

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND LABOR

Call to Order: Chair Tom Berry, on March 25, 2015 at 8:30 A.M., in Room 172 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Tom Berry, Chair (R)
Rep. Ryan Lynch, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Daniel R. Salomon, Vice Chair (R)
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. Gordon Pierson Jr (D)
Rep. Christopher Pope (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. Andrea Olsen (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 123, 3/13/2015; SB 234, 3/19/2015; SB 347, 3/13/2015;
SB 379, 3/19/2015
Executive Action: HB 608, HB 619, SB 270

00:00:01 Chairman Berry

HEARING ON SB 234

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:39 Sen. Fred Thomas (R), SD 44, opened the hearing on SB 234, Revise tax and fees for professional liability insurance.

[EXHIBIT\(buh62a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:11:51 Brad Dantic, Vice President and General Counsel, ALPS Property and Casualty Insurance Company
00:15:31 Jesse Laslovich, State Auditor's Office
00:16:05 Rep. Welborn arrived.
00:19:14 Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)
00:20:16 Bruce Spencer, State Bar of Montana

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:22:38 Sen. Thomas

00:23:20 Chairman Berry

HEARING ON SB 347

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:23:35 Sen. Tom Facey (D), SD 50, opened the hearing on SB 347, Revising worker compensation coverage options for emergency medical units.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:25:47 Nancy Butler, Montana State Fund (MSF)
00:26:35 Bob Worthington, Montana Self Insurers Association (MSIA)
00:27:05 Jacqueline Lenmark, American Insurance Association (AIA)
00:27:33 Mark Cadwallader, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:28:07 Rep. Hunter

00:28:36 Bob Worthington, MSIA

Closing by Sponsor:

00:29:06 Sen. Facey

HEARING ON SB 379

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:30:10 Sen. Gordon Vance (R), SD 34, opened the hearing on SB 379, Revise Workers Compensation Laws Related To Administrative Expenses.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:30:52 Nancy Butler, Montana State Fund (MSF)

00:32:11 Jacqueline Lenmark, American Insurance Association (AIA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:33:00 Jesse Laslovich, State Auditor's Office (SAO)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:33:37 Rep. Pope

00:34:05 Nancy Butler, MSF

Closing by Sponsor:

00:35:13 Sen. Vance

00:36:12 Chairman Berry

00:36:48 Recessed.

00:38:58 Reconvened.

HEARING ON SB 123

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:39:04 Sen. Bruce Tutvedt (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB 123, Revising the regulatory authority over the Montana state fund.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:54:40 Nancy Butler, Montana State Fund (MSF)

EXHIBIT(buh62a02)

01:02:26 Jesse Laslovich, State Auditor's Office (SAO)

01:13:39 Bob Biskupiak, Independent Insurance Agents Association of Montana.(IIAAM)

01:15:08 Bruce Spencer, Property Casualty Insurers Association of America (PCIAA)

01:17:31 Bob Worthington, Montana Self Insurers Association (MSIA)

01:17:58 Rep. Olsen arrived.

01:19:13 David Schulz, President, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

01:20:05 Spook Stang, Motor Carriers of Montana (MCA)

01:20:43 Jacqueline Lenmark, American Insurance Association (AIA)

01:23:48 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)
01:24:33 Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:26:12 Rep. Lang
01:26:39 Nancy Butler, MSF
01:27:04 Rep. Lang
01:27:27 Nancy Butler, MSF
01:28:24 Rep. Lang
01:28:54 Sen. Tutvedt
01:29:04 Pat Murdo, Legislative Services Division, LSD
01:29:21 Rep. Staffanson
01:29:41 Sen. Tutvedt
01:30:03 Pat Murdo, LSD
01:30:42 Rep. Staffanson
01:31:07 Sen. Tutvedt

Closing by Sponsor:

01:31:49 Sen. Tutvedt

01:34:09 Chairman Berry

01:34:37 Recessed.
01:51:59 Reconvened with Rep. Fitzpatrick absent.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 608

01:52:08 **Motion:** Rep. Salomon moved that **HB 608 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:52:30 Rep. Clark
01:52:44 Rep. Curdy

01:52:56 **Motion:** Rep. Salomon moved that **HB 608 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(buh62a03)

Discussion:

01:53:30 Pat Murdo, LSD
01:54:21 Rep. Pope
01:55:09 Rep. Hunter

01:55:27 **Vote:** Motion carried 18-1 by voice vote with Rep. Lang voting no.

01:55:38 **Motion:** Rep. Salomon moved that **HB 608 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:55:51 Rep. Olsen
01:56:22 Rep. Clark
01:56:27 Rep. Staffanson
01:56:46 Rep. Lang
01:57:20 Rep. Pope
01:58:57 Rep. Olsen
02:00:19 Rep. Welborn

02:00:23 **Vote:** Motion failed 9-10 by roll call vote with Rep. Curdy, Rep. Hunter, Rep. Kipp, Rep. Lynch, Rep. Olsen, Rep. Pierson, Rep. Pope, Rep. Richmond and Rep. Steenberg voting aye. Rep. Fitzpatrick voted by proxy.

02:01:14 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Salomon moved that **HB 680 BE TABLED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote of those present.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 619

02:01:25 **Motion:** Rep. Salomon moved that **HB 619 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

02:02:01 Rep. Pope
02:02:43 Rep. Olsen
02:03:05 Chairman Berry

02:03:29 **Vote:** Motion failed 9-10 by roll call vote with Rep. Curdy, Rep. Hunter, Rep. Kipp, Rep. Lynch, Rep. Olsen, Rep. Pierson, Rep. Pope, Rep. Staffanson and Rep. Steenberg voting aye. Rep. Fitzpatrick voted by proxy.

02:04:24 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Salomon moved that **HB 619 BE TABLED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote of those present.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 270

02:04:34 **Motion:** Rep. Salomon moved that **SB 270 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

02:04:43 Rep. Hunter
02:05:38 Rep. Clark
02:06:06 Rep. Lynch
02:06:25 Rep. Staffanson

02:06:53 Rep. Curdy

02:07:31 **Vote:** Motion carried 10-9 by roll call vote with Rep. Curdy, Rep. Hunter, Rep. Kipp, Rep. Lynch, Rep. Olsen, Rep. Pierson, Rep. Pope, Rep. Steenberg and Rep. Welborn voting no. Rep. Fitzpatrick voted by proxy. Rep. Staffanson will carry the bill.

02:08:57 Chairman Berry

02:09:49 Pat Murdo, LSD

02:10:18 Chairman Berry

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 02:10:33

Karen Armstrong, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([buh62aad.pdf](#))