

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Call to Order: Chair Steve Fitzpatrick, on March 12, 2019 at 8:30 AM, in Room 422
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick, Chair (R)
Sen. Dee Brown, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Sue Malek, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Carlie Boland (D)
Sen. Jason W. Ellsworth (R)
Sen. Terry Gauthier (R)
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)
Sen. Frank Smith (D)
Sen. Gordon Vance (R)
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jacelyn Stewart, 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: HB 370, 2/28/2019; HB 373, 2/28/2019; SR 32, 2/28/2019; SR 36,
2/28/2019

Executive Action: HB 85 - Be Concurred In
HB 320 - Be Concurred In
HB 368 - Be Concurred In
SR 33 - Be Adopted
SR 37 - Be Adopted

HEARING ON HB 370

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

08:31:31 Rep. Becky Beard (R), HD 80, opened the hearing on HB 370, Generally revise notary laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

08:34:23 William Gowen, Montana Land Title Association (MLTA)
[EXHIBIT\(bus50a01\)](#)

08:36:57 Ken Fichtler, chief business development officer, Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOV)

08:39:09 Anthony Hnat, director of operations, Figure Technologies Incorporated

08:41:30 Karen Smith, Montana's Credit Unions

08:42:35 Jason Rittal, deputy director, Montana Association of Clerk and Recorders

08:43:08 Steve Turkiewicz, Montana Bankers Association

08:43:32 Liz Facemire, Quicken Loans

08:44:57 Paul Newton, regional counsel, First American Title Insurance Company

[EXHIBIT\(bus50a02\)](#)

08:47:29 Bruce Spencer, Montana State Bar Association

08:48:39 Will Selph, director, Notary and Certifications Services, Secretary of State (SOS)

[EXHIBIT\(bus50a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(bus50a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(bus50a05\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(bus50a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(bus50a07\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(bus50a08\)](#)

08:52:24 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors (MAR)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

08:53:02 Mike Talia, major, Montana National Guard (MTNG)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

08:53:36 Sen. Brown

08:53:57 Rep. Beard

08:54:22 Sen. Brown

08:54:30 Mr. Selph, SOS

08:54:48 Sen. Brown

08:55:17 Mr. Fichtler, GOV

08:55:37 Sen. Brown

08:56:33 Mr. Sill, MAR

08:57:11 Sen. Brown

08:57:33 Mr. Sill

08:57:48 Sen. Boland

09:03:09 Matt Conroy, head, Software Engineering, Figure Technologies Incorporated

09:03:38 Sen. Malek

09:05:28 Rep. Beard
 09:05:53 Mr. Selph
 09:06:12 Sen. Malek
 09:06:40 Mr. Selph
 09:07:19 Sen. Brown
 09:10:53 Mr. Gowen, MLTA
 09:11:46 Chair Fitzpatrick
 09:12:01 Mr. Talia, MTNG

Closing by Sponsor:

09:14:23 Rep. Beard

09:17:53 Chair Fitzpatrick invited Majority Leader, Fred Thomas, SD 44, to join the committee at the table.

HEARING ON SR 36

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:18:03 Sen. Jason Small (R), SD 21, opened the hearing on SR 36, Confirm Governor's appointees to State Compensation Insurance Fund.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:19:48 Jim Molloy, appointee
 09:24:21 Lance Zanto, appointee

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:27:47 Sen. Brown
 09:30:36 Mr. Molloy, appointee
 09:30:51 Sen. Gauthier
 09:32:06 Mr. Zanto, appointee
 09:33:25 Chair Fitzpatrick
 09:40:43 Mr. Zanto
 09:40:55 Mr. Molloy
 09:42:56 Chair Fitzpatrick
 09:43:06 Mr. Molloy
 09:46:14 Sen. Thomas
 09:47:03 Mr. Zanto
 09:47:41 Sen. Thomas
 10:00:13 Mr. Molloy
 10:01:17 Sen. Malek
 10:05:18 Mr. Molloy
 10:06:14 Sen. Brown
 10:07:52 Mr. Molloy
 10:08:34 Chair Fitzpatrick
 10:08:57 Mr. Molloy
 10:09:45 Chair Fitzpatrick

10:14:16 Mr. Zanto
10:14:42 Sen. Brown
10:15:10 Mr. Zanto
10:15:35 Sen. Brown
10:15:43 Sen. Ellsworth
10:16:34 Mr. Zanto

Closing by Sponsor:

10:16:54 Sen. Small

HEARING ON HB 373

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

10:17:41 Rep. David Dunn (R), HD 9, opened the hearing on HB 373, Revising insurance producer affiliation regulatory requirements.

Proponents' Testimony:

10:18:46 Jeannie Keller, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, Office of the Montana State Auditor
10:23:33 John Iverson, Independent Insurance Agents of Montana

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

10:24:12 Rep. Dunn
10:24:50 Chair Fitzpatrick turned the position and duties of the Chair over to Vice Chair Brown.

HEARING ON SR 32

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

10:24:58 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SR 32, Confirm Governor's appointee to the board of housing.

Proponents' Testimony:

10:26:41 Robert Gauthier, appointee

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

10:28:44 Sen. Ellsworth
10:29:53 Mr. Gauthier, appointee
10:30:27 Chair Brown

10:30:31 Mr. Gauthier
10:31:39 Sen. Malek
10:32:11 Mr. Gauthier

Closing by Sponsor:

10:33:23 Sen. Fitzpatrick

10:33:37 Sen. Fitzpatrick resumed the duties and position of the Chair.

10:35:20 Recess
10:47:53 Reconvened

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 85

10:48:04 **Motion:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **HB 85 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

10:48:24 Sen. Malek

10:49:04 **Vote:** Motion carried 6-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Boland, Sen. Malek, Sen. F. Smith and Sen. Vuckovich voting no. Sen. Gauthier will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 320

10:50:38 **Motion:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **HB 320 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

10:50:54 Chair Fitzpatrick
10:51:22 Sen. Malek
10:51:36 Chair Fitzpatrick

10:52:11 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Fitzpatrick will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 368

10:52:28 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **HB 368 BE TABLED.** Motion failed 3-7 by roll call vote with Sen. Boland, Sen. Brown and Sen. Malek voting aye.

10:53:21 **Motion:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **HB 368 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

10:54:20 Sen. Malek

10:55:03 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-3 by roll call vote with Sen. Boland, Sen. Brown and Sen. Malek voting no. Sen. Sesso will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 33

10:55:56 **Motion:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **SR 33 BE ADOPTED.**

Discussion:

10:56:10 Sen. Vance
10:56:27 Chair Fitzpatrick
10:56:58 Sen. Boland
10:58:08 Sen. Gauthier
10:59:40 Sen. Brown

11:00:37 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 37

11:00:49 **Motion:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **SR 37 BE ADOPTED.**

Discussion:

11:01:02 Chair Fitzpatrick

11:01:19 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Committee Business:

11:01:36 Jamison Walker, Legislative Services Division
11:02:23 Chair Fitzpatrick

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:03 AM

Jacelyn Stewart, Secretary

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Additional Document:

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([bus50aad.pdf](#))