

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

**Call to Order:** Chair Dave Lewis, on January 27, 2011 at 5:00 P.M., in Room 317  
Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:** None

**Members Excused:**

- Sen. Dave Lewis, Chairman (R)
- Sen. Rick Ripley, Vice Chairman (R)
- Sen. Taylor Brown (R)
- Sen. Steven Gallus (D)
- Sen. Bob Hawks (D)
- Sen. Jim Keane (D)
- Sen. Jon Sonju (R)
- Sen. Edward Walker (R)
- Sen. David E. Wanzonried (D)
- Sen. Ryan Zinke (R)

**Members Absent:**

- Sen. Debby Barrett (R)
- Sen. John Brenden (R)
- Sen. Edward Buttrey (R)
- Sen. Mary Caferro (D)
- Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
- Sen. Llew Jones (R)
- Sen. Alan Olson (R)
- Sen. Jason Priest (R)
- Sen. Carol Williams (D)

**Staff Present:** Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary  
Taryn Purdy, Legislative Branch

**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: SB 57, 1/24/2011; SB 215, 1/24/2011

**HEARING ON SB 215**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:09 Sen. Steven Gallus (D), SD 37, opened the hearing on SB 215, Reduce state  
mark up on liquor based upon percent of Montana ingredients.  
00:01:11 Sen. Buttrey, Sen. Caferro, Sen. Hamlett, Sen. Sonju now present.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:02:38 John McKee  
[EXHIBIT\(fcs21a01\)](#)  
00:10:53 Sen. Barrett now present  
00:11:30 Robin Blazer, Willie's Distillery

**Opponents' Testimony:**

None.

**Informational Testimony:**

00:16:22 Shauna Helfert, Department of Revenue (DOR)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:17:14 Sen. Zinke  
00:17:34 Ms. Helfert, DOR  
00:19:00 Sen. Zinke  
00:20:00 Mr. McKee  
00:20:47 Sen. Zinke  
00:21:20 Mr. McKee  
00:22:39 Sen. Brown  
00:23:02 Mr. McKee  
00:23:04 Sen. Brown  
00:23:11 Mr. McKee  
00:23:34 Sen. Williams, Sen. Brenden now present  
00:24:02 Sen. Brown  
00:24:24 Mr. McKee  
00:25:36 Sen. Hawks  
00:26:43 Mr. McKee  
00:28:48 Sen. Hawks  
00:29:19 Mr. McKee

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:30:50 Sen. Gallus  
00:32:40 Chairman Lewis

00:33:13 Sen. Gallus  
00:33:33 Chairman Lewis

**Discussion of Process Issue SB 57:**

00:33:54 Sen. Wanzenried  
00:34:47 Chairman Lewis  
00:35:11 Sen. Wanzenried  
00:35:44 Chairman Lewis  
00:36:49 Sen. Vuckovich

**HEARING ON SB 57**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:37:17 Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D), SD 43, opened the hearing on SB 57, Enhance penalty for consumer protection violations.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:40:29 Ali Bovingdon, Department of Justice (DOJ)  
[EXHIBIT\(fcs21a02\)](#)  
00:44:22 Joy Bruck, State President, AARP Montana  
[EXHIBIT\(fcs21a03\)](#)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:45:44 Bruce Spencer, Montana Automobile Association  
[EXHIBIT\(fcs21a04\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:**

None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:48:49 Sen. Barrett  
00:49:13 Ms. Bovingdon  
00:49:30 Sen. Barrett  
00:49:40 Ms. Bovingdon  
00:50:21 Sen. Barrett  
00:50:39 Ms. Bovingdon

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:51:31 Sen. Vuckovich  
00:51:53 Chairman Lewis

**Discussion of Process Issue SB 57**

00:52:22 Sen. Keane  
00:52:30 Chairman Lewis  
00:53:02 Sen. Williams  
00:53:39 Chairman Lewis  
00:54:14 Sen. Williams  
00:54:22 Chairman Lewis

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 6:00 p.m.

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Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([fcs21aad.pdf](#))**