

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: Chairman Dennis Himmelberger, on February 17, 2009
at 8:00 A.M., in Room 455 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Dennis Himmelberger, Chairman (R)
Rep. Jesse O'Hara, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Russell Bean (R)
Rep. Joel Boniek (R)
Rep. Frosty Boss Ribs (D)
Rep. Dee Brown (R)
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)
Rep. Pat Ingraham (R)
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)
Rep. Sue Malek (D)
Rep. Mike Phillips (D)
Rep. Ted Washburn (R)
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: Rep. Sue Dickenson, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Tony Belcourt (D)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Betsy Hands (D)
Rep. Kendall Van Dyk (D)

Staff Present: Sheri Heffelfinger, Legislative Branch
Marshall McEwen, 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: HJ 16, HB 421, HB 547, HB 570,
2/11/2009

Executive Action: None

00:02:09 Rep. Dickenson and Rep. Belcourt entered the room.

HEARING ON HJ 16

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:03:39 Rep. Margaret MacDonald (D), HD 54, opened the hearing
on HJ 16, Study comparable worth for state employees.

[EXHIBIT \(sth37a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:09:47 Sen. Carol Williams, SD 46, Missoula, Democratic
Women's Caucus

[EXHIBIT \(sth37a02\)](#)

00:11:04 Rep. Hands entered the room.

00:11:42 Terry Minow, MEA-MFT

00:12:58 Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees' Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:14:02 Peggy Davis, Administrator, Human Resource Division,
Department of Administration

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:14:35 Rep. Brown

00:15:17 Rep. MacDonald

00:15:38 Rep. Phillips

00:16:13 Rep. MacDonald

00:16:21 Chairman Himmelberger

Closing by Sponsor:

00:16:29 Rep. MacDonald

00:16:53 Chairman Himmelberger

HEARING ON HB 547**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:17:23 Rep. Bill McChesney (D), HD 40, opened the hearing on HB 547, Small business impact of administrative rules.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:21:06 Jon Bennion, Montana Chamber of Commerce
00:24:34 Rep. Caferro entered the room.
00:26:14 David Smith, President, CEO, Bozeman Chamber of Commerce
00:27:37 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business
00:29:23 Vanessa Clark, Helena Chamber of Commerce and Great Falls Chamber of Commerce
00:30:12 Chuck Denowh, Flathead Business and Industry Association
00:30:51 Jessie Luther, Montana Contractors Association

Opponents' Testimony:

00:31:29 David Ewer, Budget Director, Office of Budget and Program Planning
00:33:27 Rep. Caferro exited the room.
00:37:20 Ann Brodsky, Legal Counsel, Governor's Office
00:42:20 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center
00:45:58 Greg Jergeson, Chairman, Montana Public Service Commission
00:53:05 Don Judge, Self

Informational Testimony:

00:53:41 Mark Cadwallader, Staff Attorney, Montana Department of Labor and Industry
00:55:41 Russ Cater, Chief Legal Counsel, Department of Public Health and Human Services

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:58:34 Rep. Boniek
00:58:59 Mr. Johnson
00:59:21 Rep. Van Dyk entered the room.
00:59:51 Rep. Boniek
01:00:15 Mr. Bennion
01:01:31 Rep. Phillips
01:01:44 Mr. Bennion
01:01:54 Rep. Phillips

01:02:12 Mr. Bennion
01:02:42 Rep. Brown
01:03:16 Ms. Brodsky
01:03:59 Rep. Brown
01:04:07 Mr. Cater
01:05:24 Rep. Brown
01:05:44 Rep. McChesney
01:06:02 Rep. Dickenson
01:06:30 Mr. Cadwallader
01:06:48 Rep. Dickenson
01:07:09 Mr. Judge
01:07:33 Rep. Hands
01:09:13 Mr. Cater
01:09:48 Rep. Hands
01:10:37 Mr. Cater
01:11:29 Rep. Boniek
01:11:54 Mr. Smith
01:12:27 Chairman Himmelberger

Closing by Sponsor:

