

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

### COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Jeff Essmann, on March 17, 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. Bryce Bennett (D)  
Rep. Bob Brown (R)  
Rep. Moffie Funk (D)  
Rep. Frank Garner (R)  
Rep. Edward Greef (R)  
Rep. Denise Hayman (D)  
Rep. Debra Lamm (R)  
Rep. Forrest Mandeville (R)  
Rep. Jean Price (D)  
Rep. Ray L. Shaw (R)  
Rep. Kathy Swanson (D)  
Rep. Susan Webber (D)  
Rep. Art Wittich (R)

**Members Excused:**

Rep. Jessica Karjala (D)  
Rep. Austin Knudsen (R)  
Rep. Wendy McKamey (R)  
Rep. Dale Mortensen (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:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 191, 3/10/2015; SB 195, 3/10/2015; SB 238, 3/10/2015; SB 364, 3/10/2015; SJ 6, 3/10/2015; HB 566, 3/10/2015

00:00:00 Chair Essmann, *gives gavel to Rep. Garner*  
00:02:07 Chair Garner

### **HEARING ON SB 238**

#### **Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:14 Sen. Mark Blasdel (R), SD 4, opened the hearing on SB 238, Create a deferred retirement option plan (DROP) in Hwy Patrol Retirement Plan.

#### **EXHIBIT(sth55a01)**

00:04:00 *Rep. Karjala arrives*  
00:04:10 Chair Garner

#### **Proponents' Testimony:**

00:04:16 Jessie Luther, Association of Montana Troopers (AMT)

#### **EXHIBIT(sth55a02)**

00:10:50 Tom Butler, Colonel, Montana Highway Patrol  
00:12:28 Brian Inman, President, Association of Montana Troopers (AMT)  
00:14:47 Jay Nelson, Sergeant, Montana Highway Patrol (MHP)  
00:16:48 Jerry Williams, Executive Director, Montana Police Protective Association (MPPA)  
00:19:11 Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees Association (MPEA)

#### **Opponents' Testimony:** None

#### **Informational Testimony:**

00:21:18 Melanie Symons, Chief Legal Counsel, Montana Public Employees Retirement Administration (MPERA)

#### **Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:24:31 Rep. Hayman  
00:25:00 Melanie Symons, MPERA  
00:25:25 Rep. Greef  
00:26:09 Sen. Blasdel  
00:26:20 Jessie Luther, AMT  
00:26:50 Rep. Greef  
00:27:32 Jessie Luther, AMT  
00:28:58 Chair Garner  
00:29:09 Melanie Symons, MPERA

#### **Closing by Sponsor:**

00:29:52 Sen. Blasdel  
00:30:58 Chair Garner

**HEARING ON SJ 6**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:33:00 Sen. Cliff Larsen (D), SD 47, opened the hearing on SJ 6, Resolution to recognize military service of Montanans.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:37:51 Brigadier General Bryan P. Fox, Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

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

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:39:35 Sen. Larsen

**EXHIBIT(sth55a03)**

00:41:07 Chair Garner

**HEARING ON SB 191**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:41:38 Sen. Robyn Driscoll (D), SD 25, opened the hearing on SB 191, Specify exception for state parks under the procurement laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:44:20 Chas Van Genderen, Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

**EXHIBIT(sth55a04)**

**EXHIBIT(sth55a05)**

**EXHIBIT(sth55a06)**

**EXHIBIT(sth55a07)**

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:49:50 Rep. Wittich

00:51:25 Sen. Driscoll

00:52:15 Rep. Wittich

00:52:48 Chas Van Genderen, FWP

00:55:06 Rep. Harris

00:56:22 Chas Van Genderen, FWP

00:57:18 Rep. Karjala

00:58:29 Chas Van Genderen, FWP

01:00:29 Rep. Karjala

01:01:07 Chas Van Genderen, FWP

01:02:27 Rep. Karjala

01:02:36 Rep. Hayman  
01:03:25 Chas Van Genderen, FWP  
01:04:42 Rep. Wittich  
01:05:34 Chas Van Genderen, FWP  
01:06:24 Rep. Wittich  
01:06:48 Chas Van Genderen, FWP  
01:06:53 Rep. Mandeville  
01:07:22 Sen. Driscoll  
01:07:55 Rep. Mandeville  
01:08:32 Chas Van Genderen, FWP  
01:09:13 Rep. B. Brown  
01:10:26 Chas Van Genderen, FWP  
01:11:39 Rep. B. Brown  
01:12:08 Chas Van Genderen, FWP  
01:13:08 Rep. Harris  
01:14:28 Chas Van Genderen, FWP

