

MINUTES

**MONTANA SENATE
60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION**

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN CAROLYN SQUIRES**, on January 24, 2007
at 3:00 P.M., in Room 335 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Carolyn Squires, Chairman (D)
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)
Sen. Vicki Cocchiarella (D)
Sen. Jeff Essmann (R)
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)
Sen. Larry Jent (D)
Sen. Rick Laible (R)
Sen. Jesse Laslovich (D)
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)
Sen. Jim Shockley (R)
Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Dave Bohyer, Legislative Branch
Lois O'Connor, Committee 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: SB 253, 1/19/2007; SB 10,
1/19/2007; SB 98, 1/19/2007;
SB 101, 1/19/07; SB 252, 1/19/2007;
SB 11, 1/19/2007; SB 168, 1/19/07
Executive Action: SB 57, SB 10, SB 101, SB 175

00:00:08

HEARING ON SB 253

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:14 **SEN. MIKE COONEY (D), SD 40**, opened the hearing on **SB 253**, File campaign advertising text with commissioner of political practices.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:54 Greg McDonald, Executive Director, Montana Broadcasters Association

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:09:54 Sen. Jeff Essmann to Mr. McDonald, Montana Broadcasters Association

00:12:23 Sen. Essmann to Sen. Cooney

00:14:28 Sen. Rick Laible to Sen. Cooney

00:17:37 Sen. Jim Shockley to Sen. Cooney

00:18:32 Sen. Carolyn Squires to Sen. Cooney

Closing by Sponsor:

00:20:19 Sen. Cooney

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 57

00:21:17 Sen. Harrington

00:21:37 **Motion:** **SEN. LAIBLE** moved that **SB 57** BE TABLED.

Discussion:

00:22:17 Sen. Laible to Dave Bohyer, Research Director, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

00:22:32 **Vote:** SEN. LAIBLE'S motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

HEARING ON SB 10

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:23:08 SEN. DAN HARRINGTON (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 10, Revise travel reimbursement for legislators.

Proponents' Testimony: None.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:26:28 Sen. Laible to Sen. Harrington rereferred to Karen Berger, Financial Services Manager, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

00:35:14 Sen. Shockley to Ms. Berger, LSD

00:35:46 Sen. Vicki Cocchiarella to Ms. Berger, LSD

00:37:24 Sen. Joe Balyeat to Ms. Berger, LSD

Closing by Sponsor:

00:39:21 Sen. Harrington

HEARING ON SB 98

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:40:21 SEN. DAN HARRINGTON (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 98, Revise laws governing legislature.

Proponents' Testimony: None.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:43:25 Sen. Shockley to Sen. Harrington
00:44:55 Sen. Cocchiarella
00:47:04 Sen. Squires to Sen. Cocchiarella
00:49:35 Sen. Shockley to Sen. Harrington
00:50:45 Sen. Cocchiarella
00:51:10 Sen. Squires to Sen. Cocchiarella
00:51:22 Sen. Shockley
00:51:49 Sen. Steve Gallus to Sen. Harrington
00:53:42 Sen. Squires
00:54:11 Sen. Balyeat to Mr. Bohyer
00:54:33 Sen. Balyeat to Sen. Cocchiarella
00:55:21 Sen. Essmann to Sen. Harrington rereferred to Mr.
Bohyer, LSD

Closing by Sponsor:

00:57:36 Sen. Harrington

HEARING ON SB 101

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:58:18 **SEN. LARRY JENT (D), SD 32**, opened the hearing on **SB 101**, Commemorate original highway patrol building.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:59:09 Paul Grimstad, Colonel, Montana Highway Patrol

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None.

Closing by Sponsor:

01:00:13 Sen. Jent

HEARING ON SB 252

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:00:50 **SEN. LANE LARSON (D), SD 22**, opened the hearing on **SB 252**, Road name change law.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:02:31 Carol Juneau, Senator, SD 8

01:03:27 Frank Smith, Senator, SD 16

01:04:29 Diane Sands, Representative, HD 95

01:05:05 Bill Kennedy, Yellowstone County Commissioner

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:10:27 Sen. Shockley to Sen. Larson rereferred to Mr. Kennedy, Yellowstone County Commissioner

01:12:47 Sen. Laible to Mr. Kennedy, Yellowstone County Commissioner

01:18:25 Sen. Balyeat

Closing by Sponsor:

01:20:27 Sen. Larson

HEARING ON SB 11

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:22:20 **SEN. VICKI COCCHIARELLA (D), SD 47**, opened the hearing on **SB 11**, PERS exemption for legislative session staff.

Proponents' Testimony: None.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

01:24:38 Kim Flatow, Montana Public Employees Retirement Administration (MPERA)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:25:31 Sen. Gallus to Susan Fox, Executive Director, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

01:26:41 Sen. Tropila to Ms. Flatow, MPERA

Closing by Sponsor:

01:27:37 Sen. Cocchiarella

General Discussion:

01:28:49 Sen. Squires

01:29:33 Sen. Shockley

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 10

01:30:33 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. COCCHIARELLA moved that SB 10 DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 101

01:31:04 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. ESSMANN moved that SB 101 DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 175

01:32:53 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. LAIBLE moved that SB 175 DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

HEARING ON SB 168

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:34:04 **SEN. LARRY JENT (D), SD 32**, opened the hearing on **SB 168**, Transfer public employee accrued leave into post-retirement health care account.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:36:18 Connie Welsh, Department of Administration (DOA)

01:37:47 Sheryl Wood, Associate Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

01:38:31 Faye Bergan, Self

01:39:12 Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees Association (MPEA)

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

01:39:56 Kim Flatow, MPERA

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:40:05 Sen. Essmann to Sen. Jent

01:41:01 Sen. Laible to Sen. Jent

01:42:32 Sen. Balyeat to Sen. Jent

01:43:17 Sen. Squires

01:43:45 Mr. Bohyer

Closing by Sponsor:

01:44:01 Sen. Jent

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:55 P.M.

SEN. CAROLYN SQUIRES, Chairman

LOIS O'CONNOR, Secretary

CS/lo

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([sts16aad.pdf](#))