

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND LABOR

Call to Order: Chair Mark Noland, on February 3, 2021 at 08:30 AM, in Room 172
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Mark Noland, Chair (R)
Rep. Edward Buttrey, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Katie Sullivan, 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. Steven Galloway (R)
Rep. Steve Gist (R)
Rep. Derek J. Harvey (D)
Rep. Denley M. Loge (R)
Rep. Ron Marshall (R)
Rep. Sara Novak (D)
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)
Rep. Rynalea Whiteman Pena (D)
Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R)

Members Excused:

Rep. Kim Abbott (D)
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Jordee Bomgardner, Committee Secretary
Jameson Walker, Legislative Branch
Sara Catapano, Remote Meeting Coordinator

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 49, 1/28/2021; SB 254, 2/1/2021

HEARING ON SB 49**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

08:32:47 Sen. Mark Blasdel (R), SD 4, opened the hearing on SB 49, Generally revise gambling laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

08:35:48 Mike Fanning, Gambling Control Division of the Department of Justice (DOJ)
08:39:24 Neil Peterson, Gaming Industry Association (GIA)
08:42:38 Rhonda Wiggers, Montana Coin Machine Operators Association (MCMOA)
08:43:56 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)

Opponents' Testimony:

08:47:02 Michael Lawlor, Lawlor & Co, PLLC

[EXHIBIT\(buh23a01\)](#)

08:55:03 Mandie Casher, self

Informational Testimony:

08:58:34 Becky Schlauch, Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

08:59:27 Rep. Gist
09:02:29 Mike Fanning, DOJ
09:04:23 Rep. Marshall
09:06:55 Mandie Casher, self
09:07:23 Rep. Marshall
09:08:14 Michael Lawlor, Lawlor & Co
09:09:35 Rep. Curdy
09:10:22 Mike Fanning, DOJ
09:13:17 Rep. Olsen
09:15:19 Michael Lawlor, Lawlor & Co
09:19:38 Vice Chair Buttrey
09:20:14 Rep. Olsen
09:21:48 Michael Lawlor, Lawlor & Co
09:22:30 Rep. Olsen
09:22:46 Vice Chair Buttrey
09:23:22 Neil Peterson, GIA
09:25:37 Rep. Duram
09:25:44 Rep. Seekins-Crowe left the meeting.
09:29:17 Mike Fanning, DOJ
09:30:00 Rep. Duram
09:30:31 Michael Lawlor, Lawlor & Co
09:31:00 Rep. Galloway
09:32:02 Becky Schlauch, DOR
09:32:16 Rep. Gunderson

Closing by Sponsor:

09:32:47 Sen. Blasdel

HEARING ON HB 254**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:35:51 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R), HD 17, opened the hearing on HB 254, Revise the wrongful discharge act.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:39:07 Todd O'Hair, Montana Chamber of Commerce
09:40:56 Scott Sales, Governors Office
09:41:40 Matt Jones, Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway (BNSF)
09:45:36 Joe Racicot, Montana Rail Link (MRL)
09:48:20 Vice Chair Buttrey assumed the chair.
09:48:43 Tammy Johnson, Montana Mining Association (MMA)
09:51:49 Gerry Fagan, Montana Defense Trial Lawyers (MDTL)
09:57:08 Kathryn Mahe, Garlington Lohn & Robinson (GLR)
10:01:47 David Smith, Montana Contractors Association (MCA)
10:03:00 Jason Todhunter, Montana Logging Association (MLA)
10:04:05 Cary Hegreberg, Montana Bankers Association (MBA)
10:05:18 Rhonda Wiggers, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB); Helena Chamber of Commerce
10:06:35 Chair Noland assumed the chair.

Opponents' Testimony:

10:06:38 Adam Haight, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL- CIO)
10:08:04 John Forkan, International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 2
10:09:16 Mick Wonnacott, Labors Local 1686
10:09:47 Luke Hoffer, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 233 (IBEW)
10:10:15 Eric Anderson, International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 190
10:11:05 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA)
10:12:45 Phil Hohenlohe, self
10:14:43 Rep. Harvey left the meeting.
10:20:20 Jamie Towe, self

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

10:28:31 Rep. Gist
10:28:55 Jamie Towe, self
10:29:37 Vice Chair Sullivan
10:30:42 Kathryn Mahe, GLR
10:31:08 Rep. Duram
10:31:41 John Forkan, International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 2
10:32:20 Rep. Curdy
10:35:46 Gerry Fagan, MDTL

Closing by Sponsor:

10:37:03 Rep. Fitzgerald

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:39:24

Jordee Bomgardner, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([buh23aad.pdf](#))