

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

Call to Order: Chair Edward Buttrey-R, on February 03, 2023 at 8:33 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 (D)
Rep. Greg Oblander (R)
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)
Rep. Katie Zolnikov (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 300 01/27/2023
HB 313 01/30/2023

Executive Action:

HEARING ON HB 313 - Provide for independent practice of physician assistants

Opening Statement:

08:35:57 Rep. Jodee Etchart (R), HD 48, opened the hearing on HB 313, Provide for independent practice of physician assistants.

[EXHIBIT\(230203BUHa1\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

08:44:09 Rachel Green, Governor's Health Care Policy Advisor

08:45:38 Megan Zawacki, President, Montana Academy of Physician Assistants (MTAPA)

08:50:43 Jennifer Hensley, Montana Academy of Physician Assistants (MTAPA)

08:52:51 Kali Wicks, Montana Blue Cross Blue Shield, Government Relations (BCBSMT)

08:53:38 Margaret Morgan, Montana Association of Nