

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Call to Order: Chair Steve Fitzpatrick, on April 22, 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: SJ 31, 4/21/2021; SJ 32, 4/21/2021

Executive Action: SJ 31, SJ 32

HEARING ON SJ 32

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:02:16 Sen. Ellie Boldman (D), SD 45, opened the hearing on SJ32, Interim study on affordable housing and community redevelopment.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:03:57 Peggy Trenk, Montana Housing Coalition

09:04:17 Sen. Fox entered the meeting.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:05:07 Sen. Gillespie

09:05:42 Sen. Boldman

09:07:45 Sen. Gillespie

09:08:15 Sen. Boldman

09:08:35 Sen. Sweeney

09:10:32 Sen. Boldman

Closing by Sponsor:

09:10:45 Sen. Boldman

HEARING ON SJ 31

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:11:02 Sen. Ellie Boldman (D), SD 45, opened the hearing on SJ31, Study implementation of marijuana program and potential role of agriculture lab.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:13:34 Rep. Mike Hopkins, HD 92

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

09:14:45 Christy Clark, deputy director, Department of Agriculture (MDA)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:15:09 Sen. Sweeney

09:15:48 Sen. Boldman

09:16:20 Sen. Sweeney

09:16:34 Sen. Boldman

09:17:48 Sen. Sweeney

09:17:59 Sen. Boldman

09:18:32 Sen. Gillespie

09:19:09 Ms. Clark, MDA

09:19:35 Chair Fitzpatrick
 09:19:42 Ms. Clark
 09:19:55 Chair Fitzpatrick
 09:20:05 Ms. Clark
 09:20:10 Ian Foley, MDA
 09:21:07 Chair Fitzpatrick
 09:21:12 Mr. Foley
 09:21:35 Chair Fitzpatrick
 09:21:46 Mr. Foley
 09:21:56 Chair Fitzpatrick
 09:22:08 Mr. Foley
 09:22:45 Chair Fitzpatrick
 09:22:53 Sen. Boldman

 09:23:36 Sen. Fitzpatrick left the meeting and Sen. Vance assumed the duties of the chair.

Closing by Sponsor:

09:24:22 Sen. Boldman
 09:24:32 Sen. Vance
 09:24:38 Sen. Boldman

09:25:18 Sen. Fitzpatrick returned to the meeting and resumed the duties of the chair.

09:25:23 Chair Fitzpatrick

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 31

09:25:37 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SJ 31 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

09:25:49 Sen. Boland

09:26:08 **Vote:** Motion carried 6-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Ellsworth, Sen. Fitzpatrick, Sen. Gauthier, Sen. C. Smith and Sen. Vance voting no. Sen. Ellsworth, Sen. Gauthier and Sen. C. Smith voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 32

09:26:57 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SJ 32 DO PASS.**

09:27:04 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Fitzpatrick moved that **SJ 32 BE AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Ellsworth, Sen. Gauthier and Sen. C. Smith voted by proxy.

EXHIBIT(bus77a01)

09:27:45 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SJ 32 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

09:27:55 Sen. Sweeney

09:28:20 **Vote:** Motion carried 6-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Ellsworth, Sen. Gauthier, Sen. Gillespie, Sen. C. Smith and Sen. Vance voting no. Sen. Ellsworth, Sen. Gauthier and Sen. C. Smith voted by proxy.

09:28:59 Chair Fitzpatrick

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:29 A.M.

Olivia Hopkins, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([bus77aad.pdf](#))