

MINUTES

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN TRUDI SCHMIDT**, on April 4, 2007 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 317-A 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 616, 3/31/2007; HB 395,
3/31/2007; HB 592, 3/31/2007; HB
407, 3/31/2007; HB 577, 3/31/2007;
HB 627, 3/31/2007; HB 114,
3/31/2007

Executive Action: None.

00:00:00

HEARING ON HB 616

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:52 **REP. BILL MCCHESENEY (D), HD 40**, opened the hearing on
HB 616, Allow parimutuel wagering on fantasy sports
leagues.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:53 Sen. Kim Gillan

EXHIBIT (fcs72a01)

00:03:17 Rich Miller, Gaming Industry Association

00:03:40 Ronda Wiggers, Montana Coin Machine Operators

Opponents' Testimony:

Informational Testimony:

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:04:08 Sen. Cobb to Rep. McChesney

Closing by Sponsor:

00:05:21 Rep. McChesney

HEARING ON HB 395

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:05:59 **REP. WILLIAM JONES (R), HD 9**, opened the hearing on **HB
395**, Fund dental school education.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:08:54 Mary McCue, Montana Dental Association

[EXHIBIT \(fcs72a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(fcs72a03\)](#)

00:17:47 Dan O'Neill, Montana Dental Association

00:17:55 Steve Yeakel, Montana Council for Maternal and Child Health

Opponents' Testimony:

00:19:12 Cathy Conover, Montana University System

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:22:39 Sen. Hawks to Mary McCue

00:27:44 Sen. Laible to Mary McCue

00:31:10 Sen. Tash to Mary McCue

00:33:11 Sen. Barkus to Mary McCue

00:35:45 Sen. Barkus to Rep. Jones

00:43:59 Sen. Hawks

00:48:02 Sen. Laible to Cathy Conover

Closing by Sponsor:

00:49:45 Rep. Jones

HEARING ON HB 592

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:52:53 **REP. BILL WILSON (D), HD 22**, opened the hearing on **HB 592**, Highway signs for veteran's memorial.

[EXHIBIT \(fcs72a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:54:36 Sam Pappas, Chair, Montana Veterans' Memorial

EXHIBIT (fcs72a05)

00:59:03 Dan Antonietti, Veterans of Foreign Wars

00:59:37 Colonel Jim Jacobsen, retired, Montana American Legion

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:00:27 Sen. Barkus to John Blacker, Department of
Transportation

01:02:37 Sen. Schmidt to John Blacker

01:03:30 Sen. Schmidt to Rep. Wilson

Closing by Sponsor:

01:04:00 Rep. Wilson

Sen. Tropila will carry the bill in the Senate

HEARING ON HB 407

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:04:40 **REP. CHAS VINCENT (R), HD 2**, opened the hearing on **HB 407**, Allocate funds to Libby asbestos medical plan.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:07:23 Rep. Ralph Heinert, HD 1

01:10:41 Aubyn Curtiss, SD 1

01:12:17 Leroy Tom, Libby, LAMP, CARD, Citizens Advisory Group
(CAG)

01:15:29 Tanis Hernandez, Social Worker, Libby

01:20:26 Brad Black, physician, Lincoln County Health Officer

01:25:05 Gerald Muller, Missoula

01:28:35 Jim Ahrens, Montana Hospital Association

01:30:03 Betty Challinor, Asbestos Related Disease Network (ARD
NET)

EXHIBIT (fcs72a06)

01:32:53 Jan Sanderson, Libby

01:34:06 Don Judge, representing himself

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

01:37:26 Jane Smilie, Department of Public Health and Human
Services (DPHHS)

EXHIBIT (fcs72a07)

EXHIBIT (fcs72a08)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:41:36 Sen. Laible to Jane Smilie

01:43:01 Sen. Laible to Dr. Black

01:46:09 Sen. Lewis to Jane Smilie

01:47:02 Denise Pizzini, Legal Counsel, DPHHS

01:49:13 Sen. Lewis to Denise Pizzini

01:49:46 Sen. Hawks to Denise Pizzini

01:54:28 Sen. Schmidt to Leroy Thom

01:59:29 Sen. Bales to Leroy Thom

02:01:46 Sen. Hawks to Dr. Black

02:06:01 Sen. Schmidt to Rep. Heinert

Closing by Sponsor:

02:08:10 Rep. Vincent

02:09:15 Recess

02:33:08 Reconvene

HEARING ON HB 577

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:33:24 **REP. MARY CAFERRO (D), HD 80**, opened the hearing on **HB 577**, Children's health care act.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:34:34 Terry Kendrick, for Olivia Riutta, Working for Equity and Economic Liberation (WEEL)

EXHIBIT (fcs72a09)

02:36:00 Jennifer Hill-Hart, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

02:36:19 Sami Butler, Intermountain Children's Home

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

02:37:09 Wayne Preshinger, DPHHS

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:38:59 Sen. Lind to Wayne Preshinger

Closing by Sponsor:

02:39:11 Rep. Caferro

EXHIBIT (fcs72a10)

02:43:22 Sen. Schmidt

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL DIVISION PRESENTATION

02:47:56 Clayton Schenck, Legislative Fiscal Analyst,
Legislative Fiscal Division

EXHIBIT (fcs72a11)

02:49:42 Terry Johnson, Principal Fiscal Analyst, Legislative
Fiscal Division

EXHIBIT (fcs72a12)

02:57:05 Sen. Tropila to Terry Johnson
02:58:29 Sen. Cobb to Terry Johnson
02:58:56 Sen. Hawks to Terry Johnson
02:59:35 Sen. Lewis to Terry Johnson
03:08:17 Sen. Hawks to Terry Johnson
03:08:55 Sen. Cobb to Terry Johnson
03:10:50 Sen. Wanzenried to Terry Johnson
03:11:15 Sen. Tropila to Terry Johnson
03:11:31 Sen. Hawks to Terry Johnson
03:13:04 Sen. Weinberg to Terry Johnson
03:14:52 Sen. Laible to Terry Johnson

HEARING ON HB 627

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

03:19:46 **REP. EDWARD HILBERT (R), HD 38**, opened the hearing on
HB 627, Pave road to Dawson county correctional
facility.

Proponents' Testimony: None.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:23:02 Sen. Laible to Rep. Hilbert
03:23:11 Sen. Hawks to Rep. Hilbert
03:24:06 Sen. Lind to Rep. Hilbert

03:25:54 Sen. Lewis to Rep. Hilbert

03:26:55 Sen. Lewis to Taryn Purdy

03:27:25 Rep. Hilbert

03:28:17 Sen. Wanzenried to Rep. Hilbert

Closing by Sponsor:

03:29:58 Rep. Hilbert

HEARING ON HB 114

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

03:31:25 **REP. ALAN OLSON (R), HD 45**, opened the hearing on **HB 114**, Establish Montana electrical transmission and pipeline authority.

Proponents' Testimony:

03:34:44 Leo Berry, Great Northern Power Development

Opponents' Testimony:

03:37:13 Patrick Judge, Montana Environmental Information Center

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:41:13 Sen. Lind to Rep. Olson

03:44:39 Recess

RECESSED

Recessed: 12:00 P.M.

SEN. TRUDI SCHMIDT, Chairman

PRUDENCE GILDROY, Secretary

TS/pg

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([fcs72aad.pdf](#))