

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND LABOR

Call to Order: Chair Mark Noland, on March 10, 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. 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)
Rep. Derek J. Harvey (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Jordee Bomgardner, Committee Secretary
Jameson Walker, Legislative Branch
Monte Cole, 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 152, 3/1/2021; SB 172, 3/1/2021; SB 173, 3/1/2021; SB 185,
3/1/2021

HEARING ON SB 172**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

08:32:34 Sen. David Howard (R), SD 29, opened the hearing on SB 172, Provide for the religion is essential act.

Proponents' Testimony:

08:35:03 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation (MFF)

[EXHIBIT\(buh48a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(buh48a02\)](#)

08:39:46 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity

08:41:33 Pastor Chad Hesler, Canyon Ferry Road Baptist Church (CFRBC)

[EXHIBIT\(buh48a03\)](#)

08:44:06 Donna Elford, self

08:45:49 Matt Brower, Montana Catholic Conference (MCC)

[EXHIBIT\(buh48a04\)](#)

08:48:13 Greg Chafuen, Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF)

08:50:36 Steve Cape, Alliance for Safety and Justice (ASJ)

Opponents' Testimony:

08:53:26 Laurel Hesse, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

08:55:20 Rep. Anderson left the meeting.

08:58:28 Rep. Fitzgerald left the meeting.

08:58:32 Pascal Redfern, self

09:04:54 Lauren Wilson, Montana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MTAAP)

[EXHIBIT\(buh48a05\)](#)

09:08:29 Kelsen Young, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV)

Informational Testimony: None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

09:10:31 Rep. Seekins-Crowe

09:10:52 Jeff Laszloffy, MFF

09:12:02 Rep. Galloway

09:16:17 Laurel Hesse, ACLU

09:16:45 Rep. Marshall

09:19:35 Laurel Hesse, ACLU

09:20:10 Vice Chair Buttrey

09:21:20 Sen. Howard

09:21:36 Vice Chair Buttrey

09:24:37 Greg Chafuen, ADF

09:25:27 Rep. Olsen

09:27:34 Greg Chafuen, ADF

09:28:07 Rep. Duram

09:32:23 Laurel Hesse, ACLU
09:32:38 Vice Chair Buttrey
09:34:53 Greg Chafuen, ADF
09:35:51 Rep. Seekins-Crowe
09:36:32 Greg Chafuen, ADF

Closing by Sponsor:

09:37:43 Sen. Howard

09:40:05 Jameson Walker, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

HEARING ON SB 173

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:41:11 Sen. David Howard (R), SD 29, opened the hearing on SB 173, Eliminate continuing emergency or disaster without legislative involvement.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:44:03 Donna Elford, self

09:45:22 Pascal Redfern, self

Opponents' Testimony:

09:46:41 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity

Informational Testimony:

09:49:14 Cameron Sholty, The Heartland Institute

09:53:05 Delila Bruno, Disaster and Emergency Services (DES)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

09:53:58 Sen. Howard

HEARING ON SB 185

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:55:32 Sen. David Howard (R), SD 29, opened the hearing on SB 185, Revise governor's emergency powers.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:58:07 Pascal Redfern, self

09:59:08 Nelly Nicol, Freedom Protection Project (FPP); Montana Family Rights Alliance

09:59:30 Vice Chair Sullivan left the meeting.

10:00:18 Jameson Walker, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

10:01:20 Sen. Howard

HEARING ON SB 152**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

10:03:05 Sen. Brian Hoven (R), SD 13, opened the hearing on SB 152, Revise public swimming pool licensing to allow online training.

10:03:40 Rep. Seekins-Crowe left the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

10:04:20 Stewart Doggett, Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association (MTLHA)

10:06:50 Sandra Thares, O'Hair Motor Inn

10:08:21 Whitney Bergmann, Best Western Plus Grant Creek Inn; Management Advisors Hospitality

10:10:59 Jim Tucker, Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association (MTLHA)

EXHIBIT(buh48a06)

10:12:28 Jason Davidson, Pool and Hot Tub Alliance (PHTA)

10:13:35 Rep. Harvey joined the meeting.

10:14:13 Steve Wahrlich, Best Western Inn

Opponents' Testimony: None**Informational Testimony:**

10:16:10 Jim Murphy, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

10:17:18 Rep. Marshall

10:18:24 Jim Murphy, DPHHS

10:19:02 Rep. Fitzgerald joined the meeting.

10:19:09 Rep. Loge

10:20:22 Whitney Bergmann, Best Western Plus Grant Creek Inn; Management Advisors Hospitality

10:21:36 Rep. Loge

10:22:14 Jim Murphy, DPHHS

10:22:47 Rep. Olsen

10:24:59 Jim Murphy, DPHHS

10:25:33 Rep. Novak

10:26:36 Whitney Bergmann, Best Western Plus Grant Creek Inn; Management Advisors Hospitality

10:28:01 Rep. Novak

10:28:32 Jim Murphy, DPHHS

10:29:55 Rep. Gist

Closing by Sponsor:

10:30:51 Sen. Hoven

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:33:20

Jordee Bomgardner, Secretary

jb

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([buh48aad.pdf](#))