MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE
61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION

Call to Order: Chairman Donald J. Steinbeisser, on March 24, 2009 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 335 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser, Chairman (R)
Sen. Terry Murphy, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Gary Branae (D)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Verdell Jackson (R)
Sen. Rick Ripley (R)

Members Excused: None

Sen. Taylor Brown (R)
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Joan Linkenbach, Committee Secretary
Sue O'Connell, 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:

Executive Action: HB 445; SR 10
Chairman Steinbeisser left the room.
Vice Chairman Murphy assumed the chair.

HEARING ON HB 478

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Wanda Grinde (D), HD 48, opened the hearing on HB 478, Eliminate licensing fees for small plant sellers.

Proponents' Testimony:

Julia Page, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)

Opponents' Testimony:

Ron de Yong, Director, Department of Agriculture (DOA)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

Sen. Branae
Mr. de Yong, DOA
Donna Rise, Bureau Chief, DOA
Sen. Branae
Ms. Rise, DOA
Sen. Branae
Ms. Rise, DOA
Sen. Ripley
Mr. de Yong, DOA
Sen. Ripley
Mr. de Yong, DOA
Sen. Ripley
Ms. Page, NPRC
Sen. Larsen
Mr. de Yong, DOA
Sen. Larsen
Mr. de Yong, DOA
Sen. Larsen
Sen. Hansen present
Mr. de Yong, DOA
Sen. Jackson
00:30:25  Ms. Rise, DOA  
00:30:48  Sen. Jackson  
00:31:26  Ms. Rise, DOA  
00:31:56  Sen. Jackson  
00:32:21  Mr. de Yong, DOA  
00:33:13  Sen. Jackson  
00:33:21  Mr. de Yong, DOA  
00:33:38  Sen. Jackson  
00:34:04  Mr. de Yong, DOA  
00:34:21  Sen. Hamlett  
00:34:53  Mr. de Yong, DOA  
00:35:00  Sen. Hamlett  
00:35:07  Mr. de Yong, DOA  
00:35:23  Sen. Hamlett  
00:35:45  Mr. de Yong  
00:36:14  Sen. Hamlett  
00:36:27  Mr. de Yong  
00:36:35  Ms. Rise, DOA  
00:37:08  Sen. Hamlett  
00:37:21  Ms. Rise, DOA  
00:37:51  Sen. Hamlett  
00:38:09  Rep. Grinde  
00:38:24  Sen. Jackson  
00:38:43  Rep. Grinde  
00:38:49  Sen. Jackson  
00:38:55  Rep. Grinde  
00:39:03  Chairman Steinbeisser present  
00:39:50  Rep. Grinde  

Closing by Sponsor:  
00:40:21  Rep. Grinde  

HEARING ON SR 10  

Opening Statement by Sponsor:  
00:42:45  Sen. Donald Steinbeisser (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SR 10, Confirm appointee to board of livestock.  
00:44:04  Patti Keeblar, Board of Commissioners, representing Governor Schweitzer  

Proponents' Testimony:  
00:45:57  Ed Waldner, Chester  

Opponents' Testimony:  None
Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:47:18 Sen. Ripley
00:47:59 Mr. Waldner
00:49:29 Sen. Hansen
00:50:15 Mr. Waldner
00:50:55 Sen. Hansen
00:51:17 Mr. Waldner
00:51:57 Sen. Hansen
00:52:13 Mr. Waldner
00:52:47 Sen. Larsen
00:53:23 Chairman Steinbeisser
00:53:55 Mr. Waldner
00:54:45 Sen. Hamlett
00:54:51 Mr. Waldner
00:54:57 Sen. Hamlett
00:55:06 Mr. Waldner
00:55:22 Sen. Hamlett
00:55:34 Mr. Waldner
00:55:52 Sen. Hamlett
00:56:12 Sen. Hamlett
00:56:17 Mr. Waldner

Closing by Sponsor:

00:57:16 Chairman Steinbeisser assumed the chair.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 445

00:59:34 Motion: Sen. Larsen moved that HB 445 BE CONCURRED IN.

00:59:53 Motion: Sen. Hamlett moved that HB 445 BE AMENDED.

EXHIBIT (ags65a03)

01:00:16 Sue O'Connell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)


Discussion:

01:02:30 Sen. Murphy
01:03:46 Sen. Larsen
01:04:51 Sen. Hamlett
01:05:28 Sen. Ripley
01:06:57 Sen. Murphy
01:10:57 Sen. Branae

EXHIBIT (ags65a04)

01:11:55 Sen. Ripley
01:12:16 Sen. Hamlett
01:13:05 Chairman Steinbeisser
01:13:12 Sen. Murphy
01:14:25 Sen. Hamlett
01:14:57 Chairman Steinbeisser
01:15:19 Sen. Hansen
01:18:45 Sen. Ripley
01:18:58 Chairman Steinbeisser
01:19:44 Sen. Murphy
01:20:12 Mr. de Yong, DOA
01:20:41 Sen. Murphy
01:21:20 Mr. de Yong, DOA
01:21:40 Sen. Larsen
01:22:56 Chairman Steinbeisser
01:23:17 Sen. Larsen
01:23:24 Sen. Hamlett
01:24:55 Chairman Steinbeisser
01:25:12 Sen. Murphy

01:26:08 Substitute Motion: Sen. Murphy moved that HB 445 BE TABLED.


01:27:31 Motion: Sen. Murphy moved to send a letter to Western Plant Breeders, Farm Bureau, Grain Growers, Northern Plains and Organic Organizations to start a process to see if a meeting of the minds can be reached before the next session on the subject of seed patent protection and farmer protection.

Discussion:

01:28:42 Sen. Hamlett
01:28:58 Sen. Murphy
01:29:26 John Youngbird, Montana Farm Bureau
01:30:07 Sen. Hamlett
01:30:57 Sen. Ripley

01:31:23 Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote of those present and voting.
Discussion:

01:31:50 Sen. Hamlett
01:32:09 Chairman Steinbeisser
01:32:15 Sen. Hamlett
01:32:33 Sen. Larsen
01:32:52 Ms. O'Connell, LSD
01:33:02 Chairman Steinbeisser
01:33:18 Sen. Hamlett
01:33:38 Sen. Murphy
01:34:00 Sen. Hamlett
01:34:30 Chairman Steinbeisser
01:34:48 Sen. Hamlett
01:34:58 Chairman Steinbeisser
01:35:56 Sen. Ripley
01:35:12 Sen. Hamlett
01:35:28 Sen. Murphy
01:36:22 Sen. Hamlett
01:36:32 Chairman Steinbeisser
01:36:37 Sen. Hamlett
01:36:41 Sen. Murphy
01:37:07 Chairman Steinbeisser

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 10

Motion: Sen. Larsen moved that SR 10 BE ADOPTED.

Discussion:

01:38:34 Sen. Hamlett
01:38:46 Chairman Steinbeisser
01:38:51 Sen. Ripley

01:39:00 Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote with Sen. Brown voting aye by proxy.

Discussion:

01:40:26 Chairman Steinbeisser
01:40:37 Sen. Murphy
01:40:45 Sen. Branae
01:40:50 Sen. Ripley
01:40:56 Chairman Steinbeisser
ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:00 A.M.

________________________________
Joan Linkenbach, Secretary

jl
Additional Exhibits:
EXHIBIT(ags65a05)
EXHIBIT(ags65a06)
EXHIBIT(ags65a07)

Additional Documents:
EXHIBIT(ags65aad.pdf)