

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL RELATIONS, ENERGY, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Mike Lang, on February 11, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Tom Steenberg, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Daniel Zolnikov, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Tom Berry (R)
Rep. Geraldine Custer (R)
Rep. David (Doc) Moore (R)
Rep. Andrew Person (D)
Rep. Randall Pinocci (R)
Rep. Christopher Pope (D)
Rep. Tom Richmond (R)
Rep. Casey Schreiner (D)
Rep. Jeffrey W. Welborn (R)

Members Excused:

Rep. Mike Lang, Chair (R)
Rep. Austin Knudsen (R)
Rep. Ryan Lynch (D)
Rep. Zac Perry (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jessica Riffel, Committee Secretary
Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

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 111, 2/5/2015; SB 114, 2/5/2015

Executive Action: HB 253, HB 296, HB 353, HB 393, HB 401, HJ 7, HJ 11

00:00:01 Vice Chairman Zolnikov
00:00:15 Rep. Knudsen entered

00:01:13 Recess

00:04:19 Rep. Lynch entered
00:07:53 Chairman Lang entered

00:09:03 Reconvened

HEARING ON SB 114

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:09:14 Sen. Debby Barrett (R), SD 36, opened the hearing on SB 114, Require that all hydro facilities be classified as renewable.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:11:34 Bob Lake, Public Service Commission (PSC)
[EXHIBIT\(feh31a01\)](#)
00:15:23 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy (NWE)
00:17:18 Joe Balyeat, Americans for Prosperity in Montana (AFP-MT)
00:19:14 Dan Flynn, International Brotherhood of Workers (IBW)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:19:41 Kyla Maki, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
[EXHIBIT\(feh31a02\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(feh31a03\)](#)
00:28:08 Neal Ullman, Montana Conservation Voters (MCV)
00:28:08 Rep. Perry entered
00:28:58 Jeff Blend, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
00:30:55 Jeff Fox, Renewable Northwest

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:34:55 Rep. Person
00:35:30 Jeff Blend, DEQ
00:35:37 Rep. Person
00:36:19 Jeff Blend, DEQ
00:37:21 Rep. Person
00:37:31 Jeff Blend, DEQ
00:38:28 Rep. Berry
00:38:53 John Fitzpatrick, NWE

Closing by Sponsor:

00:39:38 Sen. Barrett

HEARING ON SB 111

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:41:23 Sen. Duane Ankney (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SB 111, Clarify wind generation facility impact fee for local governmental units.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:43:16 Richard Moe, Wheatland County, Self

[EXHIBIT\(feh31a04\)](#)

00:45:03 Shantil Siaperas, Montana Association of Counties (MAC)

[EXHIBIT\(feh31a05\)](#)

00:46:01 Jeff Fox, Renewable Northwest

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:47:52 Rep. Berry

Closing by Sponsor:

00:48:10 Sen. Ankney

00:49:35 Recess

00:56:26 Reconvened

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 7

00:56:52 **Motion:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HJ 7 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

00:57:01 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

[EXHIBIT\(feh31a06\)](#)

00:57:34 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Steenberg moved that **HJ 7 BE AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

00:58:56 **Motion:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HJ 7 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

00:59:13 Rep. Steenberg

01:00:03 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 11

01:00:22 **Motion:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HJ 11 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:00:28 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
01:00:49 Chairman Lang
01:01:29 Rep. Steenberg
01:02:54 Rep. Pope
01:04:10 Chairman Lang
01:04:24 Rep. Richmond

01:06:30 **Vote:** Motion carried 13-2 by roll call vote with Rep. Pope and Rep. Steenberg voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 253

01:07:21 **Motion:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HB 253 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:07:30 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
EXHIBIT(feh31a07)

01:09:15 **Motion:** Rep. Pope moved that **HB 253 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:09:32 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
01:10:37 Rep. Pope

01:12:29 **Vote:** Motion carried 11-4 by roll call vote with Rep. Pinocci, Rep. Pope, Rep. Welborn and Rep. Zolnikov voting no.

01:13:17 **Motion:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HB 253 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:13:29 Rep. Berry
01:14:35 Rep. Richmond
01:17:48 Rep. Moore left the hearing
01:19:13 Rep. Knudsen
01:21:16 Chairman Lang

01:21:36 **Vote:** Motion failed 4-11 by roll call vote with Rep. Lynch, Rep. Pope, Rep. Schreiner and Rep. Steenberg voting aye. Rep. Moore voted by proxy.

01:22:31 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HB 253 BE TABLED.** Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Moore was excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 296

01:22:47 **Motion:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HB 296 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:22:53 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

01:23:23 Rep. Steenberg

01:24:28 Rep. Richmond

01:25:05 **Vote:** Motion carried 14-1 by voice vote with Rep. Zolnikov voting no. Rep. Moore voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 353

01:26:01 **Motion:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HB 353 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:26:06 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

01:26:19 Rep. Custer

01:26:57 Rep. Person

01:28:13 **Vote:** Motion carried 12-3 by roll call vote with Rep. Custer, Rep. Person and Rep. Schreiner voting no. Rep. Moore voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 393

01:29:01 **Motion:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HB 393 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:29:34 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

01:29:57 Rep. Richmond

01:31:47 Rep. Zolnikov

01:32:04 Hope Stockwell, LSD

01:33:09 Rep. Richmond

01:34:35 Hope Stockwell, LSD

01:34:43 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HB 393 BE AMENDED.** Motion carried 14-0 by voice vote. Rep. Moore was excused.

01:35:01 **Motion:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HB 393 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:35:08 Rep. Steenberg

01:35:35 Rep. Richmond

01:39:00 Rep. Berry

01:39:18 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Rep. Moore voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 401

01:40:20 **Motion:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HB 401 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:40:29 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

01:40:59 Rep. Steenberg

01:42:13 Rep. Zolnikov

01:42:38 Rep. Berry

01:43:10 Rep. Pope

01:43:54 Chairman Lang

01:45:05 **Vote:** Motion failed 6-9 by roll call vote with Rep. Berry, Rep. Custer, Rep. Knudsen, Rep. Lang, Rep. Richmond and Rep. Welborn voting aye. Rep. Moore voted by proxy.

01:46:00 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HB 401 BE TABLED.** Motion carried 14-0 by voice vote. Rep. Moore was excused.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 01:46:19

Jessica Riffel, Secretary

jr

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([feh31aad.pdf](#))