

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Call to Order: Chair Steve Fitzpatrick, on January 7, 2021 at 8:30 A.M., in Room 422 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present in the Committee Room:

Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick, Chair (R)
Sen. Gordon Vance, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Mike Fox (D)
Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. Carlie Boland, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Jason W. Ellsworth (R)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)
Sen. Terry Gauthier (R)
Sen. Mark Sweeney (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Olivia Hopkins, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch
Erin Sullivan, Legislative Branch
Carla Bentler, 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, 12/30/2020

Executive Action: SB 28

08:30:59 Chair Fitzpatrick

AGENCY PRESENTATIONS

08:31:43 Clara Bentler, remote meeting coordinator (RMC)

08:32:04 Melanie Hall, commissioner, Department of Administration

08:32:43 Sen. Sweeney entered the meeting.

08:37:06 Chair Fitzpatrick

08:37:27 Ms. Bentler, RMC

08:38:14 Becky Schlauch, Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, Department of Revenue (DOR)

EXHIBIT(bus04a01)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

08:48:39 Chair Fitzpatrick

08:48:43 Sen. Gillespie

08:48:56 Ms. Schlauch, DOR

08:49:08 Chair Fitzpatrick

08:49:32 Ms. Schlauch

08:49:46 Sen. Sweeney

08:50:13 Ms. Schlauch

08:50:29 Chair Fitzpatrick

08:51:10 Ms. Schlauch

08:51:27 Sen. Sweeney

08:51:49 Ms. Schlauch

08:52:16 Sen. Pope

08:53:14 Ms. Schlauch

08:53:39 Chair Fitzpatrick

08:53:54 Ms. Schlauch

08:55:02 Ms. Bentler

08:55:26 Andy Ritter, Gambling Control Division, Department of Justice (DOJ)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

08:59:41 Chair Fitzpatrick

08:59:56 Mr. Ritter, DOJ

09:00:21 Chair Fitzpatrick

09:00:44 Sen. Boland

09:00:56 Mr. Ritter

09:01:14 Sen. Boland

09:01:28 Mr. Ritter

09:01:34 Chair Fitzpatrick

09:02:01 Mr. Ritter

09:02:37 Chair Fitzpatrick

09:03:03 Adam Schafer, deputy director, Department of Commerce (DOC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:14:11 Chair Fitzpatrick

09:14:18 Sen. Gillespie

09:14:45 Mr. Schafer, DOC

09:16:25 Sen. Gillespie
 09:16:49 Sen. Pope
 09:17:27 Mr. Schafer
 09:17:32 Adam Gill, Montana Facility Finance Authority, DOC
 09:18:05 Sen. Pope
 09:18:31 Mr. Gill, DOC
 09:19:17 Chair Fitzpatrick
 09:19:46 Mr. Schafer
 09:21:46 Chair Fitzpatrick
 09:22:09 Mr. Schafer
 09:22:20 Cheryl Cohen, Montana Housing, DOC
 09:22:59 Chair Fitzpatrick
 09:23:10 Ms. Cohen, DOC
 09:24:45 Chair Fitzpatrick
 09:25:03 Ms. Cohen
 09:25:43 Chair Fitzpatrick
 09:26:22 Sen. Boland
 09:26:23 Chair Fitzpatrick
 09:26:34 Sen. Boland
 09:26:50 Chair Fitzpatrick

09:26:59 Recess
 10:22:42 Reconvene

10:22:43 Chair Fitzpatrick

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 28

10:22:52 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 28 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Ellsworth, Sen. Gillespie and Sen. C. Smith voted by proxy.

10:23:29 Chair Fitzpatrick

10:24:26 Sen. Gillespie entered the meeting.

10:29:10 Chair Fitzpatrick

HEARING ON SB 49

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

10:29:18 Sen. Mark Blasdel (R), SD 4, opened the hearing on SB49, Generally revise gambling laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

10:32:49 Alan Doane, Montana Department of Justice
 10:33:14 Neil Peterson, Gaming Industry Association
 10:33:41 Ronda Wiggers, Government Affairs, Montana Coin Machines Operators
 10:35:16 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association

10:37:15 Michael Fanning, attorney, Gambling Control Division, Department of Justice
(DOJ)

10:39:14 Daniel Brooks, Billings Chamber of Commerce

[EXHIBIT\(bus04a02\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

10:41:22 Becky Schlauch, Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, Department of Revenue

[EXHIBIT\(bus04a03\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

10:42:04 Sen. Pope

10:43:07 Mr. Fanning, DOJ

10:44:27 Sen. Pope

10:45:05 Mr. Fanning

Closing by Sponsor:

10:46:53 Sen. Blasdel

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:47 A.M.

Olivia Hopkins, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([bus04aad.pdf](#))