

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 63rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Alan Olson, on January 17, 2013 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Alan Olson, Chair (R)
Sen. Verdell Jackson, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Ron Arthun (R)
Sen. Robyn Driscoll (D)
Sen. Greg Jergeson (D)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)
Sen. Edward Walker (R)

Members Excused:

Sen. Jeff Essmann (R)
Sen. Llew Jones (R)
Sen. Jason Priest (R)
Sen. Chas Vincent (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Julie Emge, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, 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 26, 1/11/2013; SB 70, 1/11/2013; SJ 6, 1/11/2013; SR 2, 1/16/2013

Executive Action: SR 2 Do Pass as Amended

HEARING ON SB 70

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:15:38 Sen. Edward Walker (R), SD 29, opened the hearing on SB 70, Eliminate dual regulation of certain refinery underground piping.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:16:31 Mark Hall, Supervisor, Hazardous Material Section, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

EXHIBIT(ens09a01)

00:19:12 Dave Galt, Executive Director, Montana Petroleum Association (MPA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:20:03 Sen. Walker

HEARING ON SJ 6

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:21:17 Sen. Alan Olson (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SJ 6, Interim study of the impacts of Montana's renewable portfolio standard.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:23:01 John Alke, Attorney, Hughes, Kellner, Sullivan and Alke, representing Montana Dakota Utilities

00:28:40 Ben Brouwer, Montana Renewable Energy Association (MREA)

00:29:28 Kyla Mackie, Montana Environmental Informational Center (MEIC)

00:30:33 Jeff Fox, Renewable Northwest Project (RNP)

00:32:09 Justin Sakalis, Montana Audubon

00:32:26 Sam Thompson, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MPIRG)

00:33:07 Stacy Gasvoda, Gaelectric

00:34:10 Lou Moore, Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

00:34:59 Matt Elsaesser, Student Advocates for Valuing the Environment Foundation (SAVE)

00:35:24 John Fitzpatrick, NorthWestern Energy

00:40:31 Clayton Elliott, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)

00:41:21 Ross Prospero, Montana Conservation Voters (MCV)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:42:25 Chairman Olson

HEARING ON SB 26

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:44:01 Sen. Greg Jergeson (D), SD 17, opened the hearing on SB 26, Clarifying renewable portfolio standard provisions.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:46:50 Jason Brown, Attorney, Montana Public Service Commission (PSC)

[EXHIBIT\(ens09a02\)](#)

00:51:18 Jeff Fox, Montana Public Policy Manager, Renewable Northwest Project (RNP)

00:53:01 Matt Elsaesser, Student Advocates for Valuing the Environment Foundation (SAVE)

00:53:18 Stacy Gasvoda, Gaelectric

Opponents' Testimony:

00:53:46 Al Brogan, Corporate Council, NorthWestern Energy

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:58:29 Sen. Larsen

Closing by Sponsor:

00:58:41 Sen. Jergeson

HEARING ON SR 2

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:02:48 Sen. Alan Olson (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SR 2, Resolution related to the U.S. Department of Energy.

[EXHIBIT\(ens09a03\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:06:17 Doug Hardy, Montana Rural Electric Cooperatives Association (MECA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:15:27 Jeff Fox, Montana Policy Manager, Renewable Northwest Project (RNP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:19:24 Sen. Arthun
 01:20:28 Mr. Hardy, MECA
 01:22:59 Sen. Jergeson
 01:23:31 Chairman Olson
 01:23:50 Sen. Jergeson
 01:31:19 Mr. Hardy
 01:33:33 Sen. Tropila
 01:34:44 Chairman Olson

Closing by Sponsor:

01:35:15 Chairman Olson

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 2

01:40:06 **Motion:** Sen. Olson moved that **SR 2 DO PASS.**

01:40:46 **Motion:** Sen. Jergeson moved that **SR 2 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(ens09a04\)](#)

Discussion:

01:41:28 Chairman Olson
 01:41:46 Sen. Jergeson
 01:42:11 Sen. Larsen
 01:42:36 Chairman Olson
 01:43:17 Sen. Jergeson
 01:43:52 Sen. Tropila
 01:44:44 Sen. Jergeson
 01:44:49 Chairman Olson
 01:45:10 Sen. Tropila
 01:45:25 Sen. Jergeson
 01:46:03 Sen. Tropila
 01:46:09 Chairman Olson

01:46:31 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote by those present and voting.
 Sen. Essmann and Sen. Priest voted by proxy.

01:46:50 **Motion:** Sen. Olson moved that **DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:47:05 Sen. Kaufmann

01:48:00 Chairman Olson

01:49:41 Sen. Walker

01:50:22 Sen. Jackson

01:51:12 Sen. Larsen

1:42:24 **Vote:** Motion carried 12-1 by roll call vote with Sen. Kaufmann voting no. Sen. Essmann, Sen. Jones, Sen. Priest and Sen. Vincent voted by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:44 pm

Julie Emge, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([ens09aad.pdf](#))