

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**Call to Order:** Chair Jon Sonju, on April 6, 2011 at 3:10 PM, in Room 405 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Jon Sonju, Chair (R)  
Sen. Art Wittich, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Edward Buttrey (R)  
Sen. Lynda Moss (D)  
Sen. Bruce Tutvedt (R)  
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Shannon Augare (D)  
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)  
Sen. Alan Olson (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:**

Leanne Kurtz, Legislative Branch  
Debra Polhemus, 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 516, 4/1/11; HB 560, 4/1/11; HB 561, 4/1/11; HB 562, 4/1/11  
HB 629, 4/3/11

Executive Action: SR 28 ~ Be Adopted  
HB 560 ~ Be Concurred In  
HB 561 ~ Be Concurred In  
HB 562 ~ Be Concurred In  
HB 494 ~ Be Concurred In

**HEARING ON HB 560**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:12 Rep. Elsie Arntzen (R), HD 53, opened the hearing on HB 560, Increase public involvement in urban renewal areas.

[EXHIBIT\(los77a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(los77a02\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:05:02 Alec Hansen, representing The Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:06:59 Kevin Nelson, Billings resident

[EXHIBIT\(los77a03\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:14:02 Sen. Wittich

00:14:58 Kevin Nelson

00:15:37 Sen. Wittich

00:15:49 Kevin Nelson

00:15:57 Sen. Wittich

00:17:16 Rep. Arntzen

00:19:29 Sen. Wittich

00:20:06 Rep. Arntzen

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:20:43 Rep. Elsie Arntzen

**HEARING ON HB 561**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:21:54 Rep. Elsie Arntzen (R), HD 53, opened the hearing on HB 561, Revise criteria for factors in urban renewal districts.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:25:02 Alec Hansen, representing The League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:26:28 Kevin Nelson, Billings resident

[EXHIBIT\(los77a04\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:29:46 Sen. Tutvedt  
00:30:19 Alec Hansen, MLCT  
00:32:23 Sen. Tutvedt  
00:32:37 Alec Hansen  
00:33:33 Sen. Buttrey  
00:33:51 Chairman Sonju  
00:34:04 Alec Hansen  
00:34:54 Chairman Sonju  
00:35:05 Alec Hansen  
00:36:51 Sen. Wittich  
00:37:19 Sen. Buttrey

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:37:53 Rep. Elsie Arntzen

**HEARING ON HB 562**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:38:28 Rep. Elsie Arntzen (R), HD 53, opened the hearing on HB 562, Require notification of county and schools of urban renewal district.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:41:09 Alec Hansen, representing The Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)  
00:43:10 Tara DePuy, Land Use Attorney, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:43:32 Kevin Nelson, Billings resident

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:49:40 Sen. Vuckovich  
00:49:59 Kevin Nelson  
00:51:01 Sen. Vuckovich  
00:52:00 Kevin Nelson  
00:52:47 Sen. Wittich  
00:54:38 Rep. Elsie Arntzen  
00:55:22 Sen. Wittich  
00:55:55 Rep. Elsie Arntzen

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:56:57 Rep. Elsie Arntzen

00:57:56 Chairman Sonju left the committee meeting and Sen. Wittich assumed responsibilities of Chairman.

**HEARING ON HB 629****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:59:54 Rep. Austin Knudsen (R), HD 36, opened the hearing on HB 629, Revise subdivision law and rent or lease exemption.

[EXHIBIT\(los77a05\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:04:13 Dustin Stewart, Executive Director, Montana Building Industry Association (MBIA)

[EXHIBIT\(los77a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(los77a07\)](#)

01:09:11 Brent Gyuriczán, Youth Camps, Missoula

01:11:27 Rep. Champ Edmunds, HD 100

[EXHIBIT\(los77a08\)](#)

01:13:05 Kathryn Cotnoir, Missoula County resident, also addressing testimony for Susanna Williams

01:15:23 Mike Hughes, Helena resident, also speaking for Bill Gallagher, Public Service Commission Chairman

01:17:35 Senator Sonju returned to the committee meeting.

