

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

Call to Order: Chair Edward Buttrey-R, on January 12, 2023 at 8:32 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. 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. Greg Oblander (R)
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)
Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Fred Anderson (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 95 01/09/2023
HB 96 01/09/2023
HB 97 01/10/2023
HB 209 01/09/2023

Executive Action:

HB 31 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 41 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 48 DO PASS
HB 49 TO TABLE
HB 68 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 69 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 70 DO PASS
HB 127 TO TABLE
HB 137 TO TABLE
HB 157 DO PASS
HB 165 DO PASS AS AMENDED

HEARING ON HB 209 - Revise live poker prize limit

Opening Statement:

08:34:38 Rep. Ron Marshall (R), HD 87, opened the hearing on HB 209, Revise live poker prize limit.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

08:36:17 Shauna Helfert, Gaming Industry Association (GIA)

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:37:46 Ronda Wiggers, Montana Coin Machine Operators Association (MCMOA)

Questions from Committee:

08:38:23 Rep. Steve Gunderson

08:38:41 Shauna Helfert, GIA

08:39:01 Rep. Steve Gunderson

08:39:23 Shauna Helfert, GIA

08:39:32 Rep. Steve Gunderson

08:39:36 Shauna Helfert, GIA

08:39:47 Vice Chair Kerri Seekins-Crowe

08:40:22 Shauna Helfert, GIA

08:40:35 Vice Chair Kerri Seekins-Crowe

08:40:49 Shauna Helfert, GIA

08:41:17 Rep. Steve Gist

08:41:20 Rep. Fred Anderson joined the meeting.

08:41:52 Shauna Helfert, GIA
08:42:14 Rep. Ron Marshall
08:45:06 Rep. Steve Gist
08:45:17 Rep. Ron Marshall
08:46:07 Rep. Denley Loge
08:46:46 Rep. Ron Marshall
08:48:04 Rep. Katie Zolnikov
08:48:45 Rep. Ron Marshall
08:49:06 Rep. Katie Zolnikov
08:49:17 Rep. Ron Marshall
08:49:36 Rep. Katie Zolnikov
08:49:47 Rep. Ron Marshall
08:49:54 Rep. Steve Gunderson
08:50:22 Rep. Ron Marshall
08:51:03 Rep. Bob Carter
08:51:05 Rep. Ron Marshall
08:51:10 Rep. Bob Carter
08:51:18 Rep. Ron Marshall
08:51:47 Rep. Bob Carter
08:52:10 Rep. Ron Marshall
08:52:53 Rep. Steve Gist
08:53:32 Rep. Ron Marshall
08:54:36 Rep. Steven Galloway
08:55:22 Ronda Wiggers, MCMOA

08:57:23 Rep. Steven Galloway
08:57:40 Chair Edward Buttrey
08:57:51 Ronda Wiggers, MCMOA
08:58:07 Chair Edward Buttrey
08:58:33 Ronda Wiggers, MCMOA
08:58:49 Chair Edward Buttrey
08:59:11 Rep. Ron Marshall
08:59:56 Chair Edward Buttrey
09:00:02 Rep. Ron Marshall
09:00:39 Rep. Greg Oblander
09:01:04 Rep. Ron Marshall
09:02:01 Rep. Greg Oblander
09:02:08 Rep. Ron Marshall

Closing Statement:

09:02:23 Rep. Ron Marshall (R), HD 87, closed the hearing on HB 209.

HEARING ON HB 95 - Generally revise laws related to alcohol

Opening Statement:

09:04:13 Chair Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, opened the hearing on HB 95, Generally revise laws related to alcohol.

Proponent Testimony:

09:05:48 Becky Schlauch, Administrator, Department of Revenue, Alcoholic Beverage Control Division (DOR-ABCD)
09:10:34 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)
09:11:51 Jennifer Hensley, Montana Distillers Guild (MDG)

Opponent Testimony:

09:13:10 Brian McGuire, Winery Association of Montana

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:15:32 Rep. Bob Carter
09:16:05 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABCD
09:16:22 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald
09:16:40 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABCD
09:16:56 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald
09:17:04 Rep. Katie Sullivan
09:17:28 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABCD
09:18:15 Rep. Katie Sullivan
09:18:28 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABCD
09:18:39 Rep. Katie Sullivan
09:18:58 Chair Edward Buttrey
09:19:14 Rep. Bob Carter
09:19:43 Jennifer Hensley, MDG
09:20:11 Rep. Ron Marshall
09:20:21 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABCD

Closing Statement:

09:20:49 Chair Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, closed the hearing on HB 95.

