

MINUTES

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Call to Order: By Chairman Joe Barnett, on January 16, 1997, at
3:00 p.m., in Room 437

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Joe Barnett, Chairman (R)
Rep. John "Sam" Rose, Vice Chairman (Majority) (R)
Rep. William M. "Bill" Ryan, Vice Chairman (Minority) (D)
Rep. Darrel Adams (R)
Rep. Peggy Arnott (R)
Rep. Paul Bankhead (R)
Rep. Harriet Hayne (R)
Rep. George Heavy Runner (D)
Rep. Joan Hurdle (D)
Rep. Rick Jore (R)
Rep. Gay Ann Masolo (R)
Rep. Doug Mood (R)
Rep. Gerald Pease (D)
Rep. Trudi Schmidt (D)
Rep. Robert R. Story, Jr. (R)
Rep. Jay Stovall (R)
Rep. Lila V. Taylor (R)
Rep. Cliff Trexler (R)
Rep. Bill Whitehead (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Billie Krenzler

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Dave Bohyer, Legislative Services Division
Mary Lou Schmitz, Committee Secretary

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: HB 226
Executive Action: None

HEARING ON HB 226

"AN ACT REQUIRING THAT WEED CONTROL BE ADDRESSED AS AN ELEMENT OF THE OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE TRAIL AND NATIONAL RECREATION TRAIL GRANT PROGRAMS; REQUIRING DEVELOPMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS OF A WEED CONTROL PLAN FOR OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE TRAILS AND NATIONAL RECREATION TRAILS AND COORDINATION OF THE PLAN WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COUNTY WEED BOARDS; PROVIDING THAT GRANTS FOR OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE TRAILS AND

NATIONAL RECREATION TRAILS MAY NOT BE IMPLEMENTED UNTIL THE REQUISITE WEED CONTROL PLAN IS IN PLACE CLARIFYING REQUIRED COMPONENTS OF A WEED CONTROL PLAN; AND REQUIRING CERTAIN RECORDKEEPING AND A REPORT ON PROGRAM PROGRESS TO THE 56TH LEGISLATURE"

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.6; Comments:}

Sponsor: Rep. Alvin Ellis, Jr., HD 23

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 13.0; Comments: .}

Proponents: Lorna Frank-Karn, Representing the Montana Farm Bureau.

Candace Torgerson, Representing Women Involved in Farm Economics (W.I.F.E.) and the Stock Growers, Wool Growers, and The Dairymen Association.

Ralph Peck, Director, Montana Department of Agriculture.

Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon, EXHIBIT 2.

Bill Maloit, Educational Chairman for the Back Country Horsemen of America, State Trails Advisory Board.

George Ochenski, Montana State Parks Foundation.

EXHIBITS 3 and 4.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 25.2; Comments: .}

Opponents: Dal Smilie, American Motorcycle Association, EXHIBIT 5.

Russ Ehnes, President, Montana Trail Vehicle Riders Association, EXHIBIT 6A and 6B

Ken Hoovestol, Montana Snowmobile Association.

Doug Abelin, Lobbyist for MTVRA, EXHIBITS 7 and 8.

Jill McGuire, ABATE of Montana.

Don Gordon, President, Montana 4 X 4 Association.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.6 - 12.8 ; Comments: EXHIBIT 1 .}

Opening Statement by Sponsor: Rep. Alvin Ellis, Jr.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 46.7;

Informational Testimony: Arnold Olsen, Administrator, State Parks Division, Fish, Wildlife and Parks. EXHIBIT 9.

Bob Gilbert, Montana Weed Control Association.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 53.6 - 79.0 ;

Questions From Committee Members and Responses: Reps. Trexler, Stovall, Story, Heavy Runner, Ryan, Taylor, Rose, Masolo, Hurdle.

Responses from Rep. Ellis; Mr. Olsen; Mr. Gordon; Bob Walker, State Trails Coordinator, Fish, Wildlife and Parks;

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 79.3 - 83.5; }

Closing by Sponsor: Rep. Ellis closed the Hearing on HB 226.

Rep. Heavy Runner moved to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:20 p.m.



REP. JOE BARNETT, Chairman



MARY LOU SCHMITZ, Secretary

JB/MLS