

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Dennis Himmelberger, on March 16, 2007 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 455 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Dennis Himmelberger, Chairman (R)
Rep. Duane Ankney, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Hal Jacobson, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Gary Branae (D)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)
Rep. Teresa K. Henry (D)
Rep. Pat Ingraham (R)
Rep. William J. Jones (R)
Rep. Bruce Malcolm (R)
Rep. Walter McNutt (R)
Rep. Alan Olson (R)
Rep. Mike Phillips (D)
Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman (D)
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Debby Barrett (R)
Rep. Scott Sales (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Katie Butcher, Committee Secretary
Sheri Heffelfinger, 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: SB 219, SB 239, SB 253, SB 279, SB 286
Executive Action: HB 760, SB 98

HEARING ON SB 239

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:56 Sen. Joe Balyeat (R), SD 34, opened the hearing on SB 239, Revise driver's license laws for military personnel.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:49 Roger Hagan, National Guard of Montana
00:06:13 Colonel Jim Jacobsen, Montana American Legion
00:07:09 Dean Roberts, Motor Vehicle Division (MVD)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:07:53 Rep. Dickinson
00:08:00 Mr. Roberts, MVD

Closing by Sponsor:

00:10:16 Sen. Balyeat

HEARING ON SB 219

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:10:49 Sen. Joe Balyeat (R), SD 34, opened the hearing on SB 219, Prohibit severance pay for state employees.

[EXHIBIT \(sth56a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(sth56a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:14:17 Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees Association
00:14:56 Mike McGinly, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:15:25 Monica Smith, Legislative Audit Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:15:52 Rep. Wilmer
00:16:14 Mr. McGinly, MACo
00:17:09 Rep. Wilmer
00:17:20 Sen. Balyeat

Closing by Sponsor:

00:18:14 Sen. Balyeat
[EXHIBIT \(sth56a03\)](#)

HEARING ON SB 279

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:19:44 Sen. Joe Balyeat (R), SD 34, opened the hearing on SB
279, Clean campaign act.

[EXHIBIT \(sth56a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(sth56a05\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:26:20 John Barrows, Montana Newspaper Association
00:27:13 Greg McDonald, Montana Broadcasters Association

Opponents' Testimony:

00:27:47 Elizabeth Andrews, Montana Common Cause

Informational Testimony:

00:28:45 Dennis Unsworth, Commissioner of Political Practices

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:29:05 Rep. Phillips
00:29:29 Sen. Balyeat
00:31:02 Rep. Ingraham
00:31:16 Sen. Balyeat
00:33:02 Rep. Dickinson
00:33:09 Commissioner Unsworth

Closing by Sponsor:

00:36:06 Sen. Balyeat
[EXHIBIT \(sth56a06\)](#)

HEARING ON SB 253

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:38:14 Sen. Mike Cooney (D), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB 253, File campaign advertising text with commissioner of political practices.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:42:48 Greg McDonald, Montana Broadcasters Association (MBA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:45:14 Rep. Henry
00:46:08 Sen. Cooney
00:48:57 Rep. Olson
00:49:10 Sen. Cooney
00:49:59 Rep. Jacobson
00:50:56 Sen. Cooney
00:52:26 Rep. Wilmer
00:53:51 Mr. McDonald, MBA
00:54:15 Sen. Cooney
00:55:41 Rep. Wilmer
00:56:07 Rep. Hendrick
00:57:04 Sen. Cooney
00:57:41 Sheri Heffelfinger

Closing by Sponsor:

00:58:18 Sen. Cooney

HEARING ON SB 286

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:59:38 Sen. Mike Cooney (D), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB 286, Revise capitol complex building naming law.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:06:50 Richard Simms, Montana Historical Society
01:08:41 Amy Sullivan, Montana History Foundation

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:09:53 Cheryl Olsen, Montana Department of Administration
(MDA)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:10:17 Rep. Jacobson
01:10:52 Sen. Cooney
01:11:02 Rep. Dickenson
01:11:21 Sen. Cooney
01:13:09 Rep. Malcolm
01:14:03 Sen. Cooney
01:15:33 Ms. Olsen, MDA
01:16:15 Rep. Malcolm

Closing by Sponsor:

01:16:43 Sen. Cooney

01:18:52 Break
01:48:48 Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 760

01:49:37 **Motion:** Rep. McNutt moved that **HB 760 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:49:53 Rep. Olsen

01:50:34 **Motion:** Rep. Branae moved that **HB 760 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:50:52 Sheri Heffelfinger
[EXHIBIT \(sth56a07\)](#)
[EXHIBIT \(sth56a08\)](#)
[EXHIBIT \(sth56a09\)](#)

01:53:27 **Vote:** Motion carried 16-2 by voice vote with Rep. Barrett and Rep. Sales voting no by proxy. Rep. Wilmer voted aye by proxy.

