

MINUTES

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: Chairman Jon C. Sesso, on March 3, 2009 at 2:00 P.M., in Room 102 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Jon C. Sesso, Chairman (D)
Rep. Duane Ankney (R)
Rep. Dennis Getz (D)
Rep. Bill E. Glaser (R)
Rep. Ray Hawk (R)
Rep. Teresa K. Henry (D)
Rep. Cynthia Hiner (D)
Rep. Roy Hollandsworth (R)
Rep. Galen Hollenbaugh (D)
Rep. Llew Jones (R)
Rep. Dave Kasten (R)
Rep. Bill McChesney (D)
Rep. Walter McNutt (R)
Rep. Robert Mehlhoff (D)
Rep. Penny Morgan (R)
Rep. Bill Nooney (R)
Rep. Carolyn Pease-Lopez (D)
Rep. Don Roberts (R)
Rep. Cheryl Steenson (D)
Rep. Dan Villa (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jon Moe, Legislative Branch
Samuel Speerschneider, 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: HB 85, 2/26/2009; HB 161,
2/26/2009; HB 356, 2/26/2009;
HB 364, 2/26/2009; HB 408,
2/26/2009; HB 411, 2/26/2009;
HB 499, 2/26/2009

Executive Action: None

00:00:03 Chairman Sesso

HEARING ON HB 364

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:03:10 Rep. Dan Villa (D), HD 86, opened the hearing on
HB 364, Establish administrative code committee.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:04:15 Rep. Glaser
00:04:35 Rep. Villa
00:04:45 Rep. Glaser
00:05:29 Rep. Villa
00:05:55 Rep. Glaser
00:06:06 Chairman Sesso
00:06:10 Rep. Glaser
00:06:17 Chairman Sesso
00:06:36 Rep. Villa
00:06:49 Chairman Sesso

Closing by Sponsor:

00:07:00 Rep. Villa

HEARING ON HB 499

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:07:14 Rep. Julie French (D), HD 36, opened the hearing on
HB 499, Revising laws related to the upland game bird
program.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:08:00 Ken McDonald, Wildlife Administrator, Department of
Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:08:55 Chairman Sesso

00:09:07 Rep. French

EXHIBIT (aph47a01)

00:10:40 Rep. Getz

00:10:54 Rep. French

00:11:35 Rep. Hollenbaugh

00:11:57 Rep. French

Closing by Sponsor:

00:13:15 Rep. French

HEARING ON HB 408

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:13:56 Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D), HD 63, opened the hearing on
HB 408, Presumption of covered diseases for
firefighters under work comp.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:16:19 Kurt Bushnell, President, Montana State Firemen's
Association

00:18:25 Rick Ryan, Secretary Treasurer, Montana State Firemen's
Association

00:22:03 Matt Norby, Montana State Firemen's Association

00:22:58 Doug Neil, Montana State Firemen's Association

Opponents' Testimony:

00:26:56 Bob Worthington, Montana Municipal Insurers Authority

00:30:52 Kevin Braun, Montana State Fund

00:32:30 Mike Sehestedt, Chief Counsel, Montana Association of
Counties

EXHIBIT (aph47a02)

00:35:30 Leonard Lundby, Montana State Volunteer Firefighters

00:36:17 Bob Drake, Fire Chief, Tri-Lakes Fire Department

00:37:44 Jerry Shepherd, Fire Chief, West Valley Fire Department
00:38:17 Jon McDonald, City of Missoula

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:39:08 Rep. Pomnichowski

HEARING ON HB 161

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:44:31 Rep. Shannon Augare (D), HD 16, opened the hearing on
HB 161, Establish the Blackfeet-Montana Water Compact.

EXHIBIT (aph47a03)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:46:14 Chris Tweeten, Chairman, Montana Reserved Water Rights
Compact

00:50:40 Don Wilson, Blackfeet Tribe

00:53:09 Sen. Carol Juneau, SD 8, Browning

00:53:50 Jon Bloomquist, Attorney

00:55:06 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association

00:55:38 Roger Running Crane, Blackfeet Tribal Business Council

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:56:27 Rep. Ankney

00:56:55 Mr. Wilson

00:57:06 Rep. Ankney

00:57:27 Rep. Kasten

00:58:03 Mr. Tweeten

00:58:41 Rep. Kasten

00:58:53 Rep. Roberts

00:59:00 Mr. Tweeten

01:00:21 Rep. Roberts

01:00:34 Mr. Tweeten

Closing by Sponsor:

01:01:11 Rep. Augare

HEARING ON HB 85**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:02:08 Rep. Diane Sands (D), HD 95, opened the hearing on
HB 85, EMS grant program.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:03:47 Cliff Christian, American Heart Association
01:09:30 Sheryl Wood, Montana Association of Counties
01:10:54 Sen. Carol Juneau, SD 8, Browning

Opponents' Testimony:

01:12:20 Lynn Zanto, Department of Transportation
01:12:46 Spook Stang, Executive Vice President, Montana Motor
Carriers Association

Informational Testimony: None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:13:54 Rep. Roberts
01:14:08 Ms. Zanto
01:14:24 Rep. Getz
01:14:42 Ms. Zanto
01:15:08 Rep. Getz
01:15:20 Ms. Zanto
01:15:35 Rep. Nooney
01:16:09 Ms. Zanto
01:16:18 Rep. Nooney
01:16:21 Rep. McChesney
01:17:01 Ms. Zanto
01:17:46 Rep. Hollenbaugh
01:18:00 Ms. Zanto
01:18:09 Rep. Hollenbaugh
01:19:32 Rep. Mehlhoff
01:19:52 Ms. Zanto
01:20:15 Chairman Sesso
01:21:01 Rep. Hollenbaugh
01:22:23 Chairman Sesso

Closing by Sponsor:

01:22:44 Rep. Sands

HEARING ON HB 356

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:24:46 Rep. Bob Wagner (R), HD 71, opened the hearing on
HB 356, Revise law on use of portable scales.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:26:54 Jason Todhunter, Montana Logging Association
01:28:19 Spook Stang, Executive Vice President, Montana Motor
Carriers Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:28:58 Chairman Sesso
01:29:06 Rep. Wagner

Closing by Sponsor:

01:29:27 Rep. Wagner

HEARING ON HB 411

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:29:57 Rep. Bill McChesney (D), HD 40, opened the hearing on
HB 411, Flood damage mitigation assistance program.

EXHIBIT (aph47a04)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:38:09 Bob Gilbert, City of Glendive, Musselshell County
01:39:07 Rep. Dennis Getz, HD 38, Glendive
01:40:31 Rep. Duane Ankney, HD 43, Colstrip

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:41:43 Jon Tubbs, Department of Natural Resources and
Conservation

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:48:53 Rep. Kasten
01:49:27 Rep. Getz
01:49:33 Rep. Kasten
01:49:50 Rep. Getz
01:50:06 Rep. McChesney
01:50:24 Chairman Sesso
01:51:24 Rep. McChesney
01:53:32 Chairman Sesso
01:54:03 Rep. McChesney
01:54:36 Chairman Sesso
01:54:57 Rep. McChesney
01:56:52 Chairman Sesso
01:57:28 Mr. Tubbs

Closing by Sponsor:

02:00:10 Rep. McChesney

ADJOURNMENT

02:06:58 Adjournment: 4:00 P.M.

Samuel Speerschneider, Secretary

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Additional Exhibit:

Med Rivers Letter on HB 411

[EXHIBIT \(aph47a05\)](#)

Additional Documents:

[EXHIBIT \(aph47aad.pdf\)](#)