

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Call to Order: Chair Elsie Arntzen, on March 5, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 405 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Elsie Arntzen, Chair (R)
Sen. Gordon Vance, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)
Sen. Dee Brown (R) (arrived after roll call)
Sen. Edward Buttrey (R)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Sue Malek (D) (arrived after roll call)
Sen. Scott Sales (R)
Sen. Diane Sands (D) (arrived after roll call)
Sen. Janna Taylor (R)
Sen. Fred Thomas (R) (arrived after roll call)
Sen. Lea Whitford (D) (arrived after roll call)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Charlene Devine, Committee Secretary
Leanne Kurtz, 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: HB 414, 2/24/2015; HJ 10, 2/18/2015; HB 375, 2/24/2015;
SB 375, 2/20/2015

00:00:30 Chair Arntzen
00:00:35 Sen. Sands entered the hearing.

HEARING ON HB 414

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:15 Rep. Mike Lang (R), HD 33, opened the hearing on HB 414, Generally revise vehicle license laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:07 Ronda Wiggers, Montana County Treasurers Association (MCTA)
00:05:40 Sen. Malek entered the hearing.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:06:50 Sen. Buttrey
00:07:29 Rep. Lang
00:07:42 Sen. Buttrey
00:07:59 Ms. Wiggers, MCTA

Closing by Sponsor:

00:08:41 Rep. Lang
00:08:52 Chair Arntzen
00:09:12 Rep. Lang

HEARING ON HJ 10

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:09:40 Rep. Ellie Boldman Hill (D), HD 90, opened the hearing on HJ 10, Interim study on passenger rail.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:11:34 Sen. Brown entered the hearing.
00:14:25 Dave Strohmaier, self
00:16:55 Chuck McMillan, self,

[EXHIBIT\(his46a01\)](#)

00:25:38 Mac Palmer, self
00:27:24 Matt Kuntz, National Alliance on Mental Illness

Opponents' Testimony:

00:28:30 Bob Sivertsen, self

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:32:23 Sen. Barrett

00:33:53 Rep. Hill

Closing by Sponsor:

00:34:36 Rep. Hill

00:34:53 Sen. Thomas entered the hearing.

HEARING ON HB 375

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:38:07 Rep. Steve Lavin (R), HD 8, opened the hearing on HB 375, Revise motor vehicle minimum liability insurance laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:40:13 Bob Biskupiak, Independent Insurance Agents Association

00:44:29 Dwight Easton, Farmers Insurance Company

00:46:09 Spook Stang, executive vice president, Motor Carriers of Montana

Opponents' Testimony:

00:46:50 Bruce Spencer, Property Casualty Insurers Association of America (PCI)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:47:56 Sen. Barrett

00:49:00 Mr. Spencer, PCI

00:49:30 Sen. Barrett

00:49:47 Rep. Lavin

00:50:09 Sen. Brown

00:50:28 Rep. Lavin

00:50:38 Sen. Brown

Closing by Sponsor:

00:50:51 Rep. Lavin

00:51:33 Chair Arntzen
 00:51:42 Rep. Lavin

HEARING ON SB 375

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:52:14 Sen. Scott Sales (R), SD 35, opened the hearing on SB 375, Revise highway speed limits and heavy truck and truck tractor speed limits.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:55:19 Tom Butler, colonel, Montana Highway Patrol (MHP)
 00:55:39 Sen. Whitford entered the hearing.

Opponents' Testimony:

00:59:54 Ray Kuntz, chairman and CEO, Watkins & Shepard Trucking
[EXHIBIT\(his46a02\)](#)

01:06:12 Ed Grady, self
[EXHIBIT\(his46a03\)](#)

01:08:08 Kelly Flaherty-Settle, self
 01:10:52 Bob Gilbert, Montana Tow Truck Association; Montana School Bus Contractors Association
 01:17:49 Denice Harris, AAA of Montana
 01:20:31 Spook Stang, executive vice president, Motor Carriers of Montana
[EXHIBIT\(his46a04\)](#)

01:29:25 Cary Hegreberg, executive director, Montana Contractors Association

Informational Testimony: None

01:31:59 Dwane Kailey, chief engineer, Department of Transportation (MDT)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:33:38 Sen. Barrett
 01:34:55 Mr. Kailey, MDT
 01:35:33 Sen. Sands
 01:36:45 Mr. Kailey
 01:36:50 Sen. Sands
 01:37:14 Sen. Sales
 01:39:28 Sen. Sands
 01:41:22 Mr. Kailey
 01:41:27 Sen. Thomas
 01:45:48 Mr. Kailey
 01:45:59 Sen. Thomas
 01:46:31 Mr. Butler, MHP

01:47:14 Chair Arntzen
01:50:52 Mr. Butler
01:51:29 Sen. Whitford
01:53:34 Mr. Kailey
01:53:52 Sen. Whitford
01:55:25 Mr. Butler
01:56:03 Sen. Barrett
01:56:56 Sen. Sales
01:57:18 Sen. Barrett
01:58:03 Mr. Kailey
01:58:08 Sen. Buttrey
01:58:43 Mr. Kailey

Closing by Sponsor:

01:58:54 Sen. Sales
02:02:14 Chair Arntzen

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:02 P.M.

Charlene Devine, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([his46aad.pdf](#))