

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND LABOR

Call to Order: Chair Mark Noland, on March 15, 2019 at 8:30 AM, in Room 172 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Mark Noland, Chair (R)
Rep. Vince Ricci, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Fred Anderson (R)
Rep. Willis Curdy (D)
Rep. Neil Duram (R)
Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald (R)
Rep. Moffie Funk (D)
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)
Rep. Derek J. Harvey (D)
Rep. Joel G. Krautter (R)
Rep. Denley M. Loge (R)
Rep. Christopher Pope (D)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)

Members Excused:

Rep. Edward Buttrey (R)
Rep. Bruce Grubbs (R)
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)
Rep. Gordon Pierson Jr (D)
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Joanne Kauzlarich, 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 126, 2/28/2019; SB 160, 2/28/2019; SB 171, 3/11/2019; SB 295, 2/28/2019

08:31:23 Chair Noland
08:33:07 Rep. Vinton

HEARING ON SB 160

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

08:34:27 Sen. Nate McConnell (D), SD 48, opened the hearing on SB 160, Provide workers' compensation for presumptive diseases of firefighters.

08:34:35 Vice Chair Ricci left the meeting.
08:36:47 Rep. Grubbs joined the meeting.
08:39:02 Rep. Olsen joined the meeting.
08:46:33 Rep. Buttrey joined the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

08:47:36 Dave Maslowski, Montana State Firemens Association (MSFA)
[EXHIBIT\(buh53a01\)](#)

08:52:09 Joel Gaertig, Montana State Firemens Association (MSFA)
[EXHIBIT\(buh53a02\)](#)

08:56:34 Rob Shoplock, Professional Fire Fighters of Idaho (PFFI)
09:01:44 David Van Son, Montana State Council of Professional Fire Fighters (MSCOPFF)
09:05:36 Rich Cowger, Montana State Fire Chief Association (MSFCA)
09:07:30 Allen Ekblad, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)
09:07:51 Rep. Schreiner, HD 26
09:10:39 Amanda Curtis, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

Opponents' Testimony:

09:11:19 Brian Thompson, Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority (MMIA)
[EXHIBIT\(buh53a03\)](#)

09:16:49 Larry Jones, Montana Self-Insurers Association (MSIA)
09:18:34 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
09:22:27 Cary Hegreberg, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)

Informational Testimony:

09:27:57 Laura Williamson, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPPHS)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:28:46 Rep. Gunderson
09:29:53 Cary Hegreberg, MCC
09:30:22 Brian Thompson, MMIA
09:30:41 Rep. Gunderson
09:30:43 Brian Thompson, MMIA
09:31:07 Rep. Gunderson
09:31:33 Joel Gaertig, MSFA

09:31:46 Rep. Vinton
09:32:21 Larry Jones, MSIA
09:33:52 Rep. Vinton
09:34:03 Larry Jones, MSIA
09:34:11 Rep. Funk
09:34:39 Rob Shoplock, PFFI
09:35:21 Rep. Grubbs
09:36:16 Brian Reed, Montana State Firemens Association (MSFS)
09:36:36 Rep. Grubbs
09:36:48 Brian Reed, MSFS
09:37:17 Rep. Olsen
09:37:43 Vice Chair Ricci rejoined the meeting.
09:38:45 Eric Bryson, MACo
09:40:51 Rep. Pope
09:41:50 Cary Hegreberg, MCC
09:42:06 Rep. Harvey
09:42:56 Rob Shoplock, PFFI
09:45:03 Rep. Harvey
09:45:15 Rob Shoplock, PFFI
09:45:21 Rep. Vinton
09:45:50 Laura Williamson, DPHHS
09:49:08 Rep. Gunderson
09:49:55 Sen. McConnell
09:50:43 Rep. Gunderson
09:51:07 Sen. McConnell
09:52:02 Rep. Gunderson
09:52:35 Sen. McConnell
09:53:39 Rep. Fitzgerald
09:54:10 Sen. McConnell
09:54:29 Rob Shoplock, PFFI
09:54:59 Rep. Fitzgerald
09:55:18 Rob Shoplock, PFFI
09:55:22 Rep. Fitzgerald
09:55:47 Rob Shoplock, PFFI
09:56:27 Rep. Grubbs
09:57:07 Sen. McConnell
09:57:54 Rep. Pierson joined the meeting.
09:59:39 Rep. Duram
10:00:07 Sen. McConnell
10:00:33 Rep. Duram
10:00:49 Sen. McConnell
10:01:18 Rep. Duram
10:01:46 Sen. McConnell
10:02:18 Rob Shoplock, PFFI
10:03:40 Rep. Duram
10:04:00 Chair Noland
10:05:16 Sen. McConnell
10:06:37 Chair Noland
10:07:20 Sen. McConnell
10:09:58 Chair Noland

