



TRANSPORTATION INTERIM COMMITTEE

68th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

Mike Fox
Theresa Manzella
Barry Usher
Shelley Vance

HOUSE MEMBERS

Denise Baum
Scot Kerns
Denley Loge
Zack Wirth

COMMITTEE STAFF

Katy Callon - Research Analyst
Joe Carroll - Attorney
Megan Moore - Research Analyst
Daniel Rosenberg - Secretary

MINUTES LOG

January 31, 2024
Capitol Room 137
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:

Sen. Theresa Manzella, Chair (R)
Sen. Mike Fox (D)
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)
Rep. Denley Loge (R)
Sen. Barry Usher (R)
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Rep. Denise Baum, Vice Chair (D)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Katy Callon, Research Analyst
Joe Carroll, Attorney
Megan Moore, Research Analyst
Daniel Rosenberg, Secretary

AGENDA ([Attachment 1](#))

VISITORS' LIST [\(Attachment 2\)](#)

COMMITTEE ACTION

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

09:00:14 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. The committee secretary took roll.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Introduction of New Staff

09:01:47 Megan Moore, Research Analyst, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

09:02:02 Katy Callon, Research Analyst, LSD

CDL REQUIREMENTS TOPIC

Montana Statutes VS. Federal Regulations

09:03:19 Joe Carroll, Staff Attorney, LSD
[EXHIBIT 1](#) (PowerPoint presentation)

Committee Questions/ Discussion

09:06:53 Rep. Loge

09:07:27 Joe Carroll

09:08:06 Rep. Loge

09:09:26 Sen. Vance

09:10:24 Sen. Usher

09:12:15 Presiding Officer Manzella

09:12:24 Laurie Bakri, Administrator, Department of Justice (DOJ) Motor Vehicles Division (MVD) spoke on the CDL requirements in Montana.

09:16:50 Presiding Officer Manzella

09:17:29 Laurie Bakri

09:17:43 Presiding Officer Manzella

09:18:07 Sen. Vance

09:18:52 Laurie Bakri

09:19:40 Presiding Officer Manzella

Public Comment

09:20:11 None

AGENCY UPDATE - DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE MOTOR VEHICLES DIVISION (DOJ MDT)

Implementation of CARS

09:20:32 Laurie Bakri
[EXHIBIT 2](#) (PowerPoint presentation)

09:24:27 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General, DOJ

09:28:53 Laurie Bakri

Committee Questions/ Discussion

09:43:16 Rep. Loge
09:44:05 Laurie Bakri
09:44:32 Sen. Usher
09:45:50 Laurie Bakri
09:46:22 Presiding Officer Manzella
09:47:15 Austin Knudsen
09:48:41 Presiding Officer Manzella
09:49:38 Austin Knudsen
09:51:04 Presiding Officer Manzella
09:51:34 Laurie Bakri
09:52:28 Presiding Officer Manzella
09:52:56 Laurie Bakri
09:53:42 Presiding Officer Manzella
09:54:17 Laurie Bakri
09:54:55 Austin Knudsen
09:56:28 Presiding Officer Manzella
09:57:40 Laurie Bakri
09:58:53 Sen. Usher
10:00:15 Laurie Bakri
10:01:01 Presiding Officer Manzella

Public Comment

10:01:39 Matt Zeltwanger, Partner, Fast Enterprises; Project Manager, CARS Team

AGENCY UPDATE - MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MDT)**Agency Updates**

10:03:36 Larry Flynn, Deputy Director, MDT

Public Comment

10:15:06 None

Committee Questions/ Discussion

10:14:57 Rep. Loge
10:15:16 Larry Flynn

RECESS

10:17:29 Reconvened at 10:30 a.m.

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**Overview of Authority and Duties**

10:31:03 Loran Frazier, Commission Chair, Transportation Commission
10:33:23 Chris Nygren, Chief Legal Counsel, MDT

History of Transportation Districts

10:35:02 Joe Carroll
[EXHIBIT 3](#)
10:36:49 Presiding Officer Manzella

Public Comment

10:37:01 None

Committee Questions/ Discussion

10:37:15 Rep. Loge directed a question to Dwane Kailey, Chief Operating Officer, MDT.
10:38:01 Dwane Kailey
10:39:52 Rep. Loge
10:39:59 Sen. Usher directed a question to Loran Frazier.
10:40:32 Loran Frazier
10:40:55 Sen. Usher
10:41:05 Loran Frazier
10:41:13 Sen. Usher
10:41:23 Loran Frazier
10:41:36 Sen. Usher
10:42:00 Loran Frazier
10:42:06 Sen. Usher
10:42:33 Loran Frazier
10:44:09 Sen. Usher
10:44:20 Presiding Officer Manzella
10:44:39 Loran Frazier
10:44:58 Presiding Officer Manzella
10:45:02 Loran Frazier
10:45:15 Presiding Officer Manzella
10:45:24 Loran Frazier
10:45:50 Rep. Loge
10:47:23 Presiding Officer Manzella
10:47:32 Loran Frazier

