



STATE ADMINISTRATION AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS INTERIM COMMITTEE

68th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

Mike Cuffe
Janet Ellis
Forrest Mandeville
Wendy McKamey

HOUSE MEMBERS

Marta Bertoglio
Julie Dooling
Ross Fitzgerald
Gregory Frazer
Kelly Kortum
Ed Stafman

COMMITTEE STAFF

Andria Hardin - Attorney
LJ Jennings - Secretary
Rebecca Power - Research Analyst

MINUTES LOG

March 15, 2024
Capitol Room 152 & Zoom
Helena, Montana

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides annotation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video recording of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of the meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

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MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Julie Dooling, Presiding Officer (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum, Vice Presiding Officer (D)
Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R)
Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)
Sen. Janet Ellis (D)
Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R)
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)
Sen. Wendy McKamey (R)
Rep. Ed Stafman (D)

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Rep. Gregory Frazer (R)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Andria Hardin, Attorney
Daniel Rosenberg, Secretary
Rebecca Power, Research Analyst

AGENDA (Attachment 1)

VISITORS' LIST (Attachment 2)

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

08:30:35 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM. The committee secretary took roll.

MEETING OVERVIEW

08:32:08 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

PENSION OVERSIGHT – House Bill 569

08:33:04 Rebecca Power, Research Analyst, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

[EXHIBIT1](#)

[EXHIBIT2](#)

08:34:57 Rep. Terry Moore, HD 54

08:40:50 Jessie Luther, Lobbyist, Association of Montana Troopers

Committee Discussion/Questions

08:46:57 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

08:47:01 Jessie Luther continued the presentation.

08:47:56 Brian Thompson, Lobbyist, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association

Committee Discussion/Questions

08:52:42 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum to Brian Thompson

08:54:37 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

08:56:42 Sen. Wendy McKamey to Rep. Terry Moore

09:00:21 Rep. Marta Bertoglio

09:04:11 Rep. Marta Bertoglio to Jessie Luther

09:06:53 Sen. Janet Ellis to Rep. Terry Moore

09:09:20 Redirected to Jessie Luther

Public Comment on Pension Oversight

09:12:23 Will Selph, Department of Justice, (DOJ)

[EXHIBIT3](#)

09:14:05 Shelly DeMars, Montana Police Protective Association, (MPPA)

09:19:59 William Holahan, Deputy Director, Montana Public Employee Retirement Administration, (MPERA)

09:22:03 Kim Popham, Montana Federation of Public Employees, (MFPE)

09:23:39 Amanda Frickle, Montana AFL-CIO

Committee Discussion/Questions

09:25:09 Sen. Forrest Mandeville to Will Selph

09:26:30 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

09:28:01 Sen. Janet Ellis to Brian Thompson

09:31:24 Rep. Ed Stafman
09:35:07 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum to Rep. Terry Moore
09:45:03 Sen. Wendy McKamey
09:46:46 Sen. Mike Cuffe
09:51:44 Redirected to Jessie Luther
09:57:19 Sen. Mike Cuffe
09:57:55 Rep. Terry Moore
10:00:39 Sen. Wendy McKamey
10:05:29 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
10:06:11 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum
10:07:06 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling to William Holahan
10:08:28 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum
10:08:39 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
10:08:47 Sen. Wendy McKamey
10:08:59 Rebecca Power
10:10:23 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
10:10:28 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
10:11:00 Rep. Ed Stafman
10:11:53 Sen. Wendy McKamey
10:12:23 Sen. Mike Cuffe
10:12:39 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
10:13:15 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
10:13:40 Sen. Janet Ellis
10:14:08 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum
10:14:16 Rep. Marta Bertoglio
10:15:00 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum

MOTION

10:15:17 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum moved to instruct staff to craft a bill that uses option 3 "Remove ADEC Language from Statute".

Discussion on the Motion

10:15:41 Rep. Ed Stafman
10:16:26 Rebecca Power
10:16:38 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum
10:16:48 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

MOTION

10:16:58 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald made a substitute motion to repeal HB 569.

Discussion on the Motion

10:17:22 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

10:18:40 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum
10:18:51 Sen. Janet Ellis
10:19:37 Rebecca Power
10:20:23 Sen. Janet Ellis
10:20:51 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
10:21:03 Rebecca Power

VOTE

10:22:00 Carried 8 - 1 by roll call vote with Sen. Mandeville voting no.

DECENNIAL VETERANS' LONG-TERM CARE NEEDS STUDY

10:25:28 Mike Randol, Medicaid and Health Services Executive Director, Department of Public Health and Human Services
[EXHIBIT4](#)
10:33:55 Kelly Ackerman, Administrator, Montana Veterans' Affairs Division

Committee Discussion/Questions

10:41:06 Sen. Mike Cuffe to Mike Randol
10:41:56 Rep. Marta Bertoglio to Kelly Ackerman
10:46:03 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

Public Comment on the Decennial Veterans' Long-Term Care Needs Study

10:48:10 Roger Hagan, American Legion

Committee Discussion/Questions

10:53:52 Rep. Marta Bertoglio to Mike Randol
10:54:49 Rebecca Power
10:55:39 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling to Roger Hagan
10:56:10 Mike Randol
10:57:21 Rep. Marta Bertoglio
10:58:14 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
10:59:15 Sen. Janet Ellis
11:01:05 Sen. Mike Cuffe
11:02:26 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald
11:03:03 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling to Kelly Ackerman
11:03:38 Sen. Janet Ellis
11:05:16 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling to Mike Randol
11:10:12 Sen. Janet Ellis
11:10:25 Rebecca Power

MOTION

11:10:39 Sen. Cuffe moved for SAVA to draft a letter for more response on the study.

