

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Jeffrey Welborn-R, on May 01, 2023 at 3:25 PM, in 303

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Jeffrey Welborn, Chair (R)
Sen. Walt Sales, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Bob Brown (R)
Sen. Willis Curdy (D)
Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)
Sen. Jason Small (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Sen. Shane Morigeau (D)
Sen. Barry Usher (R)

Staff Present: Jason Mohr, Research Analyst
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:

HJ 32 05/01/2023

Executive Action:

HJ 32 BE CONCURRED IN

15:26:44 **Recessed**

15:38:14 Sen. Usher has arrived

15:40:38 **Reconvened**

HEARING ON HJ 32 - Study of water storage

Opening Statement:

15:40:40 Rep. Julie Dooling (R), HD 70, opened the hearing on HJ 32, Study of water storage.

Proponent Testimony:

15:43:25 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition

15:44:41 John Semple, Montana Grain Growers Association

15:45:27 Clayton Elliot, Montana Trout Unlimited

15:46:44 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resource Association

15:47:27 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:48:42 Sen. Bruce Gillespie

15:49:35 Vice Chair Walt Sales

15:49:54 Rep. Julie Dooling-R

15:50:07 Krista Lee Evans

15:51:58 Sen. Bob Brown

15:52:34 Krista Lee Evans

15:54:31 Sen. Willis Curdy left the meeting.

Closing Statement:

15:54:40 Rep. Julie Dooling (R), HD 70, closed the hearing on HJ 32.

Discussion:

15:55:12 Sen. Ryan Lynch joined the meeting.

15:55:21 Sen. Jason Small left the meeting.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 32 - Study of water storage

15:55:55 **Motion:** Vice Chair Walt Sales moved that **HJ 32 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

15:56:10 Sen. Bob Brown

15:56:55 Sen. Mike Lang

15:57:36 Chair Jeffrey Welborn

15:55:55 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:00:15

Jacelyn Sterling, Secretary

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