HEARING ON HB 96 - Include agency liquor stores in the Department of Revenue's premises review

Opening Statement:

09:21:47 Chair Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, opened the hearing on HB 96, Include agency liquor stores in the Department of Revenue's premises review.

Proponent Testimony:

09:22:52 Becky Schlauch, Administrator, Department of Revenue, Alcoholic Beverage Control Division (DOR-ABCD)

Opponent Testimony:

09:24:15 Ronda Wiggers, Montana Coin Machine Operators Association (MCMOA)

09:26:26 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)

09:27:01 Jennifer Hensley, Montana Distillers Guild (MDG)

09:28:10 Shauna Helfert, Gaming Industry Association (GIA)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:28:41 Rep. Steve Gist

09:28:54 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABCD

09:29:37 Rep. Steve Gist

09:29:48 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABCD

09:30:06 Rep. Ron Marshall

09:30:23 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABCD

09:30:31 Rep. Ron Marshall

09:30:58 Jennifer Hensley, MDG

09:31:24 Rep. Ron Marshall

09:31:39 Jennifer Hensley, MDG

09:31:47 Rep. Greg Oblander

09:32:06 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABCD
09:32:36 Rep. Greg Oblander
09:32:46 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABCD
09:33:11 Vice Chair Kerri Seekins-Crowe
09:33:29 John Iverson, MTA
09:33:36 Vice Chair Kerri Seekins-Crowe
09:34:07 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABCD

Closing Statement:

09:34:50 Chair Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, closed the hearing on HB 96.

HEARING ON HB 97 - Generally revise laws related to alcohol

Opening Statement:

09:37:52 Chair Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, opened the hearing on HB 97,
Generally revise laws related to alcohol.

Proponent Testimony:

09:39:12 Becky Schlauch, Administrator, Department of Revenue, Alcoholic
Beverage Control Division (DOR-ABCD)
09:41:25 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)
09:44:20 Jessie Luther, Hospitality and Development of Montana (HDAM)
09:44:59 Brian McGuire, Winery Association of Montana

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:46:07 Rep. Steve Gunderson

09:46:45 Chair Edward Buttrey
09:47:40 Rep. Steve Gunderson
09:47:55 Rep. Katie Zolnikov
09:48:18 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABCD
09:48:33 Rep. Steven Galloway
09:49:18 John Iverson, MTA

Closing Statement:

09:49:56 Chair Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, closed the hearing on HB 97.

09:52:53 **Recessed**

10:41:26 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 31 - Generally revise laws related to academic brewers license

10:41:47 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 31 DO PASS.**
10:41:47 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
10:41:55 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 31 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:41:03 Chair Edward Buttrey
10:42:31 Rep. Ron Marshall
10:41:55 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
10:43:06 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 31 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:43:14 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald
10:43:31 Rep. Denley Loge
10:43:06 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 41 - Revise laws to expand incumbent worker training eligibility and awards

- 10:44:06 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 41 DO PASS.**
- 10:44:06 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 10:44:18 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 41 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

- 10:45:38 Rep. Steve Gist
- 10:45:53 Chair Edward Buttrey
- 10:46:11 Rep. Bob Carter
- 10:46:20 Chair Edward Buttrey
- 10:46:53 Rep. Bob Carter
- 10:44:18 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 10:47:23 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 41 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
- 10:47:23 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 48 - Generally revise alcohol laws, including storage depots

- 10:47:48 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 48 DO PASS.**
- 10:47:48 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 49 - Revising alcoholic beverage laws relating to wholesalers and distributors

- 10:48:35 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 49 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

