

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Edward Buttrey-R, on January 06, 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. Greg Oblander (R)  
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)  
Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Nelly Nicol (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 137 12/27/2022  
HB 142 12/27/2022  
HB 160 12/27/2022  
HB 165 12/27/2022  
HB 166 12/27/2022

Executive Action:

HB 138 DO PASS AS AMENDED  
HB 139 DO PASS AS AMENDED  
HB 61 DO PASS

08:32:04 Chair Buttrey

**Presentation Department of Revenue - Cannabis Control Division:**

08:34:55 Presentation and Staff Introduction by Kristan Barbour, Department of Revenue, Cannabis Control Division (DOR-CCD)

08:35:06 [EXHIBIT\(230106BUHa1\)](#)

08:35:33 Erin DuCharme, Deputy Administrator, Department of Revenue, Cannabis Control Division (DOR-CCD)

08:35:49 Courtney Cosgrove, Division Attorney and Technical Expert, Department of Revenue, Cannabis Control Division (DOR-CCD)

08:36:00 Travis Pilon, Bureau Chief, Licensing Bureau, Department of Revenue, Cannabis Control Division (DOR-CCD)

08:36:11 Scott Mendenhall, Deputy Director, Department of Revenue (DOR)

08:36:15 Kristan Barbour, DOR-CCD

**Committee Discussion:**

08:59:28 Rep. Katie Sullivan

09:00:12 Kristan Barbour, CCD

09:00:40 Rep. Katie Sullivan

09:00:55 Kristan Barbour, CCD

09:01:04 Rep. Steve Gist

09:01:19 Kristan Barbour, CCD

09:01:34 Erin DuCharme, CCD

09:02:03 Rep. Steve Gist

09:02:45 Erin DuCharme, CCD

09:03:07 Rep. Steve Gist

09:03:21 Erin DuCharme, CCD  
09:03:39 Rep. Bob Carter  
09:04:09 Kristan Barbour, CCD  
09:05:00 Rep. Katie Sullivan  
09:05:16 Kristan Barbour, CCD  
09:05:41 Rep. Bob Carter  
09:06:35 Kristan Barbour, CCD  
09:07:12 Rep. Ron Marshall  
09:08:18 Kristan Barbour, CCD  
09:08:31 Rep. Ron Marshall  
09:08:53 Kristan Barbour, CCD  
09:09:18 Rep. Steve Gunderson  
09:09:44 Kristan Barbour, CCD  
09:09:55 Rep. Steven Galloway  
09:10:32 Kristan Barbour, CCD

**HEARING ON HB 137 - Generally revise laws related to the board of behavioral health**

**Opening Statement:**

09:11:18 Rep. Greg Oblander (R), HD 40, opened the hearing on HB 137, Generally revise laws related to the board of behavioral health.

**Proponent Testimony:**

09:13:23 Eric Strauss, Administrator, Department of Labor and Industry, Employment Standards Division (DLI-ESD))  
09:15:40 Quinlan O'Connor, Chief Legal Counsel, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)  
09:15:57 Meghan Peel, Children's Mental Health Bureau Chief, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

09:16:54 Amy Nerison, Marriage and Family Therapists

**Opponent Testimony:**

09:17:47 Audrey Walleser

09:21:38 Stacy Anderson, Policy Director, Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA)

09:24:58 Benjamin Martin

09:27:25 Lisa Dworak, Executive Director, Confluence Public Health Alliance

09:28:50 Jean Branscum, CEO, Montana Medical Association (MMA)

09:33:53 Eric Anderson, Montana Nurses Association (MNA)

09:36:22 Danielle Pollack, Policy Manager, National Family Violence Law Center

09:40:13 Anisa Goforth

09:41:33 April Genovese

09:46:07 Ellen Bluett

09:48:12 Kameron Nelson

09:50:46 Michele McKinnie, Self and Montana Psychological Association Legislative Committee

09:52:31 Denise Johnson, Self and Montana Child Protection Alliance

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

09:54:38 Rep. Bob Carter

09:55:04 Anisa Goforth

09:56:15 Rep. Ron Marshall

09:56:34 Stacy Anderson, MPCA

09:56:50 Rep. Ron Marshall

09:57:03 Stacy Anderson, MPCA

09:57:36 Eric Strauss, DLI-ESD  
09:57:49 Rep. Fred Anderson  
09:57:57 Rep. Katie Zolnikov  
09:59:01 Quinlan O'Connor, DLI  
09:59:33 Rep. Katie Zolnikov  
10:00:07 Quinlan O'Connor, DLI  
10:00:23 Rep. Jonathan Karlen  
10:00:49 Quinlan O'Connor, DLI  
10:01:22 Rep. Steven Galloway  
10:01:33 Quinlan O'Connor, DLI  
10:01:55 Rep. Bob Carter  
10:02:33 Eric Strauss, DLI-ESD  
10:03:39 Rep. Bob Carter  
10:03:59 Eric Strauss, DLI-ESD  
10:04:16 Quinlan O'Connor, DLI  
10:05:35 Rep. Ron Marshall  
10:05:52 Rep. Katie Sullivan  
10:06:24 Quinlan O'Connor, DLI  
10:06:35 Rep. Katie Sullivan  
10:07:17 Quinlan O'Connor, DLI

**Closing Statement:**

10:08:17 Rep. Greg Oblander (R), HD 40, closed the hearing on HB 137.