10:10:14 Sen. McConnell
10:11:30 Chair Noland
10:11:45 Rob Shoplock, PFFI
10:11:55 Chair Noland
10:12:08 Rob Shoplock, PFFI
10:12:43 Chair Noland
10:13:01 Rob Shoplock, PFFI
10:13:22 Chair Noland
10:13:35 Rep. Duram
10:13:58 Sen. McConnell

Closing by Sponsor:

10:14:35 Sen. McConnell

HEARING ON SB 295

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

10:17:00 Sen. Tom Richmond (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 295, Generally revise public employee death benefits.

Proponents' Testimony:

10:20:55 Keni Grose, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)
10:23:00 Amanda Curtis, Montana Public Federation of Employees (MFPE)
10:23:47 Gretchen Rooney, Self

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

10:25:22 Anjette Schafer, Department of Administration (DOA)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

10:26:04 Sen. Richmond

HEARING ON SB 126

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

10:34:30 Sen. Fred Thomas (R), SD 44, opened the hearing on SB 126, Revise workers' comp solvency guidelines for self-insured public entities.

Proponents' Testimony:

10:40:55 Shannon Shanholtzer, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
10:43:02 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponents' Testimony:

10:49:58 Bill Wheeler, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)
11:03:33 Al Smith, Labor Management Advisory Council (LMAC)
11:05:17 Lance Zanto, Labor Management Advisory Council (LMAC)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

11:06:24 Vice Chair Ricci
11:06:40 Eric Bryson, MACo
11:07:00 Vice Chair Ricci
11:07:05 Eric Bryson, MACo
11:07:46 Vice Chair Ricci
11:07:50 Eric Bryson, MACo
11:08:24 Rep. Harvey
11:08:47 Eric Bryson, MACo

EXHIBIT(buh53a04)

11:10:37 Rep. Pope
11:11:12 Eric Bryson, MACo
11:11:27 Rep. Pope
11:11:33 Eric Bryson, MACo
11:12:08 Rep. Pope
11:12:36 Eric Bryson, MACo
11:14:14 Rep. Pope
11:14:39 Eric Bryson, MACo
11:15:18 Rep. Pope
11:15:26 Eric Bryson, MACo
11:15:36 Rep. Duram
11:16:22 Eric Bryson, MACo
11:16:43 Rep. Duram
11:17:00 Eric Bryson, MACo
11:17:19 Shannon Shanholtzer, MACo
11:17:59 Vice Chair Ricci
11:18:12 Sen. Thomas
11:19:03 Rep. Curdy
11:19:46 Bill Wheeler, DLI
11:19:58 Rep. Curdy
11:20:02 Bill Wheeler, DLI
11:20:10 Rep. Curdy
11:20:14 Bill Wheeler, DLI
11:20:23 Rep. Curdy
11:20:36 Bill Wheeler, DLI
11:20:57 Rep. Harvey
11:21:36 Bill Wheeler, DLI

Closing by Sponsor:

11:23:05 Sen. Thomas

HEARING ON SB 171

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

11:26:39 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 171, Generally revise laws related to firefighters.

Proponents' Testimony:

11:31:48 Joel Gaertig, Montana State Firemens Association (MSFA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

11:33:06 Rep. Gunderson
11:33:41 Sen. Fitzpatrick
11:34:40 Rep, Gunderson
11:35:04 Rep. Curdy
11:36:03 Joel Gaertig, MSFA
11:36:57 Rep. Curdy
11:37:06 Sen. Fitzpatrick
11:37:58 Rep. Olsen
11:38:25 Sen. Fitzpatrick
11:39:12 Rep. Olsen
11:40:23 Sen. Fitzpatrick
11:40:55 Rep. Olsen
11:41:53 Sen. Fitzpatrick
11:42:40 Rep. Olsen
11:43:02 Sen. Fitzpatrick
11:43:12 Rep. Olsen
11:43:23 Sen. Fitzpatrick
11:43:29 Rep. Duram
11:43:50 Sen. Fitzpatrick
11:44:16 Rep. Duram
11:44:32 Sen. Fitzpatrick

Closing by Sponsor:

11:44:56 Sen. Fitzpatrick

Committee Business:

11:45:16 Chair Noland

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:46:20

Joanne Kauzlarich, Secretary

jk

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([buh53aad.pdf](#))