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 15/ HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 16 TOPIC

Vulnerable Road User Assessment Presentation

10:48:15 Pam Langve-Davis, Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan Manager, MDT
[EXHIBIT 4](#) (PowerPoint presentation)

Review of Recent Bicycle Legislation and Trends

11:02:46 Megan Moore
[EXHIBIT 5](#)

Public Comment

11:06:40 None

Committee Questions/ Discussion

11:06:57 Rep. Kerns directed a question to Pam Langve-Davis.
11:07:58 Pam Langve-Davis
11:08:50 Rep. Kerns
11:09:11 Pam Langve-Davis
11:09:45 Presiding Officer Manzella
11:09:56 Rep. Kerns
11:10:11 Pam Langve-Davis
11:10:35 Rep. Kerns
11:11:31 Pam Langve-Davis
11:12:20 Rep. Kerns
11:13:00 Pam Langve-Davis
11:14:11 Rep. Kerns
11:14:37 Pam Langve-Davis
11:15:32 Rep. Kerns
11:16:54 Pam Langve-Davis
11:17:24 Rep. Kerns
11:17:50 Pam Langve-Davis
11:18:08 Rep. Kerns
11:19:16 Pam Langve-Davis
11:21:17 Rep. Kerns
11:22:20 Pam Langve-Davis
11:23:13 Rep. Loge
11:23:40 Pam Langve-Davis
11:24:41 Chris Nygren
11:25:29 Rep. Wirth
11:26:52 Pam Langve-Davis
11:27:38 Rep. Wirth
11:28:15 Presiding Officer Manzella
11:30:21 Pam Langve-Davis
11:30:34 Presiding Officer Manzella
11:31:12 Pam Langve-Davis
11:32:34 Presiding Officer Manzella
11:33:07 Pam Langve-Davis
11:33:20 Rep. Kerns
11:34:11 Pam Langve-Davis
11:34:56 Rep. Kerns

11:36:13 Pam Langve-Davis
 11:37:31 Dwane Kailey
 11:37:51 Carol Strizich, Bureau Chief, Multimodal Planning Bureau, MDT
 11:40:19 Rep. Kerns
 11:41:39 Dwane Kailey
 11:44:03 Rep. Kerns
 11:45:03 Dwane Kailey
 11:46:08 Rep. Kerns
 11:46:54 Dwane Kailey
 11:47:57 Sen. Usher
 11:48:38 Dwane Kailey
 11:49:12 Sen. Usher
 11:49:44 Dwane Kailey
 11:50:05 Sen. Usher
 11:50:36 Dwane Kailey
 11:51:27 Sen. Usher
 11:52:17 Rep. Kerns
 11:52:56 Dwane Kailey
 11:53:18 Rep. Kerns
 11:53:40 Dwane Kailey
 11:53:51 Carol Strizich
 11:54:38 Rep. Kerns
 11:55:03 Carol Strizich
 11:56:20 Presiding Officer Manzella

RECESS

11:57:11 Reconvened at 1:01 p.m.

STAFF RECOGNITION

13:01:46 Sen. Usher
 13:02:52 Rachel Weiss, Research Director, LSD

DEFINITIONS IN MCA

13:03:30 Joe Carroll
[EXHIBIT 6](#) (PowerPoint Presentation)
[EXHIBIT 7](#)

Committee Questions/ Discussion

13:08:27 Sen. Usher
 13:08:42 Joe Carroll resumed the presentation.
[EXHIBIT 6](#)

Committee Questions/ Discussion

13:13:09 Presiding Officer Manzella
13:14:23 Rep. Loge
13:15:14 Rep. Kerns
13:15:49 Sen. Usher
13:16:31 Rep. Loge
13:17:14 Sen. Usher
13:17:22 Rep. Loge

13:18:47 Joe Carroll resumed the presentation.
[EXHIBIT 6](#)

Committee Questions/ Discussion

13:20:23 Rep. Kerns

13:21:01 Joe Carroll resumed the presentation.
[EXHIBIT 6](#)

Committee Questions/ Discussion

13:26:02 Rep. Kerns

13:27:25 Joe Carroll resumed the presentation.
[EXHIBIT 6](#)

Committee Questions/ Discussion

13:28:37 Sen. Usher
13:29:28 Presiding Officer Manzella

13:29:47 Joe Carroll resumed the presentation.
[EXHIBIT 6](#)

Committee Questions/ Discussion

13:34:30 Rep. Kerns

13:35:47 Joe Carroll resumed the presentation.
[EXHIBIT 6](#)

Motion

13:42:46 Rep. Kerns moved for a committee bill based on title 60 and 61 implementing the fixes presented to be drafted by Joe Carroll.

