

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Call to Order: Chair Steve Fitzpatrick, on January 21, 2021 at 9:00 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. Terry Gauthier (R)
Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)
Sen. Mark Sweeney (D)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

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

Members Excused:

Sen. Jason W. Ellsworth (R)
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Olivia Hopkins, Committee Secretary
Clara Bentler, Remote Meeting Coordinator
Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch
Erin Sullivan, 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: SR 3, 1/18/2021

Executive Action: HB 41, HB 79, SB 76, SB 101, SB 112, SR 3

09:01:56 Sen. Vance assumed the duties of the chair.

HEARING ON SR 3

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:02:07 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SR3, Confirm Governor's appointee for Commissioner of Dept. of Labor & Industry.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:03:14 Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras

EXHIBIT(bus14a01)

09:06:56 Eric Paulsen, former U.S. representative

09:08:56 Jason Thielman, chief of staff, U.S. Senator Steve Daines

09:10:51 Laurie Esau, appointee

09:12:59 Sen. Smith entered the meeting.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:15:12 Sen. Boland

09:16:12 Ms. Esau, appointee

09:16:40 Sen. Boland

09:17:34 Ms. Esau

09:19:59 Sen. Boland

09:20:35 Ms. Esau

09:21:43 Sen. Boland

09:22:07 Ms. Esau

09:23:50 Sen. Pope

09:26:08 Ms. Esau

09:27:40 Sen. Pope

09:30:04 Sen. Sweeney

09:34:54 Sen. Fox

09:35:08 Ms. Esau

Closing by Sponsor:

09:35:52 Sen. Fitzpatrick

09:36:19 Sen. Fitzpatrick assumed the duties of the chair.

09:36:28 Chair Fitzpatrick

09:38:18 Recess

09:48:43 Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 41

09:49:05 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 41 DO PASS**. Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Sen. Ellsworth and Sen. Small were excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 79

09:49:33 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 79 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Sen. Ellsworth and Sen. Small were excused. Sen. Small will carry the bill.

Discussion:

09:50:04 Chair Fitzpatrick

09:50:09 Sen. Vance

09:50:22 Chair Fitzpatrick

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 76

09:50:29 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 76 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Ellsworth and Sen. Small were excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 101

09:51:04 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 101 DO PASS**.

09:51:17 **Motion:** Sen. C. Smith moved that **SB 101 BE AMENDED**.
[EXHIBIT\(bus14a02\)](#)

Discussion:

09:51:29 Sen. Smith

09:52:04 **Vote:** Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Sen. Ellsworth and Sen. Small were excused.

09:52:16 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 101 DO PASS AS AMENDED**.

Discussion:

09:52:32 Sen. Pope

09:53:13 Sen. Boland

09:53:18 Chair Fitzpatrick

09:53:48 **Vote:** Motion carried 8-3 by roll call vote with Sen. Boland, Sen. Fox and Sen. Pope voting no. Sen. Ellsworth and Sen. Small voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 112

09:54:38 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 112 DO PASS**. Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Sen. Ellsworth and Sen. Small were excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 3

09:55:09 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SR 3 BE ADOPTED.**

Discussion:

09:55:25 Sen. Boland

09:55:56 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Ellsworth and Sen. Small voted by proxy.

09:56:21 Chair Filtzpatrick

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:57 A.M.

Olivia Hopkins, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([bus14aad.pdf](#))