- 10:49:13 Rep. Steven Galloway
- 10:49:36 Rep. Greg Oblander
- 10:49:56 Rep. Katie Sullivan
- 10:50:49 **Motion:** Rep. Derek Harvey moved that **HB 49 TO TABLE.**
- 10:50:49 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 68 - Generally revise laws related to beer and wine licenses

10:51:15 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 68 DO PASS.**

10:51:15 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:53:16 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 68 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:53:26 Rep. Greg Oblander

10:53:36 Chair Edward Buttrey

10:53:45 Jameson Walker, Legislative Service Division (LSD)

10:54:26 Rep. Steven Galloway

10:54:34 Jameson Walker, LSD

10:53:16 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:55:19 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 68 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

10:55:19 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 69 - Generally revise laws related to agency liquor stores

10:55:43 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 69 DO PASS.**

10:55:43 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:56:07 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 69 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:56:44 Jameson Walker, Legislative Service Division (LSD)

10:56:07 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:57:09 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 69 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

10:57:09 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 70 - Revise alcohol laws pertaining to renewal of licenses

10:57:28 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 70 DO PASS.**

10:57:28 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 127 - Creating a combined beer and table wine distributor license

10:58:04 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 127 DO PASS.**

10:58:04 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:58:25 **Motion:** Rep. Steven Galloway moved that **HB 127 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:58:39 Rep. Steven Galloway

10:59:35 Rep. Anderson

11:00:06 Rep. Jennifer Lynch

11:00:16 Rep. Steven Galloway

11:01:27 Rep. Katie Sullivan

10:58:25 **Vote:** Motion carried 10 - 9 by voice vote with Rep. Anderson, Rep. Buttrey, Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Harvey, Rep. Karlen, Rep. Loge, Rep. Lynch, Rep. Matthews, Rep. Sullivan, voting no.

11:04:47 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 127 BE AMENDED.**

11:04:47 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:05:15 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 127 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

11:05:24 Rep. Denley Loge

11:06:05 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Derek Harvey moved that **HB 127 TO TABLE.**

11:06:05 **Vote:** Substitute Motion carried 15 - 4 by roll call vote with Rep. Galloway, Rep. Gunderson, Rep. Marshall, Rep. Zolnikov, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 137 - Generally revise laws related to the board of behavioral health

11:08:00 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 137 DO PASS.**

11:08:00 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:08:41 **Motion:** Rep. Greg Oblander moved that **HB 137 BE AMENDED.**

11:08:41 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:09:42 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 137 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

- 11:09:51 Rep. Steve Gist
- 11:10:19 Rep. Katie Zolnikov
- 11:10:42 Rep. Bob Carter
- 11:09:42 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 11:10:51 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 137 TO TABLE.**
- 11:10:51 **Vote:** Substitute Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 157 - Generally revise laws related to alcohol

- 11:13:27 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 157 DO PASS.**
- 11:13:27 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 165 - Revise laws related to agency liquor stores in certain communities

- 11:14:15 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 165 DO PASS.**
- 11:14:15 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 11:14:35 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **HB 165 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

- 11:14:46 Chair Edward Buttrey
- 11:15:20 Jameson Walker, Legislative Service Division (LSD)
- 11:16:55 Rep. Eric Matthews
- 11:17:31 Rep. Bob Carter
- 11:17:43 Rep. Steve Gist
- 11:18:35 Vice Chair Kerri Seekins-Crowe
- 11:18:48 Chair Edward Buttrey
- 11:19:09 Jameson Walker, LSD
- 11:19:37 Vice Chair Derek Harvey
- 11:14:35 **Vote:** Motion carried 10 - 9 by voice vote with Rep. Bergstrom, Rep. Carter, Rep. Galloway, Rep. Harvey, Rep. Karlen, Rep. Lynch, Rep. Matthews, Rep. Sullivan, Rep. Zolnikov, voting no.

11:22:12 **Motion:** Rep. James Bergstrom moved that **HB 165 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

11:22:22 Rep. Katie Sullivan

11:22:12 **Vote:** Motion carried 12 - 7 by voice vote with Rep. Carter, Rep. Harvey, Rep. Karlen, Rep. Lynch, Rep. Matthews, Rep. Sullivan, Rep. Zolnikov, voting no.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:25:27

Jolanda Songer, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230112BUHaad\)](#)