

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: Chair Jeff Essmann, on February 19, 2015 at 8:00 AM, in Room 455
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Jeff Essmann, Chair (R)
Rep. Bill Harris, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Casey Schreiner, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Bob Brown (R)
Rep. Moffie Funk (D)
Rep. Frank Garner (R)
Rep. Edward Greef (R)
Rep. Denise Hayman (D)
Rep. Jessica Karjala (D)
Rep. Debra Lamm (R)
Rep. Forrest Mandeville (R)
Rep. Wendy McKamey (R)
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)
Rep. Susan Webber (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Bryce Bennett (D)
Rep. Austin Knudsen (R)
Rep. Jean Price (D)
Rep. Ray L. Shaw (R)
Rep. Kathy Swanson (D)
Rep. Art Wittich (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jennifer Petersen, Committee Secretary
Sheri Scurr, 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:

Hearings on HB 460, HB 529, HB 459, HB 483 and Executive Action

00:00:01 Chair Essmann

HEARING ON HB 460

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:12 Rep. Robert (Bob) Mehlhoff (D), HD 22, opened the hearing on HB 460,
Designate veterans' memorial in Great Falls as a Montana veterans' memorial.

00:01:18 *Rep. Price arrives*

[EXHIBIT\(sth38a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(sth38a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:18 Michael Winters, self

00:06:36 *Rep. Wittich arrives*

00:07:13 Dwayne Nelson, self

00:07:55 Gary White, American Legion of Montana

00:08:22 Sam Pappas, self

Opponents' Testimony:

00:09:03 Rep. Lang (HD 33)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:11:02 Rep. McKamey

00:11:35 Rep. Mehlhoff

[EXHIBIT\(sth38a03\)](#)

00:14:15 Rep. Schreiner

00:14:46 Michael Winters, self

00:17:39 Rep. Schreiner

00:18:19 Rep. Mehlhoff

00:20:18 Rep. Karjala

00:21:01 Michael Winters, self

00:21:04 Rep. Funk

00:22:25 Rep. Mehlhoff

00:23:46 Rep. Greef

00:24:38 Rep. Mehlhoff

00:26:00 Rep. B. Brown

Closing by Sponsor:

00:26:28 Rep. Mehlhoff

00:28:26 Chair Essmann

HEARING ON HB 529**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:28:43 Rep. Virginia Court (D), HD 50, opened the hearing on HB 529, Prohibit candidate from serving as poll watcher.
00:31:59 Chair Essmann

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:32:20 Rep. B. Bennett
00:32:59 Rep. Court
00:33:42 Chair Essmann
00:34:04 Rep. Court
00:34:40 Rep. McKamey
00:35:04 Sheri Scurr, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
00:35:38 Rep. B. Bennett
00:36:02 Chair Essmann

Closing by Sponsor:

00:36:28 Rep. Court
00:37:19 Chair Essmann

HEARING ON HB 459**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:37:40 Rep. Ed Lieser (D), HD 5, opened the hearing on HB 459, Allow state veterans home to admit parents of vets who died in service.
00:42:23 Chair Essmann

Proponents' Testimony:

00:42:31 Kelly Williams, Administrator, Senior Long Term Care Division, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

[EXHIBIT\(sth38a04\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:46:19 Rep. Wittich
00:47:39 Kelly Williams, DPHHS
00:49:35 Rep. Wittich
00:49:59 Kelly Williams, DPHHS
00:50:16 Rep. Wittich

00:50:43 Kelly Williams, DPHHS
00:52:09 Rep. McKamey
00:52:41 Rep. Lieser
00:52:52 Rep. Garner
00:53:17 Kelly Williams, DPHHS
00:54:42 Rep. Garner
00:55:00 Kelly Williams, DPHHS
00:55:41 Rep. Lamm
00:55:59 Kelly Williams, DPHHS
00:56:59 Chair Essmann
00:57:47 Kelly Williams, DPHHS
00:58:39 Rep. Wittich
00:59:03 Kelly Williams, DPHHS
00:59:14 Rep. Hayman
00:59:39 Kelly Williams, DPHHS
01:00:33 Chair Essmann

Closing by Sponsor:

01:00:39 Rep. Lieser
01:01:45 Chair Essmann

HEARING ON HB 483

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:02:07 Rep. Ed Lieser (D), HD 5, opened the hearing on HB 483, Raising pension benefit in VFCA.
01:02:38 Chair Essmann
01:02:53 Rep. Lieser

Proponents' Testimony:

