

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY

**Call to Order:** Chair Fred Thomas, on March 20, 2015 at 2:00 PM, in Room 303 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Fred Thomas, Chair (R)  
Sen. David Howard, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Mary Caferro (D)  
Sen. Diane Sands (D)  
Sen. Cary Smith (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Nels Swandal (R)  
Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Barbara Pietuch, Committee Secretary  
Alexis Sandru, 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 405, 3/17/2015

00:00:00 Chairman Thomas  
00:02:13 Sen. Caferro  
00:02:45 Chairman Thomas

**HEARING ON SB 405**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:03:05 Sen. Edward Buttrey (R), SD 11, opened the hearing on SB 405, Establish the Montana Health and Economic Livelihood Partnership Act.

**[EXHIBIT\(phs58a01\)](#)**

00:17:03 Chairman Thomas

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:17:53 Tara Veazey, health policy advisor, Governor's Office (GOV)

00:21:33 Pam Bucy, commissioner, Department of Labor and Industry

00:24:12 Monica Lindeen, commissioner, state auditor, Office of the Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

00:26:16 John Goodnow, chief executive officer, Benefis Healthcare Services (BHS)

**[EXHIBIT\(phs58a02\)](#)**

00:28:49 Louie King, chief executive officer, Teton Medical Center (TMC)

00:32:53 Mark Semmens, managing director, D.A. Davison, Great Falls (DAD)

00:36:40 James Whittle, M.D., cardiologist, Benefis Healthcare Services

00:38:50 Max Naethe, representing himself

**[EXHIBIT\(phs58a03\)](#)**

00:44:06 Jim Higgins, Montana National Guard Association (MTNGA)

00:49:57 Aart Dolman, Board of Directors, Great Falls YWCA

**[EXHIBIT\(phs58a04\)](#)**

00:53:20 Vicky Byrd, R.N., executive director, Montana Nurses Association

**[EXHIBIT\(phs58a05\)](#)**

00:55:16 Joseph Chopyak, physician assistant, Northwest Community Health Center

**[EXHIBIT\(phs58a06\)](#)**

00:57:59 Rhonda Whiting, chairman, Western Native Voice

00:58:49 Anna Whiting Sorrell, representing Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)

**[EXHIBIT\(phs58a07\)](#)**

01:02:30 Kathleen Madison, clinic director, Community Health Partners, Bozeman (CHP)

01:05:28 Ryan Milne-Price, medical student, representing herself

**[EXHIBIT\(phs58a08\)](#)**

01:07:53 Liesl Pessl, nurse practitioner, Community Health Partners, Bozeman

01:11:15 John Esp, Montana Association of Counties

01:11:51 Quintin Schrader, NAMI Montana  
01:15:00 Bill Gallea, MD, vice president, Montana Medical Association

[EXHIBIT\(phs58a09\)](#)

01:15:42 Tess Augustine, M.D., Montana Medical Association  
01:18:17 Heather O'Hara, R.N., vice president of nursing, St. Peter's Hospital  
01:20:20 Jan Cahill, Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce, Great Falls Development Authority  
01:21:36 Mariah Hall, representing herself  
01:23:12 Matt Elsaesser, city commissioner, City of Helena  
01:24:09 Gary Mermel, retired anesthesiologist, representing himself

[EXHIBIT\(phs58a10\)](#)

01:25:20 Bob Olsen, vice president, Montana Hospital Association

[EXHIBIT\(phs58a11\)](#)

01:26:32 Mona Jamison, Shodair Children's Hospital, Boyd Andrew Community Services, Montana Addiction Service Providers  
01:26:54 Aimee Grmoljez, Billings Clinic

[EXHIBIT\(phs58a12\)](#)

01:27:52 Amanda Cahill, American Heart Association Montana/American Stroke Association

[EXHIBIT\(phs58a13\)](#)

01:28:48 Bill Warren, Bozeman Deaconess Hospital  
01:28:56 Mike Foster, Catholic Hospitals of Montana  
01:29:22 Erin McGowan, representing the Association of Montana Public Health Officers, Montana Public Health Association, Legacy Provider Group, Montana Children's Initiative  
01:30:22 Jim Edwards, Montana Business Health Network (MBHN)

[EXHIBIT\(phs58a14\)](#)

01:32:15 Lisa Ernst, representing herself  
01:33:08 Lorianne Burhop, chief policy officer, Montana Food Bank Network

[EXHIBIT\(phs58a15\)](#)

01:33:31 Claudia Clifford, advocacy director, AARP Montana

[EXHIBIT\(phs58a16\)](#)

01:33:49 Minkie Madora, registered dietitian, Montana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

[EXHIBIT\(phs58a17\)](#)

01:34:04 Richard Miltenberger, insurance consultant

[EXHIBIT\(phs58a18\)](#)

01:35:04 Melissa Smylie, college student, representing herself

[EXHIBIT\(phs58a19\)](#)

01:35:31 Amanda Harrow, policy analyst, Montana Primary Care Association  
 01:35:53 Aidan Myhre, Kalispell Regional Medical Center  
 01:36:09 Kristin Page-Nei, Montana government relations director, American Cancer Society/Cancer Action Network

