

MINUTES

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
56th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN JOE BARNETT**, on March 4, 1999 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 437 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Joe Barnett, Chairman (R)
Rep. John L. Holden, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Ralph Lenhart, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Darrel Adams (R)
Rep. Paul Clark (D)
Rep. Rick Dale (R)
Rep. Kathleen Galvin-Halcro (D)
Rep. Mary Anne Guggenheim (D)
Rep. Donald L. Hedges (R)
Rep. Verdell Jackson (R)
Rep. Rick Jore (R)
Rep. Monica Lindeen (D)
Rep. Gay Ann Masolo (R)
Rep. Sam Rose (R)
Rep. Brennan Ryan (D)
Rep. Frank Smith (D)
Rep. Bob Story (R)
Rep. Bill Thomas (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Cliff Trexler (R)

Members Absent: Rep. Bill Eggers (D)

Staff Present: Joyce Bankhead, Committee Secretary
Todd Everts, Legislative Branch

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: SB 187, SB 327
Posted 3/1/99
Executive Action: SB 187, SB 196, SB 327, SB 394

HEARING ON SB 327

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Senator Gerry Devlin, SD 2.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0 - 2.3}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 327

Motion/Vote: REP. ROSE moved that SB 327 BE TABLED. Motion carried 14-2 with Masolo and Story voting no.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 2.3 - 3.5}

HEARING ON SB 196

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Senator Ken Mesaros, SD 25.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 3.5 - 6.7}

Proponents' Testimony:

Marc Bridges, Acting Director for the Board of Livestock and Dept. of Livestock

EXHIBIT (agh49a01) **EXHIBIT** (agh49a02) **EXHIBIT** (agh49a03)

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 6.7 - 8.5}

Bob Hanson, Vice Pres. MT Farm Bureau and rancher

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 8.5 - 9.8}

Bill Garrison, Vice Pres. MT Stockgrowers and rancher

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 9.8 - 13.2}

Ron DeYong, MT Farmers Union

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 13.2 - 13.5}

Jim Peterson, MT Stockgrowers

also written testimony by Don Ross, Director of MT Stockgrowers Assn. **EXHIBIT** (agh49a04)

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 13.5 - 17.3}

Larry Deschumaker, rancher from Lewistown

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 17.3 - 18.1}

Opponents' Testimony:

NONE

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 18.1 - 18.3}**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

Reps. Jackson, Jore, and Clark to Mesaros

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 18.3 - 23.6}

Reps. Clark and Holden to MT State Vet.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 23.6 - 26.7}

Rep. Barnett to Hanson

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 26.7 - 27.5}**Closing by the Sponsor:**

Sen. Mesaros closed the Hearing on SB 196

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 27.5 - 28.5}**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 196****Motion/Vote: REP. ROSE moved that SB 196 BE CONCURRED IN. Motion carried 19-0.*****{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 28.5 - 29.2}***

Rep. Story asked to have the Dept. of Livestock talk about the \$100 fee for the brands (SB 327). Rep. Holden, without objection, asked Marc Bridges, Dept. of Livestock to come up for questions. Reps. Story asked why the Dept. of Livestock was raising the fee from \$50 to \$100. Marc said fees are based on costs. Rep. Holden asked how many brands per year were re-recorded. Marc answered that 60,000 - 65,000 notices were sent out. Rep. Rose made the comment that he had lots of unhappy phone calls. He suggested that the Board of Livestock send out information on reasons for fee increase. Marc responded that the Board of Livestock is meeting soon and will go through the rule making process. Rep. Masolo asked how many brands per family are registered? Marc responded that some families have 12 -15 brands.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 29.2 - 29.8}***{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0 - 10}***

Chairman Barnett gave the gavel to Lenhart.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 187

Motion: REP. MASOLO moved that SB 187 BE CONCURRED IN.

Motion/Vote: REP. MASOLO moved that SB 187 BE AMENDED. Motion carried 19-0. EXHIBIT (agh49a05)

Motion: REP. MASOLO moved that SB 187 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.

Discussion: Rep. Adams asked on the wording should be "shall" or "may". Todd Everts explained that "shall" was the appropriate word. Rep. Hedges and Barnett discuss.

Vote: Motion carried 19-0.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 10 - 15.3}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 394

Motion: REP. GUGGENHEIM moved that SB 394 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion: Reps. Jore, Holden, Adams, Hedges, Clark, Guggenheim, Masolo and Smith.

Vote: Motion carried 17-2 with Adams and Jore voting no.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 15.3 - 28.7}

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0 - 8.1}

Chairman Barnett explained the procedure for the Hearing on HB 643 for 3/18/99.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:08 P.M.

REP. JOE BARNETT, Chairman

JOYCE BANKHEAD, Secretary

JB/JB

EXHIBIT (agh49aad)