01:08:01 Leonard Lundby, Montana State Volunteer Firefighters' Association (MSVFFA)
01:09:21 Shantil Siaperas, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:10:04 Dore Schwinden, Montana Public Employees Retirement Association (MPERA)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:11:49 Rep. Garner
01:12:04 Rep. Lieser
01:12:30 Rep. Hayman
01:12:54 Rep. Lieser
01:13:07 Chair Essmann
01:13:16 Melanie Symons, Chief Legal Counsel, Montana Public Employee Retirement Association (MPERA)
01:13:44 Chair Essmann
01:13:57 Dore Schwinden, MPERA
01:14:10 Chair Essmann

Closing by Sponsor:

01:14:24 Rep. Lieser
01:14:49 Chair Essmann, Recess
01:32:16 Chair Essmann, Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 170

01:32:30 **Motion:** Rep. Harris moved that **HB 170 DO PASS.**

01:32:37 Sheri Scurr, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

01:33:04 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Garner made a substitute motion that **HB 170 BE TABLED.** Substitute Motion carried 12-8 by roll call vote with Rep. Bennett, Rep. Funk, Rep. Hayman, Rep. Karjala, Rep. Price, Rep. Schreiner, Rep. Swanson and Rep. Webber voting no. Rep. Knudsen, Rep. Shaw, Rep. Swanson and Rep. Wittich voted by proxy.

01:35:39 Rep. Funk
01:36:09 Chair Essmann
01:37:04 Rep. Garner
01:37:29 Vice Chair Schreiner

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 381

01:37:52 **Motion:** Rep. Harris moved that **HB 381 DO PASS.**

01:37:59 Sheri Scurr, LSD

Discussion:

01:38:40 Rep. Lamm
01:39:18 Rep. Garner
01:40:16 Rep. Hayman
01:41:42 Rep. Funk
01:42:59 Vice Chair Harris
01:43:20 Vice Chair Schreiner
01:45:52 Rep. McKamey
01:46:57 Rep. B. Brown
01:47:36 Rep. Karjala
01:49:12 Chair Essmann
01:51:15 Rep. Karjala

01:53:13 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Harris moved that **HB 381 DO PASS.** Motion carried 12-8 by roll call vote with Rep. Bennett, Rep. Funk, Rep. Hayman, Rep. Karjala, Rep. Price, Rep. Schreiner, Rep. Swanson and Rep. Webber voting no. Rep. Knudsen, Rep. Shaw, Rep. Swanson and Rep. Wittich voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 483

- 01:54:38 Chair Essmann
- 01:54:43 **Motion:** Rep. Harris moved that **HB 483 DO PASS.**
- 01:54:51 Chair Essmann
- 01:54:59 **Motion:** Rep. Schreiner moved that **HB 483 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(sth38a05)
- 01:55:35 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Knudsen, Rep. Shaw, Rep. Swanson and Rep. Wittich voted by proxy.
- 01:56:09 **Motion:** Rep. B. Bennett moved that **HB 483 BE CONCEPTUALLY AMENDED. TO STRIKE "JULY 1, 2015" FROM LINE 30 AND REPLACE WITH "JANUARY 1, 2016"**
- 01:56:45 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Knudsen, Rep. Shaw, Rep. Swanson and Rep. Wittich voted by proxy.
- 01:57:12 **Motion:** Rep. Harris moved that **HB 483 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
- 01:57:21 *Rep. Swanson arrives*
- 01:57:32 Rep. Garner
- 01:58:23 **Vote:** Motion carried 19-1 by voice vote with Rep. Wittich voting no. Rep. Knudsen, Rep. Shaw and Rep. Wittich voted by proxy.

DISCUSSION ON DRAFTING A COMMITTEE BILL

- 01:59:02 Chair Essmann
- 01:59:28 Rep. B. Bennett
- 02:00:14 Chair Essmann
- 02:00:42 **Motion:** Rep. B. Bennett moved **TO DRAFT AND INTRODUCE A COMMITTEE BILL dealing with the subject of a candidate being with 100 ft. of a polling place on election day.**
- 02:00:56 Chair Essmann
- 02:01:13 Sheri Scurr, LSD
- 02:01:57 Rep. Lamm
- 02:02:09 Chair Essmann
- 02:02:10 Rep. Lamm
- 02:02:23 Chair Essmann
- 02:02:52 Vice Chair Schreiner
- 02:03:17 Chair Essmann

02:03:27 **Vote:** Motion carried 19-1 by voice vote with Rep. Mandeville voting no. Rep. Knudsen, Rep. Shaw and Rep. Wittich voted by proxy.

02:04:22 Chair Essmann

EXHIBIT(sth38a06)

02:04:42 Rep. Funk

02:05:07 Chair Essmann

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 02:05:38

Jennifer Petersen, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([sth38aad.pdf](#))