

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

**Call to Order:** Chair Edward Buttrey, on February 5, 2015 at 8:00 AM, in Room 422 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Edward Buttrey, Chair (R)  
Sen. Elsie Arntzen, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Dee Brown (R)  
Sen. Pat Connell (R)  
Sen. Tom Facey (D)  
Sen. Cary Smith (R) (entered after roll call)  
Sen. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D)  
Sen. Gordon Vance (R)  
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)  
Sen. Lea Whitford (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Linda Keim, Committee Secretary  
Jameson Walker, 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 192, 1/27/2015; SB 257, 2/3/2015; SB 193, 1/27/2015; SB 241, 1/27/2015

**HEARING ON SB 192**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:37 Sen. Robyn Driscoll (D), SD 25, opened the hearing on SB 192. Amend insurance freedom of choice for practitioners.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:04:34 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Speech-Language Hearing Association (MSLHA)  
**EXHIBIT(bus26a01)**

00:06:56 Douglas Rehder, doctor of audiology, Rehder Balance and Hearing Clinic, Billings

00:08:12 Hillary Carter, doctor of audiology, Comprehensive Hearing Services, Helena

00:09:10 Rachel Stansberry, speech language pathologist; also Montana Speech-Language Hearing Association (MSLHA)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:10:43 Jesse Laslovich, Office of the Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, Montana State Auditor (CSI)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:10:52 Sen. Facey

00:11:36 Ms. Stansberry, MSLHA

00:11:51 Chairman Buttrey

00:11:55 Ms. St. Lawrence, MSLHA

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:12:29 Sen. Driscoll

00:13:52 Chairman Buttrey

00:14:10 Recess

00:15:36 Reconvened

00:15:46 Chairman Buttrey

**HEARING ON SB 257**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:15:56 Sen. Brian Hoven (R), SD 13, opened the hearing on SB 257. Clarifying farm implement and construction equipment dealers' rights re property transfers.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:26:59 Sen. Gordon Vance, SD 34, testifying as a private citizen  
00:29:15 Brad Griffin, managing director, Montana Equipment Dealers Association  
(MEDA)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:31:25 Chad Fossey, John Deere (JD)  
[EXHIBIT\(bus26a02\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:35:32 Sen. Brown  
00:37:23 Mr. Fossey (JD)  
00:37:31 Chairman Buttrey  
00:37:57 Sen. Hoven  
00:39:30 Chairman Buttrey  
[EXHIBIT\(bus26a03\)](#)

00:39:53 Chairman Buttrey  
00:40:13 Mr. Fossey  
00:40:20 Sen. Connell  
00:41:14 Sen. Hoven  
00:41:33 Chairman Buttrey  
00:41:37 Sen. Connell  
00:41:41 Sen. Facey  
00:42:34 Mr. Griffin (MEDA)

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:43:09 Sen. Hoven  
00:44:43 Chairman Buttrey  
00:44:49 Sen. Hoven  
  
00:45:00 Recess  
00:48:00 Reconvene  
  
00:48:33 Chairman Buttrey

**HEARING ON SB 193**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:49:00 Sen. Bruce Tutvedt (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB 193. Revise agency liquor store laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:51:04 Charles Brown, Liquor Store Owners Association of Montana (LSOAM)  
 00:54:06 Joel Silverman, attorney, Liquor Store Owners Association of Montana (LSOAM)  
 00:59:08 Chairman Buttrey

**EXHIBIT(bus26a04)**

00:59:31 Jennifer Hensley, Montana Distillers Guild  
 01:00:17 Douglas Kirby, owner, liquor store #196, Billings  
 01:00:29 Alan Ruby, owner, liquor store #62, Hungry Horse Liquor Store  
 01:01:24 Leta McGann, owner, liquor store #27, Red Lodge; secretary, Liquor Store  
 Owners Association of Montana (LSOAM)  
 01:03:05 Dan Moerkerke, owner, liquor store #18, Hamilton  
 01:03:32 Janet Prescott, owner, tavern and package store, Livingston; secretary, Montana  
 Tavern Association (MTA)  
 01:05:53 Mike Soule, owner, liquor store #76, Belgrade  
 01:06:28 Dan Felska, owner, liquor store #29, Shelby; liquor owner, store #33, Conrad;  
 also owns Gran Tree Inn liquor license, Bozeman  
 01:07:21 Greg Phillips, owner, liquor store #67, Kalispell  
 01:07:51 Kriss Miller, owner, liquor store # 171, Missoula