VOTE

11:11:01 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

RECESS

11:11:54 Reconvened at 11:28

ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW

11:28:15 Andria Hardin, Staff Attorney, LSD
[EXHIBIT5](#)

Committee Discussion/Questions

11:31:55 Sen. Janet Ellis

Public Comment on Administrative Rule Review Matters

11:42:34 NONE

Committee Discussion/Questions

11:43:00 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum

HOUSE JOINT 23 RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

11:46:01 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald
[EXHIBIT6](#)
[EXHIBIT7](#)

Public Comment on HJ 23

11:52:01 None

Committee Discussion/Questions

11:52:30 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald
11:52:51 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
11:52:55 Rebecca Power

MEMBER TOPIC: TRAINING FOR ELECTION ADMINISTRATORS

11:53:28 Angela Nunn, Chief Deputy, Office of the Secretary of State

Committee Discussion/Questions

11:59:04 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
12:00:24 Sen. Janet Ellis

Public Comment on Training for Election Administrators

12:03:14 None

RECESS

12:04:19 Reconvened at 1:03 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY TOPIC UNDER SAVA'S JURISDICTION

13:03:08 None

MEMBER TOPIC: SB 93

13:04:17 Rebecca Power
[EXHIBIT8](#)
[EXHIBIT9](#)

Committee Discussion/Questions

13:10:04 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
13:10:42 Sen. Janet Ellis
13:12:16 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
13:12:26 Sen. Mike Cuffe
13:13:36 Sen. Janet Ellis
13:14:53 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
13:15:01 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum

Public Comment on SB 93 Follow-up Bill

13:15:42 None

MOTION

13:16:09 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum moved to instruct staff to prepare a provisional draft for these changes to SB 93.

VOTE

13:16:59 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

MEMBER TOPIC: ELECTION SECURITY STUDY

13:17:41 Rebecca Power
[EXHIBIT10](#)
[EXHIBIT11](#)

Committee Discussion/Questions

13:24:16 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
13:24:24 Rebecca Power
13:25:16 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
13:26:34 Rebecca Power continued the presentation.
[EXHIBIT12](#)

Committee Discussion/Questions

13:28:54 Rep. Ed Stafman
13:30:05 Rebecca Power continued the presentation.
[EXHIBIT13](#)
[EXHIBIT14](#)
[EXHIBIT15](#)
[EXHIBIT16](#)

Committee Discussion/Questions

13:33:06 Sen. Janet Ellis
13:34:48 Rebecca Power continued the presentation.
[EXHIBIT17](#)
[EXHIBIT18](#)
[EXHIBIT19](#)

Committee Discussion/Questions

13:37:29 Rep. Ed Stafman
13:38:20 Sen. Janet Ellis
13:41:02 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

Public Comment on Election Security Study

13:41:23 None

Committee Discussion/Questions

13:41:48 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum
13:42:23 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
13:42:50 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
13:43:17 Rebecca Power
13:43:47 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
13:44:26 Rep. Ed Stafman
13:47:27 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
13:49:52 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum
13:50:22 Sen. Janet Ellis

MEMBER TOPIC – IMPACT OF TRANSITION TO PARTISAN COMMITTEES

13:51:27 Rebecca Power
[EXHIBIT20](#)
[EXHIBIT21](#)
[EXHIBIT22](#)
13:55:15 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum

Committee Discussion/Questions

13:57:19 Rep. Ed Stafman
14:01:09 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
14:03:43 Sen. Mike Cuffe
14:07:54 Rep. Ed Stafman
14:09:19 Sen. Janet Ellis
14:10:53 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum
14:11:56 Sen. Mike Cuffe
14:14:06 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

CHANGES TO COMMITTEE BILL PROCEDURE

14:16:55 Rebecca Power

Committee Discussion/Questions

14:20:05 Rep. Ed Stafman

Public Comment on Changes to Committee Bill Procedure

14:21:40 None

MEETING WRAP UP

14:22:57 Sen. Mike Cuffe

14:25:40 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum

14:26:04 Rebecca Power

[EXHIBIT23](#)

14:27:04 Rep. Ed Stafman

14:28:13 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

14:28:53 Sen. Wendy McKamey

MOTION

14:29:35 Sen. McKamey moved to have Senate Bill 29 brought back with the addition of the peace officers and highway patrol systems.

Discussion on the Motion

14:30:20 Sen. Janet Ellis

14:31:17 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

14:31:47 Sen. Wendy McKamey

14:33:27 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

VOTE

14:33:49 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

14:35:12 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

14:36:07 Sen. Mike Cuffe

ADJOURNMENT

14:36:23 Presiding Officer Dooling adjourned the meeting at 2:36.