

MINUTES

**MONTANA SENATE
61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Call to Order: Chairman John Brueggeman, on March 12, 2009 at
3:00 P.M., in Room 405 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. John Brueggeman, Chairman (R)
Sen. Jim Keane (D)
Sen. Rick Laible (R)
Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Bruce Tutvedt, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Greg Hinkle (R)
Sen. Jesse Laslovich (D)
Sen. David E. Wanzonried (D)
Sen. Ryan Zinke (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Libby Goodwin, Committee Secretary
Tammy McGill, 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 103, 3/6/2009; HB 371, 3/6/2009;
HB 373, 3/6/2009

Executive Action: None

00:00:01 Senator Williams sat in for Vice-Chairman Tutvedt to make the quorum.

HEARING ON HB 371

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:01 Rep. Jill Cohenour (D), HD 78, opened the hearing on HB 371, Revise and clarify train crossing laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:37 Craig Gilchrist, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers

00:03:27 Barbara Ranf, Burlington Northern Sante Fe Railway; and on behalf of Montana Rail Link

00:04:06 Bob Gilbert, Montana Tow Truck Association

Opponents' Testimony:

00:04:27 None

Informational Testimony:

00:04:29 None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:04:32 None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:04:37 Rep. Cohenour

HEARING ON HB 103

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:05:21 Rep. Bill Wilson (D), HD 22, opened the hearing on HB 103, Revise tow truck insurance reporting provisions.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:56 Greg Jergeson, Public Service Commission (PSC)

[EXHIBIT\(his55a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:07:25 None

Informational Testimony:

00:07:27 Col. Mike Tooley, Montana Highway Patrol (MHP)

00:08:07 Bob Gilbert, Montana Tow Truck Association

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:09:04 Sen. Keane

00:09:24 Mr. Jergeson, PSC

00:09:42 Wayne Budt, PSC

00:10:30 Sen. Keane

00:10:50 Col. Tooley, MHP

Closing by Sponsor:

00:11:28 Rep. Wilson

HEARING ON HB 373

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:12:15 Rep. Franke Wilmer (D), HD 64, opened the hearing on HB 373, Gold star families special license plates.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:14:38 Dan Antonietti, Veterans of Foreign Wars

00:15:38 Col. Jim. Jacobsen, Montana American Legion

00:16:17 Eric Walla, Patriot Guard Riders of Montana

Opponents' Testimony:

00:17:41 None

Informational Testimony:

00:17:44 Joe Foster, Montana Veterans Affairs Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:18:08 Chairman Brueggeman

00:18:26 Eric Walla, Patriot Guard Riders of Montana

00:18:55 Sen. Laible

00:19:27 Rep. Wilmer

Closing by Sponsor:

00:20:06 Rep. Wilmer

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:30 P.M.

Libby Goodwin, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([his55aad.pdf](#))