



2013 MEIC Legislative Voting Record

MEIC's Legislative Voting Record has been produced after every session of the Montana Legislature since 1974.

MEIC generally chooses second reading votes unless a third reading vote or an amendment more accurately reflect legislators' positions on an issue. We encourage you to check on how your legislators voted and to talk to them about those votes. Don't forget to thank them when they voted correctly. But please remember that in order to fully evaluate a legislator, you must also consider committee performance, influence on the floor debates, and responsiveness to constituents.

The plusses and minuses in the Voting Record do not represent "yes" or "no" votes; they indicate whether the vote supported or opposed MEIC's position.

Bill Descriptions and Vote Key

A = SB 247 (Sen. Mike Phillips, *D-Bozeman*).

Would have increased the cap on individual net metering systems to 100 kw from 50 kw. *See page 8.*

MEIC Position: *Support*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 2nd reading, failed 24 to 26.*

Status: *Failed 2nd reading in the Senate.*

B = SB 138 (Sen. Art Wittich, *R-Bozeman*).

Would have significantly lowered the property tax rate from 12% to 3% on new fossil-fuel electricity generating facilities, and all transmission lines. *See page 4.*

MEIC Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 2nd reading, passed 29 to 21.*
- *House: 2nd reading, passed 62 to 38.*

Status: *Vetoed by the Governor.*

C = SB 325 (Sen. Alan Olson, *R-Roundup*).

Allows wood treated with creosote, arsenic, and pentachlorophenol to be burned as biomass and treated as a renewable resource under the Renewable Energy Standard. *See page 8.*

MEIC Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 2nd reading, passed 31 to 19.*
- *House: 2nd reading, passed 59 to 40.*

Status: *Law.*

D = SB 45 (Sen. Jim Keane, *D-Butte*).

Allows new, and already completed, upgrades to hydroelectric dams to be included as an eligible renewable resource under the Renewable Energy Standard. *See page 4.*

MEIC Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: Sen. Kaufmann's amendment to exclude already completed upgrades to hydroelectric dams, failed 18-30.*

- *House: 2nd reading, passed 70 to 30.*

Status: *Governor's amendments accepted by the Legislature. Now law.*

E = SB 31 (Sen. Debby Barrett, *R-Dillon*).

Would have allowed electricity generated at all new hydropower facilities, regardless of size, to be considered as renewable energy under the Renewable Energy Standard. *See page 4.*

MEIC Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 3rd reading, passed 32 to 18.*
- *House: 3rd reading, passed 61 to 39.*

Status: *Vetoed by the Governor.*

F = SB 24 (Sen. Matthew Rosendale, *R-Glendive*).

Would have allowed developers to file a gravel mine permit application with DEQ during the zoning process and pre-empt a local government's ability to create a residential zone. *See page 6.*

MEIC Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 2nd reading, passed 35-15.*
- *House: 2nd reading, passed 63 to 36.*

Status: *Vetoed by the Governor.*

G = SB 105 (Sen. Taylor Brown, *R-Huntley*).

Would have prevented local governments from adopting interim zoning if a complete application is filed for a state permit. *See page 5.*

MEIC Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 2nd reading, passed 27 to 23.*
- *House: 2nd reading, passed 63 to 37.*

Status: *Vetoed by the Governor.*

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Bill Descriptions and Vote Key

H = HJ 9 (Rep. Jonathan McNiven, *R-Huntley*).

Requires notice be given to Montana's Congressional delegation and other federal decision makers that Montana supports coal development, the building of coal export terminals, and the export of Montana coal to Asian markets. *See page 10.*

MEIC Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 2nd reading, passed 41 to 8*
- *House: Rep. Boland's amendment to recognize all forms of energy exports, failed 42 to 58.*

Status: *Resolution adopted.*

I = HB 359 (Rep. Steve Fitzpatrick, *R-Great Falls*).

Would have made it more difficult for a private property owner to get justice when someone contaminated their property with hazardous waste. *See page 7.*

MEIC Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 2nd reading, passed 28 to 21.*
- *House: 2nd reading, passed 59 to 39.*

Status: *Governor's amendments, which fixed most of the problems with the bill, accepted by the Legislature. Now law.*

J = SB 262 (Sen. John Brenden, *R-Scobey*).

Would have prohibited the Department of Environmental Quality from investigating citizen complaints by persons asking to remain anonymous. *See page 6.*

MEIC Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 3rd reading, passed 31 to 19.*

Status: *Tabled in House Natural Resources Committee.*

K = SB 295 (Sen. Christine Kaufmann, *D-Helena*).

