

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN SCOTT MENDENHALL**, on March 2, 2005 at 3:30 P.M., in Room 172 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Scott Mendenhall, Chairman (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Bernie Olson, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Elsie Arntzen (R)
Rep. John Balyeat (R)
Rep. Bob Bergren (D)
Rep. George Golie (D)
Rep. Larry Jent (D)
Rep. Jim Keane (D)
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)
Rep. Bruce Malcolm (R)

Members Excused:

Rep. Monica Lindeen (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Kyanne Kelly, Committee Secretary
Leanne Kurtz, Legislative Branch

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 757, 2/23/2005; SB 39,
2/23/2005; SB 45, 2/23/2005; SB 79,
2/23/2005
Executive Action: SB 79

HEARING ON SB 79

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. JOSEPH (JOE) TROPILA (D), SD 13, opened the hearing on **SB 79**, Two free sets of license plates for disabled veterans.
00:01:32

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:19 George Poston, Disabled American Veterans
00:03:03 Jim Jacobson, US Army Retired-American Legion
00:03:47 Steve Combes, Disabled American Veterans
00:04:29 Dean Roberts, Motor Vehicle Division
00:04:49 Roger Hagen, National Guard of Montana

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

Closing by Sponsor:

00:05:57

HEARING ON SB 39

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. JEFF MANGAN (D), SD 12, opened the hearing on **SB 39**, Clarify application of motor vehicle laws to wheelchairs.
00:06:18

Proponents' Testimony:

00:11:12 Anita Rossman, Montana Advocacy Program
[EXHIBIT\(trh46a01\)](#)
00:16:49 Gary Trescot, Self
00:20:07 Dean Roberts, Motor Vehicle Division
00:20:44 June Hermanson, Montanans for Equal Access

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:22:31

Closing by Sponsor:

00:26:19

HEARING ON HB 757

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. LLEW JONES (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 757,
Revolving loan account for rehabilitation of railroad branch
lines.

00:28:31

Proponents' Testimony:

00:35:08 REP. JOHN WITT, HD 28, CARTER

00:39:05 SEN. JERRY BLACK, SD 14, SHELBY

00:43:42 Richard Owen, Montana Grain Growers Association

00:46:46 Mike Halligan, Washington Corporation

00:50:09 Jim Curry, Department of Transportation

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:54:38

Closing by Sponsor:

01:17:13

HEARING ON SB 45

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. DAN HARRINGTON (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 45,
Uniform statutes of limitation for motor fuel assessments.

01:20:45

Proponents' Testimony:

01:21:42 Jim Curry, Department of Transportation

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:23:44

Closing by Sponsor:

01:34:50

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 79

Motion: REP. GOLIE moved that SB 79 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion:

01:35:53

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. REPS LINDEEN, BERGREN, AND BALLYEAT voted by proxy. REP. MacLAREN will carry.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:10 P.M.

REP. SCOTT MENDENHALL, Chairman

KYANNE KELLY, Secretary

SM/kk

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([trh46aad0.PDF](#))