

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

69th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON (H) ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY, AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Gary Parry-R, on February 12, 2025 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Gary Parry, Chair (R)
Rep. Greg Kmetz, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Larry Brewster (R)
Rep. Bob Carter (D)
Rep. Paul Fielder (R)
Rep. Shelly Fyant (D)
Rep. Alanah Griffith (D)
Rep. Denise Joy (D)
Rep. Marc Lee (D)
Rep. Tom Millett (R)
Rep. Tracy Sharp (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)
Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R)

Staff Present: Aspen Brenna, Clerk
Griffin Burns, Research Analyst

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:

SB 23 02/11/2025

SB 51 02/11/2025

SB 22 02/11/2025

Executive Action:

HB 392 DO PASS AS AMENDED

HB 350 DO PASS

HJ 12 DO PASS

HJ 13 TO TABLE

SB 22

SB 23 BE CONCURRED IN AS
AMENDED
SB 51 BE CONCURRED IN

15:01:35 Educational Piece from Public Service Commission

Discussion

15:01:35 Educational Piece from Public Service Commission

15:01:48 Jennifer Fielder, Vice President, Public Service Commission (PSC)

15:12:32 Lucas Hamilton, Chief Legal Counsel, Public Service Commission (PSC)

15:15:42 Will Rosquist, Regulatory Division, Public Service Commission (PSC)

15:22:44 Joel Tierny, Pipeline Safety, Public Service Commission (PSC)

15:25:16 Dan Sherwood, Railroad Program Manager, Public Service Commission (PSC)

15:28:00 Tina Shorten, Regulatory Compliance Committee, Public Service Commission (PSC)

15:32:50 Educational Piece from Montana Public Consumer Council

Discussion

15:32:50 Educational Piece from Montana Public Consumer Council

15:32:51 Jason Brown, Montana Consumer Council

HEARING ON SB 23 - Increase thresholds for railroad accident reporting requirements

Opening Statement:

15:47:22 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R), SD 22, opening statement on SB 23, Increase thresholds for railroad accident reporting requirements.

Opponent Testimony:

None

Proponent Testimony:

15:48:37 Trevor Graff, External Affairs Coordinator, Public Service Commission (PSC)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:49:48 Rep. Paul Fielder

15:50:24 Trevor Graff, PSC

15:50:44 Rep. Alanah Griffith

15:50:48 Trevor Graff, PSC

Closing Statement:

15:52:33 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R), SD 22, closing statement on SB 23.

HEARING ON SB 51 - Revising telecommunications provider registration laws

Opening Statement:

15:53:05 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R), SD 22, opening statement on SB 51, Revising telecommunications provider registration laws.

Opponent Testimony:

None

Proponent Testimony:

15:54:37 Trevor Graff, External Affairs Coordinator, Public Service Commission (PSC)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:56:17 Rep. Alanah Griffith

15:56:28 Trevor Graff, PSC

15:56:38 Vice Chair Kelly Kortum

15:56:56 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov

Closing Statement:

15:58:38 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R), SD 22, closing statement on SB 51.

15:59:57 **Recessed**

16:14:37 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 392 - Generally revise laws related to creation of profitable family video content featuring minor children

Motion:

16:14:47 Vice Chair Greg Kmetz moved that **HB 392 DO PASS.**

16:14:50 Griffin Burns

16:14:26 **Vote:** There was no vote taken on this motion.

Motion:

16:14:52 Vice Chair Greg Kmetz moved that **HB 392 BE AMENDED HB0392.001.001.**

16:35:30 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Motion:

16:18:05 Vice Chair Greg Kmetz moved that **HB 392 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

16:18:22 Rep. Denise Joy

16:19:04 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 350 - Prohibit enforcement of policies issued by certain intergovernmental entities

Motion:

16:19:54 Vice Chair Greg Kmetz moved that **HB 350 DO PASS.**

16:20:38 **Vote:** Motion carried 8 - 6 in the House with Rep. Carter, Rep. Fyant, Rep. Griffith, Rep. Joy, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Lee, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 12 - Resolution regarding electric vehicles

Motion:

16:21:39 Vice Chair Greg Kmetz moved that **HJ 12 DO PASS.**

16:22:01 Griffin Burns

16:22:28 Vice Chair Kelly Kortum

16:23:17 Rep. Bob Carter

16:23:58 Rep. Braxton Mitchell

16:24:25 **Vote:** Motion carried 8 - 6 in the House with Rep. Carter, Rep. Fyant, Rep. Griffith, Rep. Joy, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Lee, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 13 - Resolution supporting congressional term limits

Motion:

16:25:21 Vice Chair Greg Kmetz moved that **HJ 13 DO PASS.**

16:25:41 Griffin Burns

16:25:51 Rep. Braxton Mitchell

16:26:30 Rep. Tom Millett

16:30:04 Rep. Tracy Sharp

16:31:38 Rep. Paul Fielder

16:32:15 **Vote:** Motion failed 9 - 5 in the House with Rep. Brewster, Rep. Carter, Rep. Parry, Rep. Sharp, Rep. Zolnikov, voting yes.

Motion:

16:33:08 Vice Chair Greg Kmetz moved that **HJ 13 TO TABLE.**

16:33:33 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 22 - Revise class d motor carrier deadline adjustment laws

Motion:

16:33:53 Vice Chair Greg Kmetz moved that **SB 22 BE CONCURRED IN.**

16:34:32 **Vote:** Motion carried 13 - 1 in the House with Rep. Zolnikov, voting no. Rep. Zolnikov, By Proxy

16:33:53 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Katie Zolnikov

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 23 - Increase thresholds for railroad accident reporting requirements

Motion:

16:34:26 Vice Chair Greg Kmetz moved that **SB 23 BE CONCURRED IN.**

16:34:40 Rep. Paul Fielder

16:34:26 **Vote:** There was no vote taken on this motion.

Motion:

16:34:45 Rep. Paul Fielder moved that **SB 23 BE AMENDED SB0023.001.001.**

16:35:30 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Motion:

16:35:52 Vice Chair Greg Kmetz moved that **SB 23 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

16:35:57 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 51 - Revising telecommunications provider registration laws

Motion:

16:36:14 Vice Chair Greg Kmetz moved that **SB 51 BE CONCURRED IN.**

16:36:23 Griffin Burns

16:36:42 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:39:14

Clerk: Aspen Brenna

Additional Documents:

Visitor Logs - <https://docs.legmt.gov/download-ticket?ticketId=1d540b8d-2074-4629-ac2c-34e27d1b2fd6>