

MINUTES
MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (H) BUSINESS AND LABOR

Call to Order: Chair Edward Buttrey-R, on January 05, 2023 at 8:31 AM, in Room 172

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Edward Buttrey, Chair (R)
Rep. Derek Harvey, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Fred Anderson (R)
Rep. James Bergstrom (R)
Rep. Bob Carter (D)
Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R)
Rep. Steven Galloway (R)
Rep. Steve Gist (R)
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)
Rep. Jonathan Karlen (D)
Rep. Denley Loge (R)
Rep. Jennifer Lynch (D)
Rep. Ron Marshall (R)
Rep. Eric Matthews (D)
Rep. Nelly Nicol (R)
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)
Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Greg Oblander (R)

Staff Present: Jolanda Songer, Secretary
Jameson Walker, Research Analyst

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 61 12/21/2022
HB 138 12/27/2022
HB 139 12/27/2022
HB 156 12/27/2022

Executive Action:

HB 120 DO PASS
HB 67 DO PASS

08:32:17 Chair Buttrey

Presentation Commissioner of Securities and Insurance:

08:33:17 Presentation and Staff Introduction by Troy Downing, Commissioner, Office of the Montana State Auditor, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance (CSI)

08:39:08 Bob Biskupiak, Deputy Insurance Commissioner, Office of the Montana State Auditor, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance (CSI)

08:40:02 Brett Olin, Deputy Securities Commissioner, Office of the Montana State Auditor, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance (CSI)

08:41:29 Frank Cote, Director of Government Affairs, Office of the Montana State Auditor, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance (CSI)

08:42:04 Troy Downing, CSI

08:42:13 [EXHIBIT\(230105BUHa1\)](#)

Committee Discussion:

08:42:44 Chair Buttrey

08:42:45 Rep. Steven Galloway

08:43:11 Troy Downing, CSI

08:44:44 Rep. Steven Galloway

08:44:52 Troy Downing, CSI

08:45:19 Rep. Steve Gunderson

08:45:56 Troy Downing, CSI

08:48:07 Rep. Bob Carter

08:48:19 Rep. Greg Oblander joined the meeting.

08:48:21 Troy Downing, CSI

08:48:54 Rep. Nelly Nicol

08:49:39 Troy Downing, CSI

HEARING ON HB 61 - Remove insurance continuing education council

Opening Statement:

08:54:33 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R), HD 17, opened the hearing on HB 61, Remove insurance continuing education council.

Proponent Testimony:

08:56:19 Frank Cote, Office of the Montana State Auditor, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance (CSI)

08:58:30 Bruce Spencer, Attorney, Progressive, Cigna Express Scripts, Mountain Health Co-op

09:01:08 Bill Warden, National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors

09:01:45 John Iverson, Independent Insurance Agents of Montana

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:02:36 Rep. Katie Sullivan

09:03:01 Frank Cote, CSI

09:03:40 Rep. Steven Galloway

09:04:15 Frank Cote, CSI

09:04:27 Rep. Steven Galloway

09:04:39 Frank Cote, CSI

09:05:52 Jameson Walker, Legislative Service Division (LSD)

09:06:19 Rep. Steven Galloway

09:06:35 Frank Cote, CSI
09:07:10 Rep. Nelly Nicol
09:07:45 Frank Cote, CSI
09:08:34 Rep. Nelly Nicol
09:08:59 Frank Cote, CSI
09:09:36 Rep. Greg Oblander
09:10:03 Frank Cote, CSI
09:10:31 Rep. Greg Oblander
09:10:58 Frank Cote, CSI
09:11:21 Rep. Bob Carter
09:12:11 Frank Cote, CSI
09:13:36 Rep. Bob Carter
09:13:57 Frank Cote, CSI
09:14:22 Rep. Bob Carter
09:14:31 Frank Cote, CSI
09:16:06 Rep. Bob Carter
09:16:20 Frank Cote, CSI

Closing Statement:

09:16:58 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R), HD 17, closed the hearing on HB 61.

HEARING ON HB 156 - Generally revise laws enforced by the State Auditor

Opening Statement:

09:18:10 Chair Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, opened the hearing on HB 156,
Generally revise laws enforced by the State Auditor.

