

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Chas Vincent, on February 13, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 303
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Chas Vincent, Chair (R)
Sen. Rick Ripley, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)
Sen. John Brenden (R)
Sen. Pat Connell (R)
Sen. Jennifer Fielder (R)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Brian Hoven (R)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D) - arrived after roll call
Sen. Jim Keane (D) - arrived after roll call
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Taylor Fridrich, 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: SB 273, 2/10/2015

Executive Action: SB 112 - Do Pass as Amended
SB 136 - Do Pass as Amended
SB 256 - Do Pass
SB 268 - Be Tabled

HEARING ON SB 273**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

- 00:01:09 Sen. Jennifer Fielder (R), SD 7, opened the hearing on SB 273, Revise soil and conservation district laws.
- 00:01:44 Sen. Kaufmann entered the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

- 00:02:31 Elena Evans, executive director, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)

EXHIBIT(nas33a01)

- 00:03:59 Sen. Keane entered the hearing.
- 00:04:49 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA) and Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
- 00:05:47 Jeff Ryan, supervisor, Lewis and Clark Conservation District

Opponents' Testimony:

- 00:08:18 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy (NE)
- 00:14:28 Jim Jensen, executive director, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

Informational Testimony:

- 00:17:23 John Hagenruber, US Forest Service (USFS)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

- 00:17:47 Sen. Connell
- 00:18:23 Mr. Hagenruber, USFS
- 00:18:53 Sen. Connell
- 00:19:05 Mr. Hagenruber
- 00:19:27 Sen. Connell
- 00:20:05 Jeff Tiberi, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)
- 00:20:21 Don MacIntyre, attorney, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)
- 00:21:53 Sen. Kaufmann
- 00:22:26 Ms. Evans, MACD
- 00:24:20 Sen. Kaufmann
- 00:24:33 Chairman Vincent
- 00:24:56 Mr. MacIntyre, MACD
- 00:26:00 Sen. Larsen
- 00:26:49 Mr. Jensen, MEIC
- 00:28:20 Sen. Larsen
- 00:28:44 Mr. Jensen
- 00:29:13 Chairman Vincent

00:30:50 Mr. Fitzpatrick, NE
 00:31:05 Chairman Vincent
 00:32:51 Mr. Fitzpatrick
 00:34:21 Chairman Vincent
 00:36:03 Sen. Fielder
 00:36:36 Chairman Vincent
 00:36:58 Ms. Evans
 00:37:31 Chairman Vincent
 00:38:07 Ms. Evans
 00:39:07 Chairman Vincent
 00:39:29 Sonja Nowakowski, research analyst, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
 00:39:50 Chairman Vincent

Closing by Sponsor:

00:40:01 Sen. Fielder

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 112

00:44:47 **Motion:** Sen. Ankney moved that **SB 112 DO PASS.**

00:45:30 **Motion:** Sen. Ankney moved that **SB 112 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(nas33a02\)](#)

Discussion:

00:48:22 Sen. Kaufmann
 00:48:51 Sen. Ripley
 00:49:15 Sen. Ankney

00:50:10 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

00:50:20 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Ankney moved that **SB 112 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
 Motion carried 11-1 by roll call vote with Sen. Kaufmann voting no.

00:51:24 Sen. Ankney

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 136

00:51:46 **Motion:** Sen. Hamlett moved that **SB 136 DO PASS.**

00:52:42 **Motion:** Sen. Hamlett moved that **SB 136 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(nas33a03\)](#)

Discussion:

00:52:54 Sen. Hamlett
 00:53:25 Sen. Brenden
 00:54:09 Sen. Hamlett

00:54:34 Sen. Brenden
00:54:47 Chairman Vincent

00:55:47 **Vote:** Motion carried 11-1 by voice vote with Sen. Brenden voting no.

00:55:59 **Motion:** Sen. Hamlett moved that **SB 136 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

00:56:11 Sen. Larsen
00:56:20 Chairman Vincent
00:56:58 Sen. Keane

00:57:45 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 256

00:58:03 **Motion:** Sen. Hamlett moved that **SB 256 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

00:58:15 Sen. Connell
00:59:06 Chairman Vincent

00:59:45 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 268

01:00:16 **Motion:** Sen. Kaufmann moved that **SB 268 DO PASS.**

01:00:35 **Motion:** Sen. Kaufmann moved that **SB 268 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(nas33a04\)](#)

Discussion:

01:01:00 Sonja Nowakowski, research analyst, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
01:01:22 Sen. Kaufmann
01:02:17 Sen. Fielder
01:02:45 Chairman Vincent

01:03:41 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

01:03:48 Sen. Kaufmann

01:04:23 **Motion:** Sen. Kaufmann moved that **SB 268 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:04:41 Sen. Keane

01:04:51 **Vote:** Motion failed 5-7 by roll call vote with Sen. Hamlett, Sen. Kaufmann, Sen. Keane, Sen. Larsen and Sen. Phillips voting aye.

01:05:41 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vincent moved that **SB 268 BE TABLED AND THE VOTE REVERSED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:10 P.M.

Taylor Fridrich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas33aad.pdf](#))