

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Dennis Himmelberger, on March 21, 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
Rep. Scott Sales

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Dee Barfknecht, 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 272, SB 285, SB 367, SB 374
SJR 25
Executive Action: SB 219, SB 295, SB 364, SB 308
SJR 25

HEARING ON SB 367

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:40 Sen. Greg Lind (D), SD 50, opened the hearing on SB 367, Renumber laws on renewable power production.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:40 Greg Jergeson, Chairman, Montana Public Service Commission
00:04:23 Patrick Judge, Montana Environmental Information Center
00:06:50 Aidan Myhre, Montana Dakota Utilities

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:07:42 Sen. Lind

HEARING ON SJR 25

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:08:05 Sen. Jim Peterson (R), SD 15, opened the hearing on SJ 25, Express sympathy and gratitude for soldiers who died in Iraq.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:10:16 Corey Swanson, Montana National Guard Member

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:15:49 Rep. Dickenson
00:16:19 Mr. Swanson

Closing by Sponsor:

00:17:27 Sen. Peterson

00:19:17 Break

00:22:20 Reconvene

HEARING ON SB 374

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:22:26 Sen. Mike Cooney (D), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB 374, Power of attorney to request absentee ballot for overseas military personnel.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:27:04 Tom Stockton, Father of Iraqi Soldier

EXHIBIT (sth60a01)

00:32:46 Elaine Graveley, Election Deputy, Secretary of State's Office

00:33:38 Bonnie Ramey, Montana Clerk, Records and Election Administrators Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:34:56 Rep. McNutt

00:35:19 Sen. Cooney

Closing by Sponsor:

00:35:48 Sen. Cooney

HEARING ON SB 285

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:36:33 Sen. Mike Cooney (D), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB 285, Exempt wildlife center from building naming law.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:41:36 Jeff Hagener, Director, Fish, Wildlife and Parks

EXHIBIT (sth60a02)

00:43:14 Spence Hegstad, Executive Director, Fish, Wildlife and
Parks Foundation

00:45:06 Tom Beck, Former Senator and Former Chairman of the
Capital Complex Advisory Council

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:49:56 Rep. Phillips

00:50:13 Mr. Hagener

00:50:30 Rep. Phillips

00:50:51 Mr. Hagner

00:51:27 Rep. Phillips

00:51:47 Mr. Hagener

00:52:02 Rep. Henry

00:52:42 Sen. Cooney

00:53:47 Chairman Himmelberger

00:54:07 Mr. Beck

00:55:31 Chairman Himmelberger

00:56:01 Sen. Cooney

00:58:15 Rep. Wilmer

01:58:37 Mr. Beck

01:01:55 Rep. Wilmer

01:02:04 Sen. Cooney

01:04:37 Rep. Wilmer

01:04:47 Sen. Cooney

Closing by Sponsor:

01:05:36 Sen. Cooney

HEARING ON SB 272

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:08:10 Sen. Jerry O'Neil (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB
272, Revise campaign contribution reporting.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:11:52 Dennis Unsworth, Commissioner of Political Practices

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

01:15:31 Sen. O'Neil

01:16:09 Break

01:48:29 Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 219

01:48:40 **Motion:** Rep. Hendrick moved that **SB 219 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:49:04 Rep. Wilmer

01:49:43 Rep. Ingraham

01:50:14 Rep. Dickenson

01:50:58 Rep. Ingraham

01:51:12 Rep. Olson

01:51:46 Rep. Wilmer

01:52:12 Rep. Olson

01:52:19 Chairman Himmelberger

01:52:31 Rep. Jacobson

01:53:59 Rep. Dickenson

01:55:05 Rep. Olson

01:55:30 Rep. Wilmer

01:55:52 Sheri Heffelfinger

01:57:04 Chairman Himmelberger

01:57:20 Rep. Malcolm

01:57:30 Rep. Wilmer

01:57:51 **Vote:** Motion that **SB 219 BE CONCURRED IN** carried unanimously by voice vote, 18-0. Reps. Sales, Small-Eastman, Phillips, McNutt, Caferro and Barrett voted by proxy. Rep. Musgrove will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 295

01:59:10 **Motion:** Rep. Olson moved that **SB 295 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:59:48 Rep. Phillips

02:00:53 **Vote:** Motion that **SB 295 BE CONCURRED IN** carried unanimously by voice vote, 18-0. Reps. Sales, Small-Eastman, Olson, Phillips, Ankney, McNutt, Caferro and Barrett voted by proxy. Rep. Hendrick will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 308

Discussion on SB 308:

02:03:03 Rep. Ingraham

02:03:16 Rep. Malcolm

02:03:31 Ms. Heffelfinger

No Executive Action was taken, pending more information that Rep. Ingraham will be presenting later in the week.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 364

02:03:56 **Motion:** Rep. Jacobson moved that **SB 364 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

02:04:14 Rep. Henry

02:04:26 Rep. Ingraham

02:05:14 **Vote:** Motion that **SB 364 BE CONCURRED IN** carried unanimously by voice vote, 18-0. Reps. Sales, Olson, Small-Eastman, Ankney, Caferro, McNutt, Phillips and Barrett voted by proxy. Rep. Ingraham will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJR 25

02:06:26 **Motion:** Rep. Hendrick moved that **SJR 25 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

02:06:36 Rep. Dickenson
02:08:10 Rep. Wilmer
02:09:14 Chairman Himmelberger
02:09:52 Ms. Heffelfinger
02:10:05 Rep. Jones
02:12:13 Rep. Hendrick
02:14:21 Rep. Wilmer

02:14:44 **Vote:** Motion that **SJR 25 BE CONCURRED IN** carried unanimously by voice vote, 18-0. Reps. Sales, Olson, Small-Eastman, Ankney, Caferro, McNutt, Phillips and Barrett voted by proxy. Rep. Hendrick will carry the bill.

ADJOURNMENT

02:16:14 Adjournment

REP. DENNIS HIMMELBERGER, Chairman

DEE BARFKNECHT, Secretary

DH/db

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([sth60aad.pdf](#))