**EXHIBIT(phs58a20)**

01:36:32 Kim Abbott, outreach and engagement director, Montana Human Rights Network  
 01:36:41 Chris Cavazos, political director, Montana AFL- CIO  
 01:36:53 Bayleigh Naethe, representing herself  
 01:37:01 Lesa Evers, Turtle Band of Chippewa Tribe, Blackfoot descendant  
 01:37:27 Sheena Rice, Montana Organizing Project  
 01:37:44 Sarah Howell, Montana Women Vote  
 01:37:57 Ed Bartlett, representing the City of Billings, Billings Chamber of Commerce, Bozeman Chamber of Commerce

**EXHIBIT(phs58a21)**

01:38:13 Webb Brown, president, Montana Chamber of Commerce  
 01:38:21 Michael Black, Granite County Medical Center  
 01:38:39 Heather O'Loughlin, co-director, Research and Development, Montana Budget and Policy Center  
 01:38:54 Jen Gross, Planned Parenthood of Montana  
 01:39:10 Robin Turner, public policy and legal director, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence  
 01:39:27 Alicia Smith, NAMI Montana  
 01:39:46 Terry Minow, political director, MEA-MFT  
 01:39:57 Jacquie Helt, Montana state director, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Healthcare 775NW

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:40:43 Thomas Tuck, representing himself, Gallatin County  
 01:45:06 Terry Bannan, representing himself, Gallatin County  
 01:50:18 Robert Kolar, representing himself  
 01:52:40 Al Smith, executive director, Montana Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA)  
 01:58:27 Paul Landsgaard, representing himself

**Informational Testimony:**

01:59:16 Mary Dalton, state medicaid director, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:59:46 Sen. Smith  
 02:00:21 Sen. Buttrey  
 02:00:42 Sen. Smith  
 02:01:03 Sen. Buttrey  
 02:01:19 Sen. Smith  
 02:01:37 Sen. Buttrey  
 02:02:00 Sen. Smith

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02:02:27 Sen. Buttrey  
02:02:39 Sen. Caferro  
02:02:59 Mr. Goodnow, BHS  
02:04:14 Sen. Caferro  
02:04:58 Mr. Goodnow  
02:05:38 Sen. Caferro  
02:06:04 Mr. Goodnow  
02:06:49 Sen. Caferro  
02:07:48 Mr. Semmens, DAD  
02:11:33 Sen. Caferro  
02:12:09 Mr. Neathe, self  
02:13:10 Sen. Caferro  
02:13:56 Sen. Buttrey  
02:15:05 Sen. Caferro  
02:15:14 Sen. Buttrey  
02:15:31 Sen. Caferro  
02:15:59 Sen. Buttrey  
02:17:22 Sen. Sands  
02:17:59 Ms. Whiting Sorel, CSKT  
02:20:37 Sen. Sands  
02:21:02 Ms. Whiting Sorel  
02:22:23 Sen. Sands  
02:22:51 Mr. Mermel, self  
02:25:20 Sen. Sands  
02:26:13 Ms. Madison, CHP  
02:27:02 Sen. Sands  
02:27:12 Chairman Thomas  
02:27:40 Mr. Goodnow  
02:27:54 Chairman Thomas  
02:28:02 Mr. Goodnow  
02:28:08 Chairman Thomas  
02:28:17 Mr. Goodnow  
02:28:30 Chairman Thomas  
02:28:51 Mr. Goodnow  
02:29:04 Chairman Thomas  
02:29:40 Mr. Goodnow  
02:29:52 Chairman Thomas  
02:30:47 Mr. King, TMC  
02:31:01 Chairman Thomas  
02:31:21 Mr. King  
02:31:30 Chairman Thomas  
02:32:17 Mr. King  
02:32:35 Chairman Thomas  
02:33:49 Mr. Higgins, MTNGA  
02:34:47 Chairman Thomas  
02:34:54 Mr. Higgins  
02:35:31 Chairman Thomas  
02:35:42 Mr. Higgins  
02:35:59 Chairman Thomas  
02:36:25 Mr. Higgins

02:36:45 Chairman Thomas  
 02:37:19 Sen. Buttrey  
 02:39:17 Chairman Thomas  
 02:40:18 Sen. Buttrey  
 02:40:31 Chairman Thomas  
 02:40:58 Sen. Buttrey  
 02:42:42 Chairman Thomas  
 02:44:15 Mr. Goodnow  
 02:47:22 Chairman Thomas  
 02:47:40 Mr. Goodnow  
 02:47:47 Chairman Thomas  
 02:48:03 Mr. Goodnow  
 02:49:40 Chairman Thomas  
 02:49:45 Sen. Smith  
 02:50:44 Mr. Goodnow  
 02:52:43 Sen. Smith  
 02:54:03 Mr. Smith, MTLA  
 02:55:56 Sen. Smith  
 02:56:05 Mr. Smith  
 02:56:45 Sen. Smith  
 02:56:58 Mr. Smith  
 02:58:09 Sen. Smith  
 02:58:28 Sen. Caferro  
 02:59:05 Mr. Edwards, MBHN  
 03:01:30 Sen. Caferro  
 03:01:41 Chairman Thomas  
 03:02:09 Ms. Veazey, GOV  
 03:03:04 Chairman Thomas  
 03:03:41 Ms. Veazey  
 03:05:34 Chairman Thomas  
 03:06:40 Ms. Veazey  
 03:08:06 Chairman Thomas  
 03:09:06 Ms. Veazey  
 03:10:34 Chairman Thomas  
 03:10:51 Ms. Veazey  
 03:11:09 Chairman Thomas

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:11:29 Sen. Buttrey

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 5:21 PM

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Barbara Pietuch, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([phs58aad.pdf](#))**