Would have repealed the oil and gas production tax "holiday" and provided funding for communities impacted by oil and gas development. *See page 9.*

MEIC Position: *Support.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: Sen. Phillips' motion to take the bill from committee, failed 20-30.*

Status: *Tabled in the Senate Taxation Committee.*

L = HB 547 (Rep. Carl Glimm, *R-Kila*).

Would have placed the Office of Economic Development in charge of coordinating the permitting and environmental review of large projects. *See page 8.*

MEIC Position: *Oppose*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 2nd reading, failed 25 to 25.*

Status: *Failed 2nd reading in the Senate.*

M = HB 513 (Rep. Bill McChesney, *D-Miles City*).

Would have exempted all oversized loads from review under the Montana Environmental Policy Act. *See page 7.*

MEIC Position: *Oppose*

Votes used:

- *House: 3rd reading, passed 72 to 26.*

Status: *Senate Natural Resources Committee amendments fixed most of the problems with the bill. Passed as amended. Signed by the Governor. Now law.*

N = HB 515 (Rep. Bill Harris, *R-Winnett*).

Would have required parties seeking a court injunction or restraining order in connection with a Montana Environmental Policy Act review to disclose their financial supporters. *See page 6.*

MEIC Position: *Oppose*

Votes used:

- *House: 2nd reading, failed 43 to 57.*

Status: *Failed 2nd reading in the House.*

O = HB 553 (Rep. David Halvorson, *R-Sidney*).

Would have allowed a developer to operate a gravel pit prior to receiving a permit. *See page 6.*

MEIC Position: *Oppose*

Votes used:

- *House: 2nd reading, passed 62 to 38.*

Status: *Tabled in the Senate Natural Resources Committee.*

P = SB 347 (Sen. Chas Vincent, *R-Libby*).

Would have allowed mines to dewater streams without a nondegradation review or consideration of the impacts to aquatic life. *See page 4.*

MEIC Position: *Oppose*

Votes used:

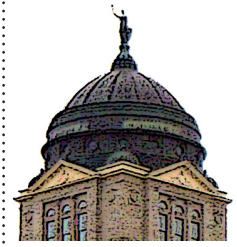
- *House: 2nd reading, passed 64 to 36.*

Status: *Vetoed by the Governor.*

To read the full text of any of the listed bills, or to see tallies of all the votes taken on them, you can access the legislature's LAWS page by going to: **<http://1.usa.gov/Pxz8A8>**.

To access more detailed information for Representative and Senators, including previous voting records, visit MEIC's Montana Legislators page by going to: **<http://bit.ly/14tnCRh>**

2013 Voting Record: Montana Senate



Senator	Town	Score	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
Arntzen, Elsie	Billings	0%	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arthun, Ron	Wilsall	25%	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+
Augare, Shannon	Browning	83%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+
Barrett, Debby	Dillon	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barrett, Dick	Missoula	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Blewett, Anders	Great Falls	92%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Boulanger, Scott	Darby	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brenden, John	Scobey	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown, Dee	Hungry Horse	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown, Taylor	Huntley	8%	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Buttrey, Edward	Great Falls	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Caferro, Mary	Helena	83%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+
Driscoll, Robyn	Billings	92%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Essmann, Jeff	Billings	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Facey, Tom	Missoula	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Fielder, Jennifer	Thompson Falls	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hamlett, Bradley	Cascade	42%	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	-
Jackson, Verdell	Kalispell	17%	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Jent, Larry	Bozeman	92%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jergeson, Greg	Chinook	83%	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+
Jones, Llew	Conrad	17%	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Kaufmann, Christine	Helena	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Keane, Jim	Butte	42%	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+
Larsen, Cliff	Missoula	83%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+
Lewis, Dave	Helena	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malek, Sue	Missoula	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Moore, Frederick	Miles City	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Murphy, Terry	Cardwell	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Olson, Alan	Roundup	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peterson, Jim	Buffalo	8%	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Phillips, Mike	Bozeman	90%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	E	E	+	+	+
Priest, Jason	Red Lodge	9%	-	-	+	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ripley, Rick	Wolf Creek	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rosendale, Matthew	Glendive	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Sales, Scott	Bozeman	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sesso, Jon	Butte	83%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+
Sonju, Jon	Kalispell	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stewart-Peregoy, Sharon	Crow Agency	92%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Taylor, Janna	Dayton	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Thomas, Fred	Stevensville	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tropila, Mitch	Great Falls	92%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Tutvedt, Bruce	Kalispell	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Van Dyk, Kendall	Billings	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Vincent, Chas	Libby	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vuckovich, Gene	Anaconda	67%	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Walker, Edward	Billings	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wanzenried, David	Missoula	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Webb, Roger	Billings	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Windy Boy, Jonathan	Box Elder	75%	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+
Wittich, Art	Bozeman	33%	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+