

**MINUTES**  
**MONTANA SENATE**  
**68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**  
**COMMITTEE ON (S) LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**Call to Order:** Chair Chris Friedel-R, on May 01, 2023 at 3:28 PM, in 405

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Sen. Chris Friedel, Chair (R)  
Sen. Kenneth Bogner, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)  
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)  
Sen. Terry Vermeire (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)  
Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R)  
Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R)

**Staff Present:** Grace Gibney, Secretary  
Toni Henneman, Research Analyst

**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:

HJ 21 05/01/2023  
HJ 22 05/01/2023  
HJ 34 05/01/2023  
HJ 35 05/01/2023

Executive Action:

HJ 21  
HJ 22 BE CONCURRED IN  
HJ 34  
HJ 35

**HEARING ON HJ 22 - Interim study of accessory dwelling units**

**Opening Statement:**

15:29:52 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, opened the hearing on HJ 22, Interim study of accessory dwelling units.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:31:36 Steve Turkiewicz, City of Billings

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

None

**Closing Statement:**

15:34:06 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, closed the hearing on HJ 22.

**HEARING ON HJ 35 - Interim study of the local permitting process**

**Opening Statement:**

15:34:21 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, opened the hearing on HJ 35, Interim study of the local permitting process.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:35:19 Steve Turkiewicz, City of Billings

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

None

**Closing Statement:**

15:35:49 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, closed the hearing on HJ 35.

15:37:17 **Recessed**

**HEARING ON HJ 21 - Interim study of aggregated tracts of land**

**Opening Statement:**

15:41:23 Rep. Jill Cohenour (D), HD 42, opened the hearing on HJ 21, Interim study of aggregated tracts of land.

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:44:24 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

15:45:32 Rep. Jill Cohenour-D

**Closing Statement:**

15:47:09 Rep. Jill Cohenour (D), HD 42, closed the hearing on HJ 21.

**HEARING ON HJ 34 - Interim study of short term rentals**

**Opening Statement:**

15:47:26 Rep. Sherry Essmann (R), HD 52, opened the hearing on HJ 34, Interim study of short term rentals.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:50:23 Ann Schwend, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

15:52:40 Ethan Hanely, Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM)

15:53:07 Steve Turkiewicz, City of Billings

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:54:10 Vice Chair Kenneth Bogner

15:54:41 Rep. Sherry Essmann-R

15:55:12 Ann Schwend, MEIC

15:56:02 Chair Chris Friedel

15:56:25 Ann Schwend, MEIC

**Closing Statement:**

15:57:51 Rep. Sherry Essmann (R), HD 52, closed the hearing on HJ 34.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 21 - Interim study of aggregated tracts of land**

15:59:55 **Motion:** Vice Chair Kenneth Bogner moved that **HJ 21 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

16:00:25 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

16:01:34 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell

16:02:59 Sen. Christopher Pope

15:59:55 **Vote:** Motion carried 6 - 1 by roll call vote with Sen. Mandeville, voting no.

15:59:55 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Ellie Boldman

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 22 - Interim study of accessory dwelling units**

16:05:34 **Motion:** Vice Chair Kenneth Bogner moved that **HJ 22 BE CONCURRED IN.**

16:05:34 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 34 - Interim study of short term rentals**

16:06:25 **Motion:** Vice Chair Kenneth Bogner moved that **HJ 34 BE CONCURRED IN.**

16:06:25 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:06:25 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Jeremy Trebas

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 35 - Interim study of the local permitting process**

16:07:05 **Motion:** Vice Chair Kenneth Bogner moved that **HJ 35 BE CONCURRED IN.**

16:07:05 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:07:05 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 16:07:48

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Grace Gibney, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230501LOSaad\)](#)