

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 63rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Alan Olson, on April 4, 2013 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 335 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. Jeff Essmann (R)
Sen. Greg Jergeson (D)
Sen. Llew Jones (R)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)
Sen. Jason Priest (R)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Chas Vincent (R)
Sen. Edward Walker (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: HB 477, 3/26/2013

Executive Action: HB 477 - Be Concurred In As Amended (carried by Sen. Vincent)

HEARING ON HB 477

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:13:05 Rep. Tom Berry (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB 477, Require utility to release energy use, provide shut off data, address liability.

[EXHIBIT\(ens70a01\)](#)

Discussion:

00:16:35 Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

00:18:05 Rep. Berry

Proponents' Testimony:

00:18:26 Amy Fisher, Montana Association of Realtors (MAR)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:21:20 Gary Forrester, Montana Dakota Utilities (MDU)

[EXHIBIT\(ens70a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(ens70a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(ens70a04\)](#)

Informational Testimony:

00:26:26 Gary Wiens, Montana Electric Cooperatives Association (MECA)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:26:40 Sen. Essmann

00:28:48 Rep. Berry

00:28:58 Chairman Olson

00:29:01 Rep. Berry

00:29:14 Sen. Essmann

00:29:20 Chairman Olson

00:29:52 Ms. Nowakowski, LSD

00:30:25 Sen. Tropila

00:30:52 Mr. Forrester, MDU

00:31:08 Sen. Tropila

00:32:07 Rep. Berry

00:32:34 Sen. Tropila

00:33:37 Mr. Forrester

00:34:00 Chairman Olson

00:34:32 Mr. Forrester

00:35:59 Sen. Tropila

00:37:216 Ms. Fisher, MAR

Closing by Sponsor:

00:37:39 Rep. Berry

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 477

00:39:05 **Motion:** Sen. Essmann moved that **HB 477 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

00:39:10 Chairman Olson

00:39:30 **Motion:** Sen. Jackson moved that **HB 477 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(ens70a05)

Discussion:

00:39:46 Ms. Nowakowski

00:39:52 Sen. Essmann

00:40:00 Ms. Nowakowski

00:41:25 Sen. Jergeson

00:41:55 Chairman Olson

00:42:36 Sen. Jergeson

00:42:43 Without objection from the committee, Sen. Jergeson requested that **SECTION 6 BE SEGREGATED FROM THE AMENDMENT.**

00:43:15 Sen. Jones

00:43:30 Chairman Olson

00:43:40 Ms. Nowakowski

00:44:12 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Olson moved **TO AMEND HB 477 WITH SECTIONS 1-5 AND 7-11 OF THE AMENDMENT.** Motion carried 11-0 by voice vote. Sen. Vincent and Sen. Walker were excused.

00:44:15 Chairman Olson

00:44:23 Sen. Jergeson

00:44:29 Chairman Olson

00:44:45 **Motion:** Sen. Jackson moved that **HB 477 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

00:45:58 Sen. Tropila

00:45:08 Sen. Jones

00:45:15 Chairman Olson

00:45:33 **Vote:** Motion carried 10-1 by voice vote with Sen. Driscoll voting no. Sen. Vincent and Sen. Walker were excused. Sen. Vincent will carry the bill.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 8:35 a.m.

Julie Emge, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([ens70aad.pdf](#))