10:09:40 **Recessed**

10:16:24 **Reconvened**

**HEARING ON HB 142 - Revise laws related to unemployment insurance theft and penalties**

**Opening Statement:**

10:16:29 Rep. Jennifer Lynch (D), HD 73, opened the hearing on HB 142, Revise laws related to unemployment insurance theft and penalties.

**Proponent Testimony:**

10:16:57 Quinlan O'Connor, Chief Legal Counsel, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

10:19:18 Paul Martin, Administrator, Department of Labor and Industry, Unemployment Insurance Division (DLI-UID)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

10:20:04 Rep. Ron Marshall

10:20:46 Quinlan O'Connor, DLI

10:21:21 Rep. Greg Oblander

10:21:43 Quinlan O'Connor, DLI

10:22:40 Paul Martin, DLI-UID

**Closing Statement:**

10:24:14 Rep. Jennifer Lynch (D), HD 73, closed the hearing on HB 142.

**HEARING ON HB 160 - Revise laws related to alcohol advertising**

**Opening Statement:**

10:24:55 Vice Chair Derek Harvey (D), HD 74, opened the hearing on HB 160, Revise laws related to alcohol advertising.

**Proponent Testimony:**

10:26:51 Steve Swanson, Department of Revenue, Alcoholic Beverage Control  
Division (DOR-ABCD)

10:27:56 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)

10:28:19 Katjana Stutzer, Montana Brewers Association (MBA)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

10:30:08 Vice Chair Kerri Seekins-Crowe

10:30:45 Vice Chair Derek Harvey

10:31:07 Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD

10:31:27 Rep. Steven Galloway

10:31:41 Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD

10:31:57 Rep. Steven Galloway

10:32:33 Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD

10:33:02 Chair Edward Buttrey

10:33:11 Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD

10:33:17 Vice Chair Kerri Seekins-Crowe

10:33:38 Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD

10:34:01 Rep. Steve Gist

10:34:31 Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD

10:34:40 Rep. Steve Gist

10:34:46 Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD

10:34:59 Rep. Bob Carter  
10:35:31 Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD  
10:35:47 Rep. Eric Matthews  
10:36:13 Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD  
10:36:28 Rep. Eric Matthews  
10:36:48 Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD  
10:37:06 Rep. Katie Sullivan  
10:37:32 Vice Chair Derek Harvey  
10:39:09 Rep. Steve Gist  
10:39:34 Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD

**Closing Statement:**

10:39:53 Vice Chair Derek Harvey (D), HD 74, closed the hearing on HB 160.

**HEARING ON HB 165 - Revise laws related to agency liquor stores in certain communities**

**Opening Statement:**

10:43:12 Vice Chair Derek Harvey (D), HD 74, opened the hearing on HB 165, Revise laws related to agency liquor stores in certain communities.

**Proponent Testimony:**

10:45:04 Steve Swanson, Department of Revenue, Alcoholic Beverage Control Division (DOR-ABCD)  
10:48:09 Melissa Shannon, Liquor Store Owners Association of Montana (LOSAM)  
10:49:20 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)  
10:51:00 Shauna Helfert, Gaming Industry Association (GIA)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

10:51:23	Vice Chair Kerri Seekins-Crowe
10:51:38	Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD
10:52:11	Vice Chair Kerri Seekins-Crowe
10:52:19	Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD
10:52:27	Rep. Steven Galloway
10:52:40	Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD
10:52:59	Rep. Steven Galloway
10:53:10	Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD
10:53:32	Rep. Steven Galloway
10:54:03	Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD
10:54:27	Chair Edward Buttrey
10:55:04	Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD
10:55:13	Chair Edward Buttrey
10:55:31	Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD
10:55:47	Rep. Bob Carter
10:56:26	Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD

**Closing Statement:**

10:56:56	Vice Chair Derek Harvey (D), HD 74, closed the hearing on HB 165.
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**HEARING ON HB 166 - Generally revise laws related to seasonal alcohol licenses**

**Opening Statement:**

10:57:38 Vice Chair Derek Harvey (D), HD 74, opened the hearing on HB 166, Generally revise laws related to seasonal alcohol licenses.

**Proponent Testimony:**

10:58:32 Steve Swanson, Department of Revenue, Alcoholic Beverage Control Division (DOR-ABCD)

10:59:31 Shauna Helfert, Gaming Industry Association (GIA)

11:01:42 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

11:06:47 Rep. Denley Loge

11:07:10 Steve Swanson, DOR-ABCD

**Closing Statement:**

11:07:31 Vice Chair Derek Harvey (D), HD 74, closed the hearing on HB 166.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 138 - Generally revise Montana Bank Act**

11:09:16 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 138 DO PASS.**

11:09:37 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 138 BE AMENDED.**

11:09:37 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:11:04 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 138 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

11:11:04 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 139 - Generally revise laws related to mutual savings and loan associations**

- 11:11:30        **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 139 DO PASS.**
- 11:13:05        **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 139 BE AMENDED.**
- 11:13:05        **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 11:13:27        **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 139 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
- 11:13:27        **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 61 - Remove insurance continuing education council**

- 11:13:56        **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 61 DO PASS.**
- 11:13:56        **Vote:** Motion carried 18 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Galloway, voting no.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:15:43

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Jolanda Songer, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230106BUHaad\)](#)