

MINUTES
MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (H) TAXATION

Call to Order: Chair Paul Fielder-R, on March 24, 2023 at 8:04 AM, in 152

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Paul Fielder, Chair (R)
Rep. Mark Thane, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Tom Welch, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Larry Brewster (R)
Rep. Alice Buckley (D)
Rep. Edward Butcher (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)
Rep. Sherry Essmann (R)
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)
Rep. Marty Malone (R)
Rep. Russel Miner (R)
Rep. George Nikolakakos (R)
Rep. Melissa Romano (D)
Rep. Tanner Smith (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Kim Abbott (D)
Rep. Brad Barker (R)
Rep. Dave Fern (D)
Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R)
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)

Staff Present: Brigitte Bellefleur, Secretary
Megan Moore, 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:

HB 819 03/20/2023
HB 825 03/17/2023
HB 829 03/17/2023

HB 830 03/17/2023
SB 28 03/17/2023
Executive Action:

HEARING ON HB 819 - Create Montana community reinvestment act to fund workforce housing

Opening Statement:

08:07:32 Rep. Paul Green (R), HD 41, opened the hearing on HB 819, Create Montana community reinvestment act to fund workforce housing.

Proponent Testimony:

08:10:21 Jesse Luther, Montana Attainable Housing Alliance

[EXHIBIT\(230324TAHa1\)](#)

08:22:48 Todd O'Hair, Montana Chamber of Commerce

08:25:06 Rebecca Meyers, Billings Chamber of Commerce

08:25:42 Scott Boulanger, Montana Independent Bankers

08:26:12 Amy Grmoljez, Montana Bankers Association

08:26:45 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors

08:27:07 Mark Taylor, Hospitality Development Association of Montana

08:28:28 John Forkan, Montana Building Trades

08:29:15 Jake Brown, Shelter Whitefish

08:29:58 Allison Corbyn, Big Sky Economic Development

08:31:24 Tirza Asbell, Montana Women Vote

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:33:53 David Merrien, DOR

08:34:16 Tony Zammit, DOR

Questions from Committee:

08:35:03	Chair Paul Fielder
08:35:38	Rep. Paul Green-R
08:36:49	Chair Paul Fielder
08:37:10	Rep. Paul Green-R
08:37:42	Rep. Alice Buckley
08:38:10	Vice Chair Mark Thane
08:38:49	Rep. Paul Green-R
08:40:10	Rep. Marty Malone
08:40:23	Jesse Luther
08:42:24	Rep. Alice Buckley
08:42:37	Jesse Luther
08:45:53	Rep. Tanner Smith
08:46:13	Jesse Luther
08:47:56	Rep. Edward Butcher
08:48:15	Jesse Luther
08:52:02	Rep. Larry Brewster
08:52:11	Vice Chair Tom Welch
08:52:20	Jesse Luther

Closing Statement:

08:52:50	Rep. Paul Green (R), HD 41, closed the hearing on HB 819.
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HEARING ON HB 825 - Provide funding to address affordable housing

Opening Statement:

08:58:46 Rep. Mike Hopkins (R), HD 92, opened the hearing on HB 825, Provide funding to address affordable housing.

Proponent Testimony:

09:05:30 Glenn Oppel, Governor's Office
09:09:02 Dan Villa, Board of Investments
09:10:58 Renee Lemon, Department of Commerce
09:13:04 Cheryl Cohen, Department of Commerce
09:13:54 Dave Galt, Montana Chamber of Commerce
09:14:20 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns
09:17:03 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors
09:18:51 Mark Taylor, Hospitality Development Association
09:19:31 Rebecca Meyers, Billings Chamber of Commerce
09:21:26 SK Rossi, Cities of Bozeman and Missoula
09:21:54 Andrea Davis, Montana Housing Coalition
09:22:31 Jake Brown, Shelter Whitefish
09:23:13 Dwight Rose, Local 44
09:23:42 Jennifer Hensley, Missoula County
09:24:00 Ethan Hanley, Associated Students of UM
09:24:43 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties
09:25:47 Mike Nugent, Montana Association of Realtors

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:26:57 Vice Chair Tom Welch
09:27:14 Rep. Mike Hopkins-R
09:28:09 Rep. Tanner Smith
09:28:26 Glenn Oppel
09:29:24 Rep. Marty Malone
09:29:36 Glenn Oppel
09:32:01 Vice Chair Mark Thane
09:32:25 Dan Villa
09:33:50 Vice Chair Mark Thane
09:33:57 Glenn Oppel
09:35:11 Chair Paul Fielder
09:35:30 Renee Lemon

Closing Statement:

09:37:02 Rep. Mike Hopkins (R), HD 92, closed the hearing on HB 825.