Proponent Testimony:

09:25:11 Frank Cote, Office of the Montana State Auditor, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance (CSI)

09:28:20 John Doran, Vice President External Affairs, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana (BCBSMT)

09:29:59 Michelle Truax, Interim Administrator, Department of Public Health and Human Services, Office of the Inspector General (DPHHS)

09:31:30 Melissa Shanon, PacificSource Health Plans

09:31:55 Gregg Van Horssen, State Farm, Progressive, Cigna, Montana Health Co-op, The American Property Casualty Insurance Association

09:33:35 Stuart Doggett, Montana Land and Title Association

09:34:32 John Iverson, Independent Insurance Agents of Montana

09:34:58 Joel Peden, Summit Independent Living and Ability Montana

09:37:34 Debra Swingman, CEO, Montana Council on Developmental Disabilities

09:38:43 Shawn Conroe, Ability Montana

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:40:04 Leah Lindahl, Healthcare Distribution Alliance (HDA)

Questions from Committee:

09:41:04 Rep. Steve Gist

09:41:26 Frank Cote, CSI

09:43:11 Rep. Steve Gist

09:43:16 Frank Cote, CSI

09:43:59 Rep. Steve Gist

09:44:19 Rep. Bob Carter

09:44:39 Chair Edward Buttrey

09:45:24 Rep. Bob Carter
09:45:43 Frank Cote, CSI
09:46:19 Rep. Bob Carter
09:46:30 Frank Cote, CSI
09:47:00 Barbara Smith, Administrator, Senior and Long-Term Care Division, Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Closing Statement:

09:48:05 Chair Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, closed the hearing on HB 156.

HEARING ON HB 139 - Generally revise laws related to mutual savings and loan associations

Opening Statement:

09:50:42 Rep. Tom Welch (R), HD 72, opened the hearing on HB 139, Generally revise laws related to mutual savings and loan associations.

Proponent Testimony:

09:52:45 Melanie Hall, Commissioner, Department of Administration, Division of Banking and Financial Institutions (DOA)
09:55:02 Scott Boulanger, Montana Independent Bankers (MIB)
09:55:27 Cary Hegreberg, President and CEO, Montana Bankers Association (MBA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:56:17 Rep. Katie Sullivan
09:56:35 Rep. Tom Welch-R

Closing Statement:

09:57:06 Rep. Tom Welch (R), HD 72, closed the hearing on HB 139.

HEARING ON HB 138 - Generally revise Montana Bank Act

Opening Statement:

09:57:42 Rep. Tom Welch (R), HD 72, opened the hearing on HB 138, Generally revise Montana Bank Act.

Proponent Testimony:

09:58:29 Melanie Hall, Commissioner, Department of Administration, Division of Banking and Financial Institutions (DOA)

10:05:49 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor, Governor's Office

10:07:40 Cary Hegreberg, President and CEO, Montana Bankers Association (MBA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

10:10:57 Rep. Steve Gist

10:11:25 Melanie Hall, DOA

10:12:42 Rep. Bob Carter

10:12:53 Melanie Hall, DOA

10:13:28 Rep. Bob Carter

10:13:39 Melanie Hall, DOA

10:13:47 Rep. Steven Galloway

10:14:23 Melanie Hall, DOA

10:14:54 Rep. Steven Galloway

10:15:14 Melanie Hall, DOA

Closing Statement:

10:15:38 Rep. Tom Welch (R), HD 72, closed the hearing on HB 138.

10:18:12 **Recessed**

10:33:06 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 120 - Allow for state sponsored industry trade shows

10:34:04 **Motion:** Vice Chair Derek Harvey moved that **HB 120 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

10:34:30 Jameson Walker, Legislative Service Division (LSD)

10:35:52 Rep. Eric Matthews

10:36:12 Chair Edward Buttrey

10:41:16 Rep. Steven Galloway

10:41:51 Rep. Bob Carter

10:42:16 Rep. Katie Sullivan

10:42:46 Chair Edward Buttrey

10:43:56 Rep. Steven Galloway

10:44:13 Rep. Denley Loge

10:44:30 Rep. Ron Marshall

10:45:17 Rep. Bob Carter

10:45:50 Rep. Nelly Nicol

10:46:15 Rep. Steve Gist

11:20:23 **Vote:** Motion carried 12 - 7 by voice vote with Rep. Carter, Rep. Galloway, Rep. Gist, Rep. Gunderson, Rep. Marshall, Rep. Nicol, Rep. Oblander, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 67 - Revise laws related to real estate appraisers

10:48:38 **Motion:** Vice Chair Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 67 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

10:49:01 Rep. Nelly Nicol

11:20:23 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:52:13

Jolanda Songer, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230105BUHaad\)](#)