

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND LABOR

Call to Order: Chair Tom Berry, on March 6, 2015 at 8:30 A.M., in Room 172 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Tom Berry, Chair (R)
Rep. Daniel R. Salomon, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Ryan Lynch, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Christy Clark (R)
Rep. Willis Curdy (D)
Rep. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)
Rep. Chuck Hunter (D)
Rep. Mike Lang (R)
Rep. David (Doc) Moore (R)
Rep. Mark Noland (R)
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)
Rep. Vince Ricci (R)
Rep. Tom Richmond (R)
Rep. Scott Staffanson (R)
Rep. Tom Steenberg (D)

Members Excused: Rep. George G. Kipp III (D)
Rep. Gordon Pierson Jr (D)
Rep. Christopher Pope (D)
Rep. Jeffrey W. Welborn (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Karen Armstrong, Committee Secretary
Pat Murdo, 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 196, 2/24/2015; SB 241, 2/24/2015; SB 244, 2/24/2015

00:00:01 Chairman Berry

HEARING ON SB 241

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:22 Sen. Roger Webb (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 241, Provide statewide uniformity regarding wages/benefits for political subdivisions.

EXHIBIT(buh47a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:56 Brad Griffin, Montana Retail Association (MRA), Montana Restaurant Association (MTRA)

EXHIBIT(buh47a02)

00:04:59 Bruce Knudsen, Montana Auto Dealers Association

00:05:33 Ronna Alexander, Montana Convenience Stores Association

00:07:00 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business

00:07:37 Glenn Oppel, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)

00:08:15 Neil Peterson, Gaming Industry Association

00:08:29 Ronda Wiggers, Helena Area Chamber of Commerce

Opponents' Testimony:

00:09:07 Keith Allen, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 233 (IBEW)

00:10:34 Chris Cavazos, American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations of Montana (AFL-CIO)

00:11:31 Mark Cadwallader, Montana Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

00:13:11 Diane Fladmo, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:13:49 Rep. Moore

00:14:22 Brad Griffin, MRA, MTRA

00:14:56 Rep. Moore

00:15:10 Brad Griffin, MRA, MTRA

00:15:22 Rep. Moore

00:15:28 Brad Griffin, MRA, MTRA

00:16:13 Rep. Clark

00:16:26 Brad Griffin, MRA, MTRA

00:17:07 Rep. Olsen

00:18:39 Glenn Oppel, MCC

00:19:53 Rep. Olsen

00:20:13 Glenn Oppel, MCC

00:20:29 Rep. Lang

00:20:52 Mark Cadwallader, DLI

00:21:25 Rep. Lang

00:21:31 Mark Cadwallader, DLI

00:21:44 Rep. Lang

00:22:19 Mark Cadwallader, DLI

00:23:33 Rep. Hunter

00:24:27 Brad Griffin, MRA, MTRA
00:24:37 Rep. Curdy
00:25:42 Sen. Webb

Closing by Sponsor:

00:26:03 Sen. Webb

00:28:05 Chairman Berry
00:28:09 Pat Murdo, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
00:29:09 Sen. Webb
00:29:15 Rep. Welborn arrived.

HEARING ON SB 196

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:29:48 Sen. Mary Caferro (D), SD 41, opened the hearing on SB 196, Private sector veteran hiring preference protection.

EXHIBIT(buh47a03)

EXHIBIT(buh47a04)

00:30:10 Rep. Berry left the meeting. Vice Chair Salomon assumed the chair.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:31:52 Major General Matthew T. Quinn, Adjutant Genreal, Montana National Guard;
Director of Department of Military Affairs
00:33:09 Tim Gavin, Legislative Chair, American Legion
00:33:36 Mike Clouse, Adjutant, Disabled American Veterans (DAV)
00:34:08 Glenn Oppel, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)
00:34:59 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)
00:35:23 Chair Berry returned.
00:35:28 Ronda Wiggers, Helena Area Chamber of Commerce
00:36:04 Sen. Dee Brown

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:36:57 Rep. Staffanson
00:37:19 Sen. Caferro
00:39:35 Rep. Hunter
00:39:49 Sen. Caferro

Closing by Sponsor:

00:40:13 Sen. Caferro

00:41:18 Chairman Berry resumed as chair.
00:41:36 Sen. Caferro

HEARING ON SB 244**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:41:46 Sen. Dee Brown (R), SD 2, opened the hearing on SB 244, Establish a Montana trade center in Calgary.
00:43:22 Rep. Welborn left the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:45:29 Bob Sivertsen, Havre, Highway 2 Association
00:46:25 Rep. Fitzpatrick left the meeting.

EXHIBIT(buh47a05)

00:51:26 Aidan Myhre, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce, Columbia Falls Chamber of Commerce, Kalispell Regional Medical Center
00:53:43 Ronda Wiggers, Helena Area Chamber of Commerce

Opponents' Testimony:

00:54:54 Steve Wahrlich, President, Tourism Business Improvement District, Billings; Billings Chamber of Commerce
00:58:22 Matt Sease, President, Bozeman Belgrade Lodging Association; Treasurer, Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association (MHLA); Board member, Voices of Montana Tourism
01:02:52 Racene Friede, Executive Director, Glacier Country Regional Tourism Commission
01:06:32 Stuart Doggett, Executive Director, Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association
01:11:20 Drew Geiger, Montana Car Rental Association

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:11:51 Rep. Ricci
01:12:11 Sen. Brown
01:12:56 Chairman Berry
01:13:15 Sen. Brown
01:14:09 Rep. Clark
01:14:25 Sen. Brown

EXHIBIT(buh47a06)

01:18:12 Rep. Clark
01:19:02 Matt Sease, MHLA

Closing by Sponsor:

01:20:04 Sen. Brown

EXHIBIT(buh47a07)

01:25:05 Chairman Berry

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 01:25:49

Karen Armstrong, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([buh47aad.pdf](#))