Discussion on the Motion

13:43:21 Rep. Loge
13:43:28 Joe Carroll
13:43:49 Rep. Kerns

13:44:25 Sen. Usher

Vote

13:45:27 The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Committee Questions/ Discussion

13:45:50 Joe Carroll

13:46:07 Sen. Vance

ELECTRIC VEHICLES & FIRE SAFETY TOPIC

Panel Presentation

13:47:11 Megan Moore

13:47:34 Josh Fisher, Alliance for Automotive Innovation

[EXHIBIT 8](#)

13:52:47 Ole Hedstrom, Montana State Firefighters Association

[EXHIBIT 9](#) (PowerPoint presentation)

Battery Disposal

14:09:06 Chris Dorrington, Director, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Public Comment

14:15:00 Sen. Chris Pope, SD 31

Committee Questions/ Discussion

14:20:00 Rep. Loge directed a question to Chris Dorrington.

14:20:44 Chris Dorrington

14:20:48 Rep. Kerns directed a question to Ole Hedstrom.

14:21:27 Ole Hedstrom.

14:22:36 Rep. Kerns

14:23:25 Ole Hedstrom

14:24:14 Rep. Kerns

14:24:28 Ole Hedstrom

14:25:02 Presiding Officer Manzella

14:25:35 Ole Hedstrom

14:26:35 Sen. Usher

14:27:08 Ole Hedstrom

14:28:23 Sen. Usher

14:28:53 Ole Hedstrom

RECESS

14:30:24 Reconvened at 2:36 p.m.

HYDROGEN FUEL OVERVIEW

Overview of Pacific Northwest Hydrogen Regional Hub and Funding Award

14:38:35 George Bailey, Associate Managing Member, St. Regis Solar Hydrogen
[EXHIBIT 10](#) (PowerPoint presentation)
[EXHIBIT 11](#)

14:48:59 Matt Morrison, Executive Director, Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER)

14:51:57 Bruce Agnew, Director, PNWER Regional Infrastructure Accelerator

15:02:25 Shane Getson, Member of the Legislative Assembly, Alberta

Public Comment

15:27:41 None

Committee Questions/ Discussion

15:27:54 Rep. Kerns directed a question to Shane Getson.

15:28:39 Shane Getson

15:30:44 Bruce Agnew

15:31:34 Shane Getson

15:33:44 Rep. Kerns

15:34:11 Shane Getson

15:35:51 Presiding Officer Manzella

15:36:31 Sen. Usher

15:36:59 Rep. Loge

15:37:18 Sen. Usher

15:39:02 Shane Getson

15:41:39 Sen. Usher

15:42:33 Shane Getson

15:45:02 Presiding Officer Manzella

15:45:16 Shane Getson

15:45:28 Rep. Loge

15:45:59 Shane Getson

15:47:30 Matt Morrison

ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW

15:49:16 Joe Carroll

PUBLIC COMMENT on any item in TIC's subject matter description

15:49:49 John MacDonald, Alliance for Automotive Innovation

COMMITTEE WORK SESSION

Agency Updates

15:53:53 Rep. Loge

15:55:27 Presiding Officer Manzella

15:55:43 Rep. Loge

15:56:02 Rep. Kerns
15:58:04 Sen. Vance

HJ 15/ 16

16:00:32 Megan Moore
16:00:58 Rep. Kerns
16:01:21 Megan Moore
16:01:33 Rep. Loge

Electric Vehicle/ Fire Safety

16:02:14 Megan Moore
16:02:49 Presiding Officer Manzella
16:03:33 Rep. Loge
16:04:25 Sen. Usher
16:06:16 Sen. Fox
16:06:59 Rep. Wirth
16:07:22 Sen. Usher

CDL Requirements

16:09:17 Presiding Officer Manzella
16:09:39 Rep. Kerns
16:10:29 Joe Carroll
16:11:47 Sen. Vance

Future Topics

16:12:40 Rep. Loge
16:15:36 Megan Moore
16:16:10 Rep. Loge
16:16:24 Sen. Usher

Additional Instructions to Staff

16:18:27 Megan Moore
16:18:53 Rep. Usher

ADJOURNMENT

16:19:43 Presiding Officer Manzella adjourned the meeting at 4:19 p.m.