Motion carried 13 - 6 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Pope, voting no. Sen. Morigeau, By Proxy

11:16:19 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Daniel Salomon

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 649 - Implement rates from provider rate study

11:19:05 **Motion:** Sen. Christopher Pope moved that **HB 649 TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE.**

Discussion:

11:19:12 fix ts

11:19:32 Chair John Esp

11:20:23 Sen. Mike Cuffe left the meeting.

11:20:38 find cuffe ts

11:19:05 **Vote:** Motion carried 12 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Glimm, Sen. Lenz, Sen. Mandeville, Sen. McGillvray, voting no.

11:20:30 **Motion:** Sen. Christopher Pope moved that **HB 649 BE CONCURRED IN.**

11:20:51 **Motion:** Sen. Christopher Pope moved that **HB 649 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

11:22:25 Chair John Esp

11:22:31 Sen. Christopher Pope

11:23:05 Chair John Esp

11:23:18 Vice Chair Carl Glimm

11:23:36 Sen. Pat Flowers

11:23:40 Sen. Mike Cuffe joined the meeting.

11:20:51 **Vote:** Motion carried 12 - 7 by roll call vote with Sen. Bogner, Sen. Esp, Sen. Glimm, Sen. Lenz, Sen. Mandeville, Sen. McGillvray, Sen. Vance, voting no. Sen. Bogner, By Proxy

11:37:10 **Motion:** Chair John Esp moved that **HB 649 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

11:37:10 Sen. John Fuller left the meeting.

11:37:10 Sen. Kenneth Bogner joined the meeting.

- 11:37:10 **Vote:** Motion failed 13 - 6 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Pope, voting yes.
Sen. Morigeau, By Proxy
- 11:38:17 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 649 TO TABLE.**
- 11:38:17 **Vote:** Motion carried 13 - 6 by voice vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Pope, voting no.
Sen. Morigeau, By Proxy
- 11:25:04 **Recessed**
- 11:36:54 **Reconvened**
- 11:38:51 **Recessed**
- 11:56:46 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 355 - Appropriate funds for local government infrastructure projects

- 11:57:08 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 355 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230427FCSb1\)](#)

- 11:57:30 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 355 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

- 11:57:36 Chair John Esp
- 11:57:37 Sen. Mike Cuffe left the meeting.
- 11:57:40 Sen. John Fuller joined the meeting.
- 11:57:54 Sen. Pat Flowers left the meeting.
- 11:58:34 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
- 11:59:30 Sen. Mike Lang
- 11:59:42 Chair John Esp
- 11:57:30 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 12:00:11 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 355 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**
- 12:00:11 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 12:00:11 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Carl Glimm

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 587 - Generally revise school finance laws related to property taxes

12:01:03 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 587 BE CONCURRED IN.**

12:02:29 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 587 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

12:02:59 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

12:03:04 Chair John Esp

12:03:27 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

12:04:01 Chair John Esp

12:04:18 Sen. Ryan Lynch

12:04:19 Chair John Esp

12:02:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

12:05:17 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 587 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

12:05:17 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

12:05:17 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Greg Hertz

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:06:44

Cy Walsh, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230427FCSbad\)](#)

