



State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee
62nd Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS
RON ARTHUN
LARRY JENT
DAVE LEWIS
KENDALL VAN DYK

HOUSE MEMBERS
BRYCE BENNETT
JOANNE BLYTON
PAT INGRAHAM
KATHY SWANSON

COMMITTEE STAFF
MEGAN MOORE, Lead Staff
DAVID NISS, Staff Attorney
FONG HOM, Secretary

MINUTES
TELECONFERENCE

July 5, 2011

Room 137, Capitol Building
Helena, MT

Please note: These minutes provide abbreviated information about committee discussion, public testimony, action taken, and other activities. The minutes are accompanied by an audio recording. For each action listed, the minutes indicate the approximate amount of time in hours, minutes, and seconds that has elapsed since the start of the meeting. This time may be used to locate the activity on the audio recording.

An electronic copy of these minutes and the audio recording may be accessed from the Legislative Branch home page at <http://leg.mt.gov>. On the left-side column of the home page, select *Committees*, then *Interim*, and then the appropriate committee.

To view the minutes, locate the meeting date and click on minutes. To hear the audio recording, click on the Real Player icon. Note: You must have Real Player to listen to the audio recording.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

SEN. RON ARTHUN
SEN. LARRY JENT
REP. JOANNE BLYTON
REP. PAT INGRAHAM
REP. KATHY SWANSON

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

SEN. DAVE LEWIS
SEN. KENDALL VAN DYK
REP. BRYCE BENNETT

STAFF PRESENT

MEGAN MOORE, Lead Staff
Cj JOHNSON, Secretary

Visitors

Roxanne Menahan, MPERA, Department of Administration

COMMITTEE ACTION

- Teleconference meeting.
- State Administration and Veterans' Affairs (SAVA) members voted Sen. Jent and Sen. Arthun to attend the NCSL conference in San Antonio, Texas.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

00:00:01 Rep. Ingraham called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Megan Moore, Research Analyst, took roll.

AGENDA

00:11:04 Rep. Ingraham informed the committee members that this teleconference is taking place to determine which members will be attending the NCSL conference in San Antonio, Texas, in October. She talked about funds that could be made available to send several members to the conference.

00:12:34 Ms. Moore discussed the SAVA budget that was set at its first meeting. She informed the members that \$3,700 could be made available if SAVA doesn't have a subcommittee or change the meeting schedule adopted in June. Ms. Moore talked about the costs to attend NCSL if the members register by or before July 8, 2011.

00:16:32 Rep. Joanne Blyton said that she has been asked by leadership to attend the NCSL as a voting member of the transportation committee. Rep. Ingraham asked if she will be available to attend any of the retirement sessions. Rep. Blyton said that she could attend other sessions. She asked if the \$3,700 could be divided between the two committee members. Sen. Jent informed the members that leadership could possibly help pay for some of the costs if there is not enough money from the SAVA budget.

00:24:06 Rep. Ingraham said she would like two members, one from each caucus, to attend the conference and suggested that the committee fund \$1,200 for the two SAVA members to attend the conference. Ms. Moore informed the members that Rep. Bennett said he would not be able to attend.

Motion

00:32:14 Rep. Blyton **moved** to send Sen. Arthun and Sen. Jent to the NCSL conference in San Antonio, Texas. The motion **passed** by a voice vote with Sen. Lewis, Sen. Van Dyk, and Rep. Bennett not voting.

Motion

00:33:45 Rep. Blyton **moved** that the SAVA committee allocate \$600 each for Sen. Arthun and Sen. Jent to attend the conference, and will ask leadership for the remainder funds or if there is a grant from NCSL.

Discussion

00:34:13 There was discussion about the individual costs to attend the conference. Sen. Jent said the costs could run at least \$1,500 per person. Rep. Blyton modified her motion to change the dollar amount from \$600 to \$1,200 toward each

member.

- 00:35:26 Rep. Ingraham and Ms. Moore discussed whether or not there would be enough funds for the two members to attend the conference. Ms. Moore explained that the \$1,200 will be used to cover travel and per diem. Ms. Moore suggested that the members approve the amount of \$1,200 to the two committee members and any expenses over the \$1,200 will be out-of-pocket.
- 00:38:29 Ms. Moore informed the committee that Sen. Arthun left the meeting and the committee does not have a quorum to vote.
- 00:39:26 Rep. Blyton restated her motion to allow \$1,200 for each of the two members to attend the conference.
- 00:40:29 Rep. Ingraham would like a report, either written or verbal, and that any materials handed out be made available for the committee members.
- 00:46:26 The members discussed the possibility of using a proxy that could be sent electronically to Ms. Moore. Rep. Ingraham asked Sen. Jent to get in touch with Sen. Arthun to determine if leadership can provide some resources for the two members to attend conference.
- 00:52:23 Ms. Moore informed the committee that the legal director said that a quorum is required for voting procedures.
- 00:55:02 The members discussed another time to hold a teleconference. Ms. Moore will contact the committee members. The teleconference will take place at 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, July 6, 2011.
- 00:55:29 Rep. Blyton withdrew her motion regarding funding for Sen. Jent and Sen. Arthun to attend the NCSL conference.
- Adjournment**
- 00:56:52 Rep. Ingraham adjourned the meeting at 9:27 a.m.

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