

MINUTES

**MONTANA SENATE
60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN TRUDI SCHMIDT**, on March 12, 2007
at 9:00 A.M., in Room 317 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Trudi Schmidt, Chairman (D)
Sen. Keith Bales (R)
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)
Sen. John Brueggeman (R)
Sen. John Cobb (R)
Sen. Mike Cooney (D)
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)
Sen. Bob Hawks (D)
Sen. Rick Laible (R)
Sen. Lane L. Larson (D)
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)
Sen. Greg Lind (D)
Sen. Corey Stapleton (R)
Sen. Bill Tash (R)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)
Sen. David E. Wanzenried (D)
Sen. Dan Weinberg (D)
Sen. Carol Williams (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Taryn Purdy, 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 269, 3/8/2007; HB 283,
3/8/2007; HB 13, 3/8/2007
Executive Action: HB 13; HB 90

00:00:00

HEARING ON HB 269

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:10 **REP. DIANE RICE (R), HD 71**, opened the hearing on **HB 269**, Revise weed laws/transfer funds to noxious weed management trust.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:07:53 Greg Ames, Agricultural Sciences Division,
Department of Agriculture

EXHIBIT (fcs52a01)

00:09:47 Sheryl Wood, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

00:10:41 Pat Torgerson, Women Involved in Farm Economics
(WIFE)

00:11:24 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association,
Montana Association of State Grazing Districts

00:12:22 Carla Johnson, Montana Cattlewomen

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:12:50 Sen. Weinberg to Rep. Rice

00:17:26 Sen. Laible to Rep. Rice

00:18:41 Sen. Barkus to Rep. Rice

Closing by Sponsor:

00:20:21 Rep. Rice

HEARING ON HB 283

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:23:35 **REP. MARGARETT CAMPBELL (D), HD 31**, opened the hearing on **HB 283**, Increase amount for non-beneficiary students.

EXHIBIT (fcs52a02)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:30:27 Joe MacDonald, President, Salish Kootenai College

00:34:27 Sen. Carol Juneau, SD 8

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:37:27 Sen. Cooney to Rep. Campbell

00:39:28 Sen. Laible to Rep. Campbell

00:43:44 Taryn Purdy, Legislative Fiscal Division

00:44:49 Sen. Bales to Taryn Purdy

00:45:16 Sen. Bales to Rep. Campbell

00:46:08 Sen. Bales to Joe MacDonald

00:51:26 Sen. Barkus to Taryn Purdy

00:53:36 Sen. Hawks to Joe MacDonald

00:55:27 Sen. Tash to Joe MacDonald

00:56:50 Sen. Laible to Joe MacDonald

00:57:34 Sen. Lewis to Joe MacDonald

00:58:30 Sen. Bales to Joe MacDonald

Closing by Sponsor:

01:01:00 Rep. Campbell

HEARING ON HB 13

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:04:29 **REP. JON SESSO (D), HD 76**, opened the hearing on **HB 13**,
Pay plan for state employees.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:10:24 David Ewer, Budget Director

01:13:00 Paula Stoll, State Office of Labor Relations

EXHIBIT (fcs52a03)

01:17:04 Randy Morris, Administrator, State Personnel
Division, Department of Administration

01:19:22 Kathy Bramer, Office of Public Instruction

01:21:18 Jim Lynch, Director, Department of Transportation

01:26:42 Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees Association

01:27:23 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT

01:27:47 Mick Robinson, Associate Commissioner of Higher
Education

01:29:25 Denver Henderson, Associated Students, University of
Montana

01:30:40 Tom Livers, Department of Environmental Quality

01:31:36 Scott Martin, Associated Students MSU Billings, MSU
Great Falls, MSU Havre

01:32:20 Ronda Wiggers, Helena Area Chamber of Commerce

01:32:47 Jessica LaRoche, Associated Students, Montana State University

01:33:51 Cathy Conover, Montana University System

01:34:43 George Harris, Department of Livestock

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:35:55 Sen. Laible to Paula Stoll

01:37:37 Sen. Hansen to Paula Stoll

01:39:37 Sen. Williams to Rep. Sesso

01:43:50 Sen. Laible to Randy Morris

01:46:55 Sen. Cobb to Rep. Sesso

01:49:52 Sen. Cobb to Randy Morris

01:50:48 Sen. Cooney to Randy Morris

01:52:44 Sen. Cobb to Paula Stoll

01:53:20 Sen. Cobb to Amy Sessano, Budget Office

01:54:31 Sen. Cobb to Rep. Sesso

Closing by Sponsor:

01:57:34 Rep. Sesso

01:58:13 Recess

02:21:52 Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 13

02:22:32 **Motion:** SEN. COONEY moved that HB 13 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion:

02:22:44 Sen. Cooney
02:23:45 Sen. Cobb
02:24:11 Sen. Tash
02:24:42 Sen. Bales
02:25:57 Sen. Laible
02:27:00 Sen. Laible to Taryn Purdy
02:28:05 Sen. Stapleton to Sen. Schmidt
02:28:35 Sen. Cobb
02:28:59 Sen. Stapleton
02:29:32 Sen. Cooney
02:30:22 Sen. Barkus to Sen. Cobb
02:31:37 Sen. Laible to Sen. Cobb
02:32:30 Sen. Cooney
02:33:05 Sen. Laible to Taryn Purdy
02:33:34 Sen. Bales to Taryn Purdy
02:34:37 Sen. Cooney to Sen. Bales
02:36:11 Sen. Barkus
02:37:02 **Vote:** Motion carried 15-4 by voice vote with SEN. BALES, SEN. BARKUS, SEN. COBB, and SEN. STAPLETON voting no. SEN. LIND voted aye by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 90

02:38:03 **Motion:** SEN. GALLUS moved that HB 90 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion:

02:38:16 Sen. Weinberg

02:39:19 **Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**
SEN. LIND voted aye by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:42 A.M.

SEN. TRUDI SCHMIDT, Chairman

PRUDENCE GILDROY, Secretary

TS/pg

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([fcs52aad.pdf](#))