

MINUTES

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

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Call to Order: By Chairman Joe Barnett, on January 21, 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 224 - 1-17-97
Executive Action: None

HEARING ON HB 224

"AN ACT AMENDING FIRE AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR FUEL TANKS ON FARMS AND RANCHES; PROVIDING FOR WRITTEN WARNING NOTICES FOR FARM AND RANCH TANK VIOLATIONS; AMENDING SECTION 50-3-103, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 2.3; }

Sponsor: Rep. Sam Kitzenberg, HD 96.

Opening Statement by Sponsor: Rep. Kitzenberg said HB 224 looks at the fire and safety codes, tries to roll back some of the rules and regulations, looks at what is necessary and what is not and remove some of the restrictions.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 7.8 - 8.5; }

Proponents: Larry Brown, Representing the Agriculture Preservation Association and the Northern Montana Oil and Gas Association.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 9.0; }

Bob Stephens, Montana Grain Growers Association.

Lorna Frank-Karn, Montana Farm Bureau.

Jason Campbell, Montana Stock Growers.

Candace Torgerson, Women Involved in Farm Economics.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 13.2 - }

Opponents: Beth Baker, Department of Justice, (EXHIBIT 1).

Aaron E. Holst, AST Task Force.

Brett M. Waters, Belgrade Fire Department.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 32.7 - 37.8; }

Informational Testimony: Denise Mills, Department of Environmental Quality.

Jean Riley, Executive Director, PTRC Board - DEQ.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 38.1 - 79.7; Comments: .}

Questions From Committee Members and Responses: Reps. Stovall, Taylor, Adams, Story, Ryan, Masolo, Arnott, Rose, Barnett.

Responses from Beth Baker; Bruce Suenram, State Fire Marshall; Denise Mills; Jean Riley; Rep. Kitzenberg; Brett M. Waters; Aaron E. Holst.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 82.0; }

Closing by Sponsor: Rep. Kitzenberg closed the Hearing on HB 224.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:26



REP. JOE BARNETT, Chairman



MARY LOU SCHMITZ, Secretary

JB/MLS