

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

**Call to Order:** Vice Chair Gordon Vance, on February 3, 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. Mike Fox (D)  
Sen. Terry Gauthier (R)  
Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)  
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)  
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)  
Sen. Mark Sweeney (D)

**Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:**

Sen. Carlie Boland, Vice Chair (D)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Jason W. Ellsworth (R)  
Sen. Cary Smith (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: SB 156, 2/2/2021; HB 153, 2/2/2021; HB 80, 2/2/2021

Executive Action: HB 153, SB 119

**HEARING ON HB 153**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:00:09 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R), HD 17, opened the hearing on HB 153, Revise professional liability insurance requirements for real estate licensees.

09:01:27 Sen. Pope entered the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

09:01:43 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors

09:05:12 Daniel Wagner, vice president, Montana Board of Realty Regulation (MBRR)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

09:06:29 Sen. Gillespie

09:07:02 Mr. Wagner, MBRR

**Closing by Sponsor:**

09:07:44 Rep. Fitzgerald

09:08:10 Chair Vance

**HEARING ON SB 156**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:08:28 Sen. Bryce Bennett (D), SD 50, opened the hearing on SB 156, Protect drivers license private data.

**[EXHIBIT\(bus23a01\)](#)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

09:11:54 Laurel Hesse, American Civil Liberties Union of Montana

09:13:11 Katjana Stutzer, Montana Public Interest Research Group

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

09:14:28 Sen. Gillespie

09:15:15 Sen. Bennett

09:15:31 Sen. Sweeney

09:15:48 Sen. Bennett

09:16:25 Sen. Gauthier

09:16:48 Sen. Bennett

09:17:30 Sen. Fitzpatrick entered the meeting.

09:17:42 Sen. Gauthier  
09:17:50 Sen. Bennett  
09:18:21 Sen. Gauthier  
09:18:38 Sen. Pope  
09:19:28 Sen. Bennett

**Closing by Sponsor:**

09:19:58 Sen. Bennett  
  
09:20:56 Sen. Fitzpatrick assumed the duties of the chair.  
  
09:20:57 Chair Fitzpatrick  
  
09:21:58 Recess  
09:38:07 Reconvene  
  
09:38:17 Chair Fitzpatrick

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 153**

09:38:23 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 153 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Sen. Ellsworth and Sen. C. Smith were excused. Sen. Sweeney will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 119**

09:39:00 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 119 DO PASS**.  
  
09:39:17 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 119 BE AMENDED**. Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Sen. Ellsworth and Sen. C. Smith were excused.

**EXHIBIT(bus23a02)**

09:39:38 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 119 DO PASS AS AMENDED**. Motion failed 5-6 by roll call vote with Sen. Fitzpatrick, Sen. Gauthier, Sen. Gillespie, Sen. Pope and Sen. Small voting aye. Sen. Ellsworth and Sen. C. Smith voted by proxy.  
  
09:40:43 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 119 BE TABLED**. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Sen. Ellsworth and Sen. C. Smith voted by proxy.  
  
09:41:21 Chair Fitzpatrick

**HEARING ON HB 80**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:41:59 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R), HD 43, opened the hearing on HB 80, Generally revise insurance laws regarding accreditation.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

09:43:38 Jackie Jones, Office of the Montana State Auditor, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance (CSI)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

09:46:10 Chair Fitzpatrick  
09:46:43 Ms. Jones, CSI  
09:46:57 Chair Fitzpatrick  
09:47:02 Ms. Jones  
09:48:40 Chair Fitzpatrick  
09:48:57 Ms. Jones  
09:49:18 Chair Fitzpatrick  
09:49:31 Ms. Jones  
09:50:16 Sen. Pope  
09:51:02 Ms. Jones  
09:52:35 Sen. Pope  
09:52:44 Ms. Jones

**Closing by Sponsor:**

09:53:19 Rep. Seekins-Crowe  
  
09:53:28 Chair Fitzpatrick

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 9:54 A.M.

---

Olivia Hopkins, Secretary

oh

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([bus23aad.pdf](#))