

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Call to Order: Chair Steve Fitzpatrick, on February 18, 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. Mike Fox (D)
Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)
Sen. Jason D. Small (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)

Members Excused:

Sen. Jason W. Ellsworth (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 246, 2/16/2021; SB 247, 2/16/2021; SB 248, 2/16/2021

Executive Action: SB 246, HB 180, HB 214, SB 186, SB 190, SB 207

HEARING ON SB 247

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:00:46 Sen. Ellie Boldman (D), SD 45, opened the hearing on SB 247, Generally revise alcohol state property/ postsecondary education.

09:01:10 Sen. Fox, Sen. Gillespie, and Sen. Sweeney entered the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:10:59 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)

09:14:51 Rachel Schmidt, Associated Students of the Montana State University

09:17:32 Pat Noonan, Montana Beer and Wine Distributors Association (MBWDA)

09:18:10 Mike Markovich, MBWDA; Summit Beverage

[EXHIBIT\(bus34a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

09:20:06 Becky Schlauch, Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:20:30 Sen. Gauthier

09:21:07 Sen. Boldman

09:22:20 Mr. Iverson, MTA

Closing by Sponsor:

09:23:21 Sen. Boldman

HEARING ON SB 248

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:24:55 Sen. Ellie Boldman (D), SD 45, opened the hearing on SB 248, Establish student-athlete rights and protections.

[EXHIBIT\(bus34a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

09:31:26 Rachel Schmidt, Associated Students of the Montana State University

Opponents' Testimony:

09:32:29 Janelle Booth, Montana University System (MUS)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:33:38 Sen. Gillespie

09:34:09 Sen. Boldman

09:35:05 Sen. Gillespie

09:35:30 Sen. Boldman

09:36:56 Sen. Gauthier

09:37:21 Ms. Booth, MUS

09:37:54 Sen. Gauthier
09:39:25 Ms. Booth
09:39:55 Sen. Gauthier
09:40:50 Ms. Booth
09:41:09 Chair Fitzpatrick
09:41:27 Ms. Booth
09:41:59 Chair Fitzpatrick
09:42:14 Ms. Booth
09:42:36 Chair Fitzpatrick
09:42:51 Ms. Booth
09:43:44 Sen. Pope
09:44:31 Ms. Booth
09:45:00 Sen. Pope
09:45:41 Ms. Booth
09:46:03 Sen. Fitzpatrick
09:46:15 Ms. Booth

Closing by Sponsor:

09:46:36 Sen. Boldman

HEARING ON SB 246

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:50:26 Sen. Jason Small (R), SD 21, opened the hearing on SB246, Generally revise requirements for electrician licensing.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:52:37 Tim Moseman, electrician

[EXHIBIT\(bus34a03\)](#)

09:59:45 Charles Robinson, Montana Electrical Co-op Association

10:01:03 Dwight Rose, IBEW 44

Opponents' Testimony:

10:02:06 David Smith, Montana Contractors Association

10:03:16 Trevor Livesay, electrician

Informational Testimony:

10:09:50 Phill Balsley, Department of Transportation (MDT)

[EXHIBIT\(bus34a04\)](#)

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(bus34a05\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

10:11:50 Sen. Gillespie
10:12:30 Mr. Balsley, MDT
10:12:50 Sen. Gillespie
10:13:05 Mr. Balsley
10:13:27 Sen. Pope

10:14:57 Sen. Small
 10:15:25 Sen. Pope
 10:16:51 Sen. Small
 10:17:35 Mr. Moseman, electrician
 10:19:22 Sen. Pope
 10:20:50 Mr. Moseman
 10:21:49 Sen. Pope
 10:21:58 Sen. Gillespie
 10:22:56 Mr. Livesay, electrician

Closing by Sponsor:

10:24:10 Sen. Small

 10:24:53 Chair Fitzpatrick
 10:26:16 Sen. Boland

 10:26:33 Recess
 10:41:41 Reconvene

 10:41:43 Chair Fitzpatrick

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 246

10:41:58 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 246 BE TABLED**. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Sen. Ellsworth voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 180

10:42:45 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 180 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried 10-0 by voice vote. Sen. Ellsworth was excused. Sen. Small will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 214

10:43:15 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 214 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried 10-0 by voice vote. Sen. Ellsworth was excused. Sen. Blasdel will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 186

10:44:06 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 186 DO PASS**.

Discussion:

10:44:22 Sen. Boland

 10:45:12 **Vote:** Motion carried 6-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Boland, Sen. Fitzpatrick, Sen. Fox, Sen. Pope and Sen. Sweeney voting no. Sen. Ellsworth voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 190

10:46:06 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 190 DO PASS.**

10:46:13 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Fitzpatrick moved that **SB 190 BE AMENDED.** Motion carried 10-0 by voice vote. Sen. Ellsworth was excused.

EXHIBIT(bus34a06)

10:46:32 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 190 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:46:47 Sen. Boland

10:47:52 Sen. Pope

10:48:51 Sen. Gauthier

10:49:58 **Vote:** Motion carried 10-1 by roll call vote with Sen. Boland voting no. Sen. Ellsworth voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 207

10:50:42 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 207 DO PASS.**

10:50:51 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Fitzpatrick moved that **SB 207 BE AMENDED.** Motion carried 10-0 by voice vote. Sen. Ellsworth was excused.

EXHIBIT(bus34a07)

10:51:15 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 207 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:51:23 Sen. Pope

10:51:51 **Vote:** Motion carried 10-1 by roll call vote with Sen. C. Smith voting no. Sen. Ellsworth voted by proxy.

10:52:29 Chair Fitzpatrick

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:53 A.M.

Olivia Hopkins, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([bus34aad.pdf](#))