**EXHIBIT(bus26a05)**

01:08:27 Jacque Thomas, owner, liquor store #170, Missoula  
 01:08:42 Mark Halderson, owner, liquor store #172, Victor  
 01:08:58 Chad Ouellette, owner, Big Sky Liquor, store #190; vice president, Liquor Store  
 Owners Association of Montana (LSOAM)  
 01:09:28 Tracy Prescott, president, Liquor Store Owners Association of Montana  
 (LSOAM); owner, MT Glass, liquor store #1 Helena

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:10:17 Josh Paffhausen, liquor store #192, Lolo  
 01:17:55 William McCarthy, lawyer, Missoula

**EXHIBIT(bus26a06)**

01:29:31 Bill Thatcher, owner, liquor store #116, Butte  
 01:32:03 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)  
 01:33:48 Neil Peterson, Gaming Industry Association (GIA)

**Informational Testimony:**

01:34:11 Shauna Helfert, liquor store administrator, Department of Revenue (DOR)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:34:42 Sen. Facey  
 01:36:59 Ms. Helfert, DOR  
 01:37:09 Sen. Vance  
 01:37:24 Ms. Helfert

01:37:41 Sen. Facey  
01:37:52 Ms. Helfert

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:38:01 Sen. Tutvedt  
01:39:30 Chairman Buttrey  
01:40:11 Recess  
01:47:10 Reconvene

**HEARING ON SB 241**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:47:23 Sen. Roger Webb (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 241. Provide statewide uniformity regarding wages/benefits for political subdivisions.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:48:35 Brad Griffin, Montana Retail Association, Montana Restaurant Association, Montana Chamber of Commerce

**EXHIBIT(bus26a07)**

01:50:26 Sarah Swanson Partridge, citizen  
01:52:34 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)  
01:53:01 Neil Peterson, Gaming Industry Association (GIA)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:53:40 Keith Allen, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), #233  
01:55:23 David Nielsen, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)  
01:57:49 Mark Cadwallader, attorney, Montana Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)  
01:59:53 Chris Cavazos, American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)  
02:00:59 John MacDonald, City of Missoula (CM)  
02:02:14 Erik Burke, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT)  
02:03:12 John Forkan, Montana State Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters (MSAPP)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:04:39 Sen. Connell  
02:05:30 Sen. Webb (redirect)  
02:05:50 Sen. Connell  
02:06:20 Mr. MacDonald, CM (redirect)  
02:07:02 Sen. Connell

02:09:04 Mr. Nielsen, MLCT  
02:09:30 Sen. Connell  
02:09:34 Jameson Walker, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
02:10:34 Sen. Whitford  
02:11:06 Sen. Webb  
02:11:12 Sen. Facey  
02:11:30 Mr. Cadwallader, DLI  
02:12:39 Sen. Stewart-Peregoy  
02:13:36 Mr. Cadwallader  
02:14:00 Sen. Stewart-Peregoy  
02:14:07 Mr. Walker, LSD  
02:14:36 Sen. Arntzen  
02:15:07 Sen. Webb  
02:15:46 Sen. Arntzen  
02:16:04 Mr. Burke, MEA-MFT

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:16:45 Sen. Webb

**Committee Business:**

02:18:01 Chairman Buttrey  
02:18:22 Sen. Connell  
02:18:47 Chairman Buttrey

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 10:20 AM

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Linda Keim, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([bus26aad.pdf](#))**