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:15:44 Sen. Driscoll  
01:16:12 Chair Garner

**HEARING ON SB 364**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:17:40 Sen. Jill Cohenour (D), SD 42, opened the hearing on SB 364, Name the Montana Heritage Center after Betty Babcock.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:19:03 Sen. Barrett (SD 36)  
01:20:47 Chuck Jezick, self  
01:21:11 Gilda Clancy, representing U.S. Senator Daines

**EXHIBIT(sth55a08)**

01:23:20 Ed Smith, Chief Clerk, Montana Supreme Court  
01:24:40 Phoebe Williams, relative of Betty Babcock

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

01:25:26 Denise King, Administrator, Montana Historical Society (MHS)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:25:46 Rep. Funk  
01:26:08 Sen. Cohenour  
01:26:56 Rep. B. Bennett  
01:27:42 Sen. Cohenour  
01:28:09 Rep. Essmann  
01:28:34 Denise King, MHS  
01:28:44 Rep. Essmann  
01:28:47 Denise King, MHS

01:28:54 Rep. Harris  
01:29:43 Sen. Cohenour  
01:30:58 Rep. Karjala  
01:31:52 Phoebe Williams, self

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:32:43 Sen. Cohenour  
01:33:28 Chair Garner

**HEARING ON SB 195**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:34:18 Sen. Mary Caferro (D), SD 41, opened the hearing on SB 195, Revise employment protections for national guard members of other states.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:36:28 Brigadier General Bryan P. Fox, Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:38:16 Rep. Essmann  
01:38:55 Brigadier General Bryan P. Fox, DMA

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:39:48 Sen. Caferro  
01:40:40 Chair Garner

**HEARING ON HB 566**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:41:10 Rep. Jeff Essmann (R), HD 54, opened the hearing on HB 566, Constitutional amendment revising composition of redistricting commission.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:48:41 Joe Lamson, self  
01:58:33 Robert Filipovich, self

**EXHIBIT(sth55a09)**

02:04:29 Terry Minow, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT)

**Informational Testimony:**

02:05:26 Linda McCulloch, Secretary of State (SOS)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:06:57 Rep. Mandeville  
02:08:03 Rep. Essmann  
02:09:50 Rep. B. Bennett  
02:10:45 Rep. Essmann  
02:11:16 Rep. B. Bennett  
02:12:08 Rep. Essmann  
02:13:29 Rep. Harris  
02:14:36 Joe Lamson, self  
02:15:10 Rep. Harris  
02:15:45 Joe Lamson, self  
02:17:00 Rep. Hayman  
02:17:48 Rep. Essmann  
02:19:01 Rep. Hayman  
02:19:39 Rep. Essmann  
02:21:04 Rep. Wittich  
02:22:28 Terry Minow, MEA-MFT  
02:22:48 Rep. Wittich  
02:23:56 Joe Lamson, self  
02:25:48 Rep. Wittich  
02:28:14 Rep. Essmann  
02:28:59 Rep. Funk  
02:30:02 Rep. Essmann  
02:30:49 Rep. Funk  
02:31:09 Rep. Essmann  
02:31:28 Rep. Karjala  
02:31:52 Rep. Essmann  
02:32:18 Rep. Karjala  
02:32:46 Rep. Essmann  
02:33:33 Vice Chair Schreiner  
02:34:22 Rep. Essmann  
02:34:49 Vice Chair Schreiner  
02:35:42 Rep. Essmann  
02:36:19 Chair Garner  
02:36:39 Rep. Essmann

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:37:07 Rep. Essmann  
02:39:39 Chair Garner  
  
02:39:53 Rep. Essmann  
02:40:55 Chair Garner

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 02:41:01

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Jennifer Petersen, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([sth55aad.pdf](#))**