

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Call to Order: Chair Steve Fitzpatrick, on March 25, 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. Bruce Gillespie (R)
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)
Sen. Mark Sweeney (D)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

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

Members Excused:

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Olivia Hopkins, Committee Secretary
Clara Bentler, Remote Meeting Coordinator
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: HB 490, 3/25/2021; HB 510, 3/25/2021; HB 609, 3/25/2021

HEARING ON HB 490

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:02:09 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, opened the hearing on HB 490, Revising mental health licensing laws.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

09:04:24 Lucy Richards, executive officer, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)
[EXHIBIT\(bus59a01\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:04:55 Chair Fitzpatrick
09:05:10 Ms. Richards, DLI
09:05:28 Rep. Kerns
09:05:55 Chair Fitzpatrick

Closing by Sponsor:

09:06:11 Rep. Kerns

HEARING ON HB 609

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:06:41 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, opened the hearing on HB 609, Provide for a donation-funded state indigent funeral account.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:10:18 Chris Puyear, Montana Funeral Directors Association (MFDA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:11:40 Sen. Gillespie
09:12:26 Mr. Puyear, MFDA
09:13:05 Sen. Sweeney
09:13:12 Mr. Puyear
09:13:34 Sen. Boland
09:14:12 Mr. Puyear
09:14:53 Sen. Boland
09:15:28 Rep. Kerns

Closing by Sponsor:

09:16:05 Rep. Kerns

09:16:42 Chair Fitzpatrick

HEARING ON HB 510

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:17:59 Rep. Steve Gunderson (R), HD 1, opened the hearing on HB 510, Generally revise department of labor laws relating to certain board rules.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:21:05 Sen. Gillespie
09:21:12 Rep. Gunderson
09:21:39 Sen. Sweeney
09:22:33 Rep. Gunderson
09:24:07 Sen. Boland
09:24:50 Rep. Gunderson
09:25:09 Sen. Boland
09:25:22 Rep. Gunderson
09:25:27 Sen. Boland
09:25:55 Rep. Gunderson

Closing by Sponsor:

09:26:59 Rep. Gunderson

09:27:11 Chair Fitzpatrick

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:28 P.M.

Olivia Hopkins, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([bus59aad.pdf](#))