01:12:32 Rep. McChesney
01:16:27 Chairman Himmelberger

HEARING ON HB 421

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:19:28 Rep. Scott Mendenhall (R), HD 77, opened the hearing on HB 421, Clean government act.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:30:37 Bob Adney, Self
01:33:25 Jeremy Hofer, Self
01:34:18 Becky Stockton, Self and Montana Eagle Forum

EXHIBIT (sth37a03)

01:37:31 Travis Butcher, Self
01:40:03 William Biernat, Self

Opponents' Testimony:

01:41:57 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT

EXHIBIT (sth37a04)

01:51:15 Don Judge, Montana Nurses Association

01:54:08 Robert Johnson, Montana AFL-CIO

EXHIBIT (sth37a05)

01:55:35 JD Lynch, Montana State Building Trade Council

01:56:37 Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees Association

01:57:40 Herald Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association
of Counties

EXHIBIT (sth37a06)

02:02:46 Jay Reardon, Montana Labors International Union of
North America Local 1686

02:04:45 Jack Fisher, International Brotherhood of Electrical
Workers

02:05:04 Sheryl Olson, Deputy Director, Department of
Administration

02:08:02 David Warner, Pacific Northwest Regional Council of
Carpenters

02:08:19 All Ekblad, International Union of Operating Engineers
Local 400

02:09:40 Robert Bergsing, Sheet Metal Workers Local 103

02:09:59 Olaf Stimac, Local 41 Plumbers and Pipe Fitters and
Sprinkler Fitters

02:10:26 Jack Trethewey, Montana State Firemen Association

Informational Testimony:

02:10:53 Dennis Unsworth, Commissioner, Political Practices

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:11:20 Rep. Van Dyk

02:12:37 Mr. Feaver

02:17:15 Rep. Ingraham

02:17:51 Rep. Mendenhall

02:18:35 Rep. Ingraham

02:19:08 Rep. Mendenhall

02:20:47 Rep. Brown

02:21:27 Rep. Mendenhall

02:22:01 Rep. Dickenson

02:22:30 Rep. Mendenhall

02:23:43 Rep. Wilmer

02:24:37 Rep. Mendenhall

02:24:50 Rep. Wilmer

02:25:06 Rep. Mendenhall

02:25:16 Chairman Himmelberger

Closing by Sponsor:

02:25:22 Rep. Mendenhall

02:32:37 Chairman Himmelberger

02:32:47 Committee recesses.

02:50:56 Committee reconvenes. Rep. Wilmer and Rep. Caferro are
not present after the break.

HEARING ON HB 570

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:51:15 Rep. Tom Berry (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB 570, Require election of county commissioners by district.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

02:53:32 Herald Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:56:16 Rep. Malek
02:57:18 Rep. Berry
02:57:40 Rep. Boniek
02:57:57 Mr. Blattie
02:59:21 Chairman Himmelberger

Closing by Sponsor:

02:59:24 Rep. Berry
02:59:50 Chairman Himmelberger

Committee Discussion:

03:00:03 Rep. Phillips
03:00:11 Chairman Himmelberger
03:00:48 Ms. Heffelfinger, Legislative Services Division

EXHIBIT (sth37a07)

03:02:58 Rep. Wilmer entered the room.
03:03:20 Chairman Himmelberger
03:03:26 Rep. Brown
03:03:52 Chairman Himmelberger
03:04:43 Rep. Dickenson
03:04:50 Chairman Himmelberger
03:05:23 Ms. Heffelfinger
03:06:21 Chairman Himmelberger
03:06:57 Rep. Phillips
03:07:17 Rep. Dickenson
03:08:33 Chairman Himmelberger
03:09:06 Rep. MacLaren
03:09:19 Chairman Himmelberger

03:10:35 Rep. Brown
03:10:53 Rep. Malek
03:11:21 Chairman Himmelberger
03:11:29 Ms. Heffelfinger
03:12:50 Chairman Himmelberger
03:12:54 Rep. Brown
03:12:57 Chairman Himmelberger
03:13:15 Ms. Heffelfinger
03:13:27 Chairman Himmelberger
03:13:34 Rep. Brown
03:13:58 Chairman Himmelberger

ADJOURNMENT

03:14:59 Adjournment: 11:14 a.m.

Marshall McEwen, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([sth37aad.pdf](#))