01:54:18 **Motion:** Rep. Branae moved that **HB 760 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:54:29 Rep. Ingraham
 01:55:13 Rep. Grinde
 01:55:36 Rep. Dickinson
 01:56:11 Rep. Ingraham
 01:57:35 Rep. Branae
 01:58:18 Rep. Olsen
 01:58:49 Rep. Jones
 01:59:50 Rep. Dickinson
 02:02:35 Rep. Jacobson

02:03:51 **Vote:** Motion failed 8-10 by roll call vote with Rep. Branae, Rep. Caferro, Rep. Dickenson, Rep. Henry, Rep. Jacobson, Rep. Phillips, and Rep. Small-Eastman voting aye. Rep. Barrett, Rep. McNutt, Rep. Olson, Rep. Sales voted no by proxy.

02:05:37 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Wilmer moved that **HB 760 BE TABLED.** Motion carried 17-1 by voice vote. Rep Dickinson voting no. Rep. Olsen, Rep. Sales, Rep. Barrett, Rep. McNutt voted aye by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 98

02:06:55 **Motion:** Rep. Ingraham moved that **SB 98 BE CONCURRED IN.**

02:07:33 **Motion:** Rep. Ankney moved that **SB 98 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT (sth56a10)

Discussion:

02:08:03 Rep. Himmelberger
 02:10:11 Sheri Heffelfinger
 02:10:54 Rep. Henry
 02:13:13 Rep. Phillips
 02:13:42 Rep. Dickenson
 02:16:04 Rep. Jacobson
 02:17:01 Sheri Heffelfinger
 02:18:21 Rep. Jacobson
 02:18:26 Sheri Heffelfinger
 02:18:34 Rep. Himmelberger
 02:20:07 Rep. Phillips
 02:20:22 Rep. Malcolm
 02:21:05 Sheri Heffelfinger
 02:25:01 Rep. Malcolm
 02:26:55 Rep. Himmelberger
 02:27:29 Rep. Phillips

02:28:32 Rep. Caferro
02:28:37 Rep. Wilmer
02:29:48 Rep. Small-Eastman
02:30:31 Sheri Heffelfinger
02:33:50 Rep. Wilmer
02:34:59 David Bohyer, Research Director, Legislative Fiscal
Division (LFD)
02:40:34 Rep. Malcolm
02:41:49 Mr. Bohyer, LFD
02:42:32 Rep. Wilmer
02:42:57 Mr. Bohyer, LFD
02:43:34 Rep. Jacobson
02:44:27 Rep. Himmelberger
02:45:27 Mr. Bohyer, LFD
02:47:18 Rep. Jacobson
02:47:39 Mr. Bohyer, LFD
02:48:23 Rep. Himmelberger
02:49:31 Rep. Jones
02:51:02 Rep. Olson

02:51:46 **Vote:** Motion carried 11-7 by roll call vote with Rep.
Branae, Rep. Caferro, Rep. Dickenson, Rep. Henry, Rep.
Malcolm, Rep. Phillips, and Rep. Wilmer voting no.
Rep. Barrett and Rep. Sales voted aye by proxy.

02:53:04 **Motion:** Rep. Ankney moved that **SB 98 BE CONCURRED IN AS
AMENDED.**

Discussion:

02:53:24 Rep. Phillips
02:53:59 Rep. Olson

02:54:20 **Vote:** Motion carried 16-2 by roll call vote with Rep.
Caferro and Rep. Malcolm voting no. Rep. Barrett and
Rep. Sales voted aye by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

02:56:45 Adjournment

REP. DENNIS HIMMELBERGER, Chairman

KATIE BUTCHER, Secretary
FOR DEE BARFKNECHT

DH/kb

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([sth56aad.pdf](#))