

MINUTES

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

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION

Call to Order: CHAIRMAN DONALD J. STEINBEISSER, on January 8, 2009 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 335 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser, Chairman (R)
Sen. Terry Murphy, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Gary Branae (D)
Sen. Taylor Brown (R)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)
Sen. Verdell Jackson (R)
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)
Sen. Rick Ripley (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Joan Linkenbach, Committee Secretary
Sue O'Connell, 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: SB 38 SB 55, 1/1/2009

Executive Action:

00:00:48 Chairman Steinbeisser

HEARING ON SB 38

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:56 SEN. AUBYN CURTISS (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 38, Revise laws governing nurseries and plant dealers.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:08:48 Chris Christiaens, Montana Farmer's Union.

Opponents' Testimony:

00:11:06 Greg Ames Administrator, Agricultural Science Division, Montana Department of Agriculture (DOA).

EXHIBIT (ags04a01)

Informational Testimony:

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:15:11 Sen. Jackson
00:15:46 Mr. Ames
00:17:36 Sen. Jackson
00:17:48 Mr. Ames
00:18:54 Sen. Jackson
00:19:10 Mr. Ames
00:20:23 Sen Jackson
00:20:34 Mr. Ames
00:20:54 Sen. Jackson
00:21:18 Mr. Ames
00:21:35 Sen. Brown
00:22:22 Mr. Ames
00:23:08 Sen. Brown
00:23:24 Mr. Ames
00:23:37 Sen. Ripley
00:23:54 Mr. Ames
00:24:06 Donna Rice, DOA
00:25:11 Sen. Larsen
00:25:25 Mr. Ames
00:25:46 Sen. Hamlett
00:26:22 Ms. Rice
00:26:35 Chairman Steinbeisser
00:26:52 Mr. Ames
00:27:31 Chairman Steinbeisser

Closing by Sponsor:

00:28:07 Sen. Curtiss

00:32:32 Chairman Steinbeisser

00:32:41 Sen. Murphy

HEARING ON SB 55

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:33:10 SENATOR DONALD STEINBEISSER (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SB 55, Generally revise fertilizer laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:35:20 Ron de Yong, Director, DOA

EXHIBIT (ags04a02)

00:39:58 Sen. Murphy

00:40:07 Pam Langley, Executive Director of Montana Agricultural Business Association.

EXHIBIT (ags04a03)

00:43:56 Sen. Murphy

00:44:07 Brad Culver, Owner of the Helena Nitro Green franchise.

00:45:31 Mr. Christiaens

EXHIBIT (ags04a04)

00:46:36 John Sample, Montana Grain Growers

00:46:53 Sen Murphy

Opponents' Testimony:

Informational Testimony:

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:47:20 Senator Hansen

00:47:58 Mr. de Yong (DOA)

00:48:41 Sen. Hansen

00:49:01 Mr. de Yong (DOA)

00:49:07 Sen Murphy

00:49:16 Sen. Hamlett

00:50:07 Sen. Steinbeisser

00:50:16 Mr. de Yong (DOA)

00:50:37 Sen. Murphy

Closing by Sponsor:

00:50:49 Sen. Steinbeisser

Discussion:

00:51:17 Sen. Murphy

00:52:03 Sen. Steinbeisser

00:52:26 Sen. Hansen

00:52:33 Sen. Steinbeisser

00:53:10 Sen. Ripley

00:53:34 Sen. Steinbeisser

00:54:04 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. JACKSON moved that the committee members sign the proxies, give them to the person of their choice and leave the vote up to the discretion of that person to whom the proxy was given. Motion passed unanimously.

00:55:03 Chairman Steinbeisser

00:55:48 Sue O'Connell, Legislative Services

00:58:15 Chairman Steinbeisser

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:15 p.m.

JOAN LINKENBACH, Secretary

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Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([ags04aad.pdf](#))