01:20:34 Byron Roberts, Helena resident, retired land use planner

[EXHIBIT\(los77a09\)](#)

01:24:18 Jack Walsh, representing Helena Building Industry Association (HBIA), and also speaking on behalf of Bill and Joyce Derick

[EXHIBIT\(los77a10\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(los77a11\)](#)

01:26:59 Glenn Oppel, Montana Association of Realtors

01:27:29 Tara DePuy, Land Use Attorney, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

01:30:25 Joe Roberts, representing Montana Association of Registered Land Surveyors (MARLS)

[EXHIBIT\(los77a12\)](#)

Written testimony of SuzAnne and Sterling Miller

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:31:49 Linda Stoll, representing Montana Association of Planners, Missoula County

01:38:08 Anne Hedges, representing Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:40:14 Sen. Wittich  
01:40:44 Rep. Knudsen  
01:41:43 Sen. Wittich  
01:45:39 Rep. Knudsen

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:45:57 Rep. Knudsen

**HEARING ON SR 28**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:46:24 Sen. Edward Buttrey (R), SD 13, opened the hearing on SR 28, Senate Resolution in support of retaining the F-15 C/D mission in Montana.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:58:32 Joe Briggs, Cascade County Commissioner  
02:00:16 Jack Walsh, self

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

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

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:01:57 Sen. Edward Buttrey

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 28**

02:03:37 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Buttrey moved that **SR 28 BE ADOPTED**. Motion carried 6-0 by voice vote of those present and voting.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 560**

02:04:21 **Motion:** Sen. Wittich moved that **HB 560 BE CONCURRED IN**.

**Discussion:**

02:04:30 Sen. Moss  
02:06:08 Sen. Wittich  
02:06:14 Sen. Moss

02:06:38 **Vote:** Motion carried 5-1 by voice vote of those present and voting with Sen. Wittich voting no. Sen. Buttrey will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 561**

02:07:25 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Buttrey moved that **HB 561 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried 5-1 by voice vote of those present and voting with Sen. Wittich voting no. Sen. Buttrey will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 562**

02:07:54 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Wittich moved that **HB 562 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried 5-1 by voice vote of those present and voting with Sen. Wittich voting no. Sen. Buttrey will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 494**

02:08:47 **Motion:** Sen. Wittich moved that **HB 494 BE CONCURRED IN**.

**Discussion:**

02:08:58 Sen. Tutvedt  
 02:09:04 Chairman Sonju  
 02:09:21 Leanne Kurtz, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
 02:10:23 Sen. Wittich  
 02:10:29 Chairman Tutvedt  
 02:10:45 Sen. Wittich  
 02:11:41 Sen. Vuckovich  
 02:12:27 Sen. Moss  
 02:13:12 Sen. Wittich

02:14:04 **Vote:** Motion carried 5-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Augare, Sen. Gallus, Sen. Moss and Sen. Vuckovich voting no. Sen. Augare, Sen. Gallus and Sen. Olson voted by proxy. Sen. Wittich will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 20**

02:15:15 **Motion:** Sen. Vuckovich moved that **HB 20 BE CONCURRED IN**.

**Discussion:**

02:15:25 Sen. Moss  
 02:16:04 Sen. Tutvedt  
 02:16:28 Chairman Sonju  
 02:17:49 Sen. Moss  
 02:18:07 Sen. Tutvedt  
 02:18:51 Sen. Moss  
 02:19:20 Chairman Sonju  
 02:19:33 Sen. Moss  
 02:19:40 Sen. Vuckovich

02:20:17 Sen. Wittich  
02:20:30 Sen. Vuckovich  
02:21:08 Sen. Wittich  
02:21:52 Joe Briggs, Cascade County Commissioner, without objection  
02:22:25 Chairman Sonju  
  
02:22:36 Sen. Vuckovich **WITHDREW MOTION HB 20 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 5:35 p.m.

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Debra Polhemus, Secretary

dlp

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([los77aad.pdf](#))**