

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Nancy Ballance, on April 13, 2015 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 102
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Nancy Ballance, Chair (R)
Rep. Randy Brodehl (R)
Rep. Tom Burnett (R)
Rep. Mike Cuffe (R)
Rep. Kimberly Dudik (D)
Rep. Ron Ehli (R)
Rep. Janet Ellis (D)
Rep. Carl Glimm (R)
Rep. Roy Hollandsworth (R)
Rep. Kenneth Holmlund (R)
Rep. Rae Peppers (D)
Rep. Brad Tschida (R)
Rep. Tom Woods (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Pat Noonan, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Ryan Osmundson, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Dave Hagstrom (R)
Rep. Donald W. Jones (R)
Rep. Kelly McCarthy (D)
Rep. Robert (Bob) Mehlhoff (D)
Rep. Mitch Tropila (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Katya Grover, Committee Secretary
Joe Triem, 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: HJ 27, 4/2/2015; SB 52, 4/2/2015; SB 99, 4/2/2015; SB 180, 4/2/2015; SB 416, 4/2/2015; SB 418, 4/2/2015; SB 354, 4/2/2015; SB 272, 4/2/2015

00:00:04 Chair Ballance

HEARING ON HJ 27

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:34 Rep. Kenneth Holmlund (R), HD 38, opened the hearing on HJ 27, Joint resolution for Interim study of statutory appropriations.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:06:35 Rep. Woods
00:06:54 Rep. Holmlund
00:07:56 Chair Ballance
00:08:19 Rep. Holmlund
00:08:39 Rep. Woods
00:09:16 Rep. Holmlund
00:09:55 Rep. Woods
00:10:18 Rep. Holmlund
00:11:28 Rep. Dudik
00:12:04 Rep. Holmlund
00:12:25 Rep. Burnett
00:12:35 Rep. Holmlund
00:12:50 Rep. Hollandsworth
00:13:54 Rep. Holmlund
00:14:40 Chair Ballance
00:14:57 Rep. Holmlund
00:15:24 Chair Ballance
00:15:39 Rep. Holmlund

Closing by Sponsor:

00:16:08 Rep. Holmlund

00:17:08 Chair Ballance

HEARING ON SB 52

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:17:37 Sen. Jill Cohenour (D), SD 42, opened the hearing on SB 52, Revise captive insurance laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:20:17 Jeff Barber, State Auditor's Office (SAO)
00:21:58 John Huth, Montana Captive Insurance Association (MCIA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:22:38 Rep. Brodehl
00:23:16 Sen. Cohenour
00:25:29 Rep. Brodehl
00:26:12 Sen. Cohenour
00:27:12 Rep. Noonan and Rep. Tropila arrived.
00:27:15 Rep. Tropila
00:27:48 Chair Ballance
00:27:56 John Huth, MCIA
00:29:25 Rep. Brodehl
00:29:44 John Huth, MCIA
00:30:24 Rep. Ellis
00:30:42 Chair Ballance
00:30:57 Rep. Ellis
00:31:05 Chair Ballance
00:31:53 John Huth, MCIA
00:32:58 Chair Ballance
00:33:09 Jeff Barber, SAO
00:33:33 Steven Matthews, State Auditor's Office (SAO)
00:33:59 Chair Ballance
00:34:32 Jeff Barber, SAO
00:35:06 Rep. Dudik
00:35:41 Steven Matthews, SAO

Closing by Sponsor:

00:36:22 Sen. Cohenour

00:37:15 Chair Ballance
00:37:31 Sen. Cohenour

HEARING ON SB 99

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:38:23 Sen. Jill Cohenour (D), SD 42, opened the hearing on SB 99, Revise insure Montana small business health insurance laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:41:06 Pam Koenig, Program Manager, State Auditor's Office (SAO)

EXHIBIT(aph74a01)