HEARING ON HB 829 - Establish a Montana workforce housing tax credit

Opening Statement:

09:38:30 Rep. George Nikolakakos (R), HD 26, opened the hearing on HB 829, Establish a Montana workforce housing tax credit.

Proponent Testimony:

09:43:55 Andrea Davis, Montana Housing Coalition
09:50:34 Beki Brandborg, Montana Housing Coalition
09:54:55 Rebecca Meyers, Billings Chamber of Commerce
09:56:46 Don Sterhan, Mountain Plains Equity Group
10:04:33 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns

10:04:56 Adam Jespersen, Montana Nonprofit Association
10:05:38 Dave Galt, Montana Chamber of Commerce
10:06:12 Rose Bender, Montana Budget and Policy Center
[EXHIBIT\(230324TAHa2\)](#)
10:07:17 Jennifer Hensley, Missoula County
10:08:07 SK Rossi, Cities of Missoula and Bozeman
10:08:25 Melissa Shannon, Montana Housing Coalition
10:09:00 Jake Brown, Shelter Whitefish
10:09:40 Ann Schwend, MEIC
10:10:08 Robyn Morrison, League of Women Voters
10:11:23 Margaret MacDonald, Big Sky 55+
10:12:36 Mike Nugent, Montana Association of Realtors

Opponent Testimony:

10:14:17 Alan Lloyd, Montana Association of CPAs

Informational Witness Testimony:

10:17:19 Cheryl Cohen, Commerce
10:17:32 David Merrien, DOR

Questions from Committee:

10:18:04 Rep. Jill Cohenour
10:18:09 Cheryl Cohen
10:19:13 Chair Paul Fielder
10:19:21 Andrea Davis
10:21:26 Rep. Jill Cohenour
10:22:03 Rep. George Nikolakakos-R
10:23:20 Vice Chair Mark Thane

10:23:42 Rep. George Nikolakakos-R

10:24:03 Andrea Davis

Closing Statement:

10:26:13 Rep. George Nikolakakos (R), HD 26, closed the hearing on HB 829.

10:28:06 **Recessed**

10:30:01 **Reconvened**

HEARING ON HB 830 - Optional alternative property tax payment schedule for primary residences

Opening Statement:

10:30:22 Rep. George Nikolakakos (R), HD 26, opened the hearing on HB 830, Optional alternative property tax payment schedule for primary residences.

Proponent Testimony:

10:33:30 Glenn Oppel, Governor's Office

10:39:21 Scott Richner, AARP

10:40:21 Rebecca Meyers, County Treasurers

10:48:39 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors

10:49:34 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns

10:50:07 Dave Galt, Montana Chamber of Commerce

10:50:38 Dan Whitesitt, Ravalli County Treasurer

10:52:59 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties

10:54:22 Jennifer Hensley, County of Missoula

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

10:55:33 Jennifer Thompson, Department of Administration

Questions from Committee:

10:56:05	Rep. Tanner Smith
10:56:37	Rep. George Nikolakakos-R
10:58:30	Chair Paul Fielder
10:58:46	Rep. George Nikolakakos-R
10:58:51	Vice Chair Mark Thane
10:59:19	Glenn Oppel
10:59:58	Rebecca Meyers
11:02:29	Rep. Marty Malone
11:02:38	Don Whitesitt
11:04:36	Rep. Edward Butcher
11:04:46	Rebecca Meyers
11:05:42	Vice Chair Tom Welch
11:05:50	Rebecca Meyers
11:06:57	Chair Paul Fielder
11:07:02	Rebecca Meyers

Closing Statement:

11:07:25	Rep. George Nikolakakos (R), HD 26, closed the hearing on HB 830.
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HEARING ON SB 28 - Provide funding for conservation districts

Opening Statement:

11:08:30	Sen. Mike Lang (R), SD 17, opened the hearing on SB 28, Provide funding for conservation districts.
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Proponent Testimony:

11:14:33	Steve Wanderaas, McCone County Conservation District
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11:17:40 Rebecca Boslough-King, Montana Association of Conservation Districts
11:21:44 Jeff Ryan, Lewis and Clark Conservation District
11:24:22 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties
11:24:48 Clayton Elliott, Trout Unlimited
11:25:47 Krista Evans, Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators
11:26:50 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

11:28:14 Rep. Marilyn Marler
11:28:58 Sen. Mike Lang-R
11:31:09 Vice Chair Mark Thane
11:31:38 Sen. Mike Lang-R
11:31:52 Rep. Marty Malone
11:32:22 Sen. Mike Lang-R

Closing Statement:

11:34:02 Sen. Mike Lang (R), SD 17, closed the hearing on SB 28.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:35:53

Brigitte Bellefleur, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230324TAHaad\)](#)