00:46:36 Glenn Oppel, Government Relations Director, Montana Chamber of Commerce (COC)
00:47:57 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:49:32 Rep. Cuffe
00:49:52 Chair Ballance
00:50:03 Rep. Cuffe
00:50:42 Sen. Cohenour
00:51:45 Rep. Cuffe
00:52:04 Rep. Brodehl
00:52:36 Sen. Cohenour
00:52:47 Pam Koenig, SAO
00:53:04 Rep. Brodehl
00:53:43 Pam Koenig, SAO
00:53:53 Rep. Brodehl
00:54:04 Pam Koenig, SAO
00:54:11 Rep. Dudik
00:55:12 Sen. Cohenour
00:56:02 Rep. Dudik
00:56:31 Sen. Cohenour
00:57:56 Rep. Hollandsworth
00:58:23 Sen. Cohenour
00:59:29 Rep. Burnett
00:59:45 Sen. Cohenour
01:00:25 Rep. Burnett
01:00:48 Glenn Oppel, COC
01:01:29 Rep. Burnett
01:01:38 Glenn Oppel, COC
01:02:18 Rep. Burnett
01:03:01 Glenn Oppel, COC
01:03:10 Rep. Ellis
01:03:41 Sen. Cohenour
01:05:27 Rep. Woods
01:06:24 Sen. Cohenour
01:07:57 Rep. Woods
01:08:38 Pam Koenig, SAO
01:09:19 Rep. Woods
01:09:27 Pam Koenig, SAO
01:10:34 Chair Ballance
01:10:41 Rep. Tschida
01:11:00 Sen. Cohenour
01:11:19 Rep. Tschida
01:11:47 Sen. Cohenour
01:13:09 Rep. Tschida
01:13:33 Sen. Cohenour
01:13:49 Rep. Tschida
01:14:25 Sen. Cohenour
01:14:58 Rep. Tschida
01:15:06 Chair Ballance
01:15:23 Rep. Dudik
01:15:51 Sen. Cohenour

01:17:51 Chair Ballance
 01:18:48 Pam Koenig, SAO
 01:19:25 Chair Ballance
 01:19:34 Pam Koenig, SAO
 01:19:56 Chair Ballance
 01:20:07 Pam Koenig, SAO
 01:20:14 Jeff Barber, State Auditor's Office (SAO)

Closing by Sponsor:

01:20:47 Sen. Cohenour

 01:22:46 Rep. McCarthy arrived.

HEARING ON SB 180**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:23:33 Sen. Brian Hoven (R), SD 13, opened the hearing on SB 180, Revise the disposition of rental car sales tax.

EXHIBIT(aph74a02)

01:27:55 Rep. Brodehl assumed chairmanship.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:31:13 Jane Amdahl, AARP Montana
 01:33:10 Joel Peden, Montana Centers for Independent Living (MCIL)
 01:39:27 Jim Helgeson, General Manager, Montana Transit Association (MTA), Great Falls Transit District
 01:40:43 Lyn Hellegaard, Executive Director, Montana Transit Association (MTA)
 01:41:55 David Kack, Big Sky Transportation District

Opponents' Testimony: None**Informational Testimony:**

01:43:18 Audrey Allums, Montana Department of Transportation (DOT)

EXHIBIT(aph74a03)

01:43:47 Lee Baerlocher, Bureau Chief, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:44:06 Rep. Woods
 01:45:08 Sen. Hoven
 01:45:15 Rep. Tropila
 01:45:55 Sen. Hoven
 01:46:00 Rep. Tropila
 01:46:31 Sen. Hoven
 01:46:46 Rep. Tschida
 01:47:18 Sen. Hoven
 01:47:31 Rep. Tschida
 01:47:36 Sen. Hoven

01:48:07 Rep. Tropila
01:48:15 Sen. Hoven
01:48:32 Rep. Tschida
01:48:51 Sen. Hoven
01:49:02 Rep. Cuffe
01:49:32 Sen. Hoven
01:49:59 Chair Brodehl
01:50:09 Sen. Hoven
01:50:13 Rep. Cuffe
01:50:36 Sen. Hoven
01:50:46 Chair Brodehl
01:50:55 Sen. Hoven
01:50:58 Chair Brodehl
01:51:05 Sen. Hoven
01:51:20 Chair Brodehl
01:52:11 Lee Baerlocher, Bureau Chief, DOR
01:52:26 Chair Brodehl
01:52:41 Sen. Hoven

Closing by Sponsor:

01:53:06 Sen. Hoven

01:56:29 Recessed

Audio committee minutes for the afternoon session continue on a separate link.

00:00:01 Reconvened

00:00:03 Rep. Ballance resumed chairmanship.

HEARING ON SB 416

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:47 Sen. John Brenden (R), SD 17, opened the hearing on SB 416, Provide for statewide infrastructure.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:08:58 Sen. Jones

[EXHIBIT\(aph74a04\)](#)

00:18:16 Chair Ballance

00:19:19 Sen. Jones

00:22:07 Sen. Sesso

[EXHIBIT\(aph74a05\)](#)

00:30:10 Sen. Keane

00:30:57 Sen. Ripley

00:32:02 Dan Villa, Budget Director, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)

00:39:00 Clayton Christian, Commissioner of Higher Education, Montana University System (MUS)

00:40:19 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

00:44:45 Patrick Murtagh, City of Bainville, City of Sidney

00:47:26 Bob Gilbert, City of Glendive

00:52:31 Jessica Redfield, City of Sidney

00:54:37 Rick Norby, Mayor, City of Sidney

00:56:20 David Nilsen, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)

00:57:56 Erik Burke, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT)

00:58:48 Jani McCall, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT), Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch (YBGR)

01:00:59 Ken Richardson, CTA Inc, Montana Economic Development Association (MEDA)

01:03:32 Jeff Essmann, self

01:07:27 Ronda Wiggers, Helena Chamber of Commerce (COC)

01:08:41 Mike Hopkins, Associated Students of Montana State University (ASMSU)

01:09:35 Haocheng Wang, Associated Students of University of Montana (ASUM)

01:10:20 Holly Capp, student, Montana State University (MSU)

01:11:16 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)

01:11:35 Sen. Moore

EXHIBIT(aph74a06)

01:14:53 Glenn Oppel, Government Relations Director, Montana Chamber of Commerce (COC)

01:15:26 Cary Hegreberg, Executive Director, Montana Contractors' Association (MCA)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:16:33 Jon Metropoulos, Executive Director, Montana Association of Oil, Gas and Coal Counties (MAOGCC)

01:20:45 Joel Peden, Montana Centers for Independent Living (MCIL)

01:23:45 Claudia Clifford, AARP Montana

01:25:51 Kathy McGowan, Mental Health Center (MHC), Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (MSPOA)

01:26:44 Chair Ballance

01:26:50 Kathy McGowan, MHC, MSPOA

01:30:21 Beth Brennehan, Attorney, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)

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

01:33:05 Rep. McCarthy

01:34:32 Rick Norby, Mayor, City of Sidney

01:35:34 Rep. McCarthy

01:36:24 Ryan Evans, Assistant Budget Director, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)

01:36:57 Rep. McCarthy

01:37:01 Ryan Evans, OBPP

01:37:03 Rep. McCarthy

01:37:08 Ryan Evans, OBPP

01:37:18 Rep. Cuffe

01:39:12	Sen. Brenden
01:41:45	Rep. Woods
01:42:11	Sen. Brenden
01:42:13	Rep. Woods
01:42:38	Sen. Brenden
01:43:44	Rep. Ehli
01:44:21	Sen. Brenden
01:45:32	Rep. Ehli
01:46:14	Sen. Brenden
01:46:41	Rep. Ehli
01:46:46	Sen. Brenden
01:47:01	Rep. Ehli
01:47:07	Sen. Brenden
01:47:12	Rep. Ehli
01:48:19	Sen. Jones
01:49:52	Rep. Ehli
01:50:03	Sen. Jones
01:50:32	Rep. Ehli
01:50:40	Sen. Jones
01:50:43	Rep. Ehli
01:50:56	Sen. Jones
01:51:20	Rep. Ehli
01:51:26	Sen. Jones
01:51:54	Rep. Ehli
01:52:12	Sen. Sesso
01:52:15	Rep. Ehli
01:52:37	Sen. Sesso
01:57:27	Rep. Ehli
01:58:25	Sen. Sesso
01:59:46	Rep. Ehli
01:59:54	Chair Ballance
02:01:09	Sen. Sesso
02:05:35	Rep. Glimm
02:05:55	Sen. Sesso
02:06:01	Rep. Glimm
02:06:39	Sen. Sesso
02:10:54	Rep. Glimm
02:11:21	Sen. Sesso
02:11:54	Rep. Glimm
02:11:57	Sen. Sesso
02:12:08	Rep. Glimm
02:12:22	Sen. Sesso
02:12:39	Rep. Glimm
02:12:59	Sen. Sesso
02:13:28	Rep. Glimm
02:13:32	Sen. Sesso
02:14:13	Chair Ballance
02:14:27	Sen. Sesso
02:14:33	Rep. Glimm
02:14:54	Sen. Jones

02:16:49 Rep. Glimm
02:18:45 Sen. Jones
02:22:06 Rep. Glimm
02:22:57 Sen. Jones
02:24:54 Chair Ballance
02:25:34 Rep. Dudik
02:25:59 Chair Ballance
02:26:11 Rep. Dudik
02:26:23 Chair Ballance
02:26:28 Dan Villa, Budget Director, OBPP
02:28:25 Rep. Tropila
02:30:02 Kathy Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
02:30:38 Rep. Tropila
02:31:16 Kathy Duncan, LFD
02:31:28 Rep. Tropila
02:32:08 Sen. Brenden
02:33:54 Rep. Tropila
02:34:29 Sen. Jones
02:34:46 Rep. Tropila
02:35:49 Sen. Sesso
02:36:40 Rep. Tropila
02:37:27 Sen. Sesso
02:40:51 Rep. Tschida
02:41:48 Rick Norby, Mayor, City of Sidney
02:42:00 Rep. Tschida
02:42:05 Rick Norby, Mayor, City of Sidney
02:42:09 Rep. Tschida
02:43:06 Sen. Brenden
02:43:55 Rep. Tschida
02:44:07 Rep. Ehli
02:44:42 Dan Villa, Budget Director, OBPP
02:46:28 Rep. Ehli
02:47:38 Dan Villa, Budget Director, OBPP
02:49:22 Rep. Ehli
02:49:53 Dan Villa, Budget Director, OBPP
02:50:41 Rep. Ehli
02:51:56 Dan Villa, Budget Director, OBPP

Closing by Sponsor:

02:54:14 Sen. Brenden

02:58:43 Chair Ballance

HEARING ON SB 418

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:59:07 Sen. Llew Jones (R), SD 9, opened the hearing on SB 418, Authorizing transfers to implement provisions of House Bill 2.

Proponents' Testimony:

03:00:41 Dan Villa, Budget Director, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

03:01:21 Sen. Jones

HEARING ON SB 354

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

03:01:46 Sen. Rick Ripley (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 354, Create infrastructure funding program.

Proponents' Testimony:

03:06:28 Sen. Brenden

03:07:02 Chair Ballance

03:07:18 Sen. Jones

EXHIBIT(aph74a07)

03:12:10 Cary Hegreberg, Executive Director, Montana Contractors' Association (MCA)

03:14:56 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

03:16:04 Sen. Windy Boy

03:16:38 Chair Ballance

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:17:14 Rep. Ehli

03:18:02 Sen. Ripley

03:18:40 Rep. Cuffe

03:19:04 Sen. Jones

03:19:31 Rep. Cuffe

03:19:48 Sen. Jones

03:19:53 Rep. Cuffe

03:19:56 Sen. Jones

03:20:33 Rep. Cuffe

03:20:54 Cathy Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

03:21:16 Rep. Cuffe

03:21:28 Rep. Brodehl assumed chairmanship.

03:21:38 Rep. Ellis

03:22:12 Sen. Jones
03:23:28 Rep. Tropila
03:23:45 Sen. Ripley
03:23:56 Rep. Glimm
03:24:11 Sen. Ripley
03:24:34 Rep. Glimm
03:24:51 Sen. Ripley
03:25:22 Chair Brodehl
03:25:39 Sen. Ripley

Closing by Sponsor:

03:26:01 Sen. Ripley

HEARING ON SB 272

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

03:27:01 Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy (D), SD 16, opened the hearing on SB 272, Encourage Indian language immersion schools.

Proponents' Testimony:

03:29:31 Sen. Smith
03:30:06 Terry Brockie, Superintendent, Terry Public Schools, White Clay Tribe
03:32:09 Erik Burke, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT)
03:32:44 Rep. Mehlhoff

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:36:05 Rep. McCarthy
03:37:46 Sen. Windy Boy
03:39:30 Rep. McCarthy
03:39:48 Sen. Windy Boy
03:40:06 Rep. Peppers
03:40:38 Sen. Windy Boy
03:41:56 Rep. Jones
03:43:34 Sen. Windy Boy
03:44:27 Rep. Jones
03:44:43 Sen. Windy Boy
03:44:59 Erik Burke, MEA-MFT
03:45:53 Rep. Jones
03:46:09 Rob Miller, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
03:47:13 Rep. Jones
03:47:25 Rob Miller, LFD
03:47:53 Chair Brodehl
03:48:10 Rob Miller, LFD
03:48:16 Chair Brodehl

03:48:19 Rob Miller, LFD
03:48:24 Chair Brodehl
03:48:38 Rep. McCarthy
03:48:52 Rob Miller, LFD
03:48:57 Chair Brodehl
03:49:07 Rob Miller, LFD
03:49:16 Chair Brodehl
03:49:40 Sen. Windy Boy
03:49:51 Chair Brodehl
03:49:58 Sen. Windy Boy
03:50:36 Chair Brodehl
03:50:50 Sen. Windy Boy

Closing by Sponsor:

03:51:41 Sen. Windy Boy

03:52:34 Chair Brodehl

ADJOURNMENT

03:53:08 Adjournment

Katya Grover, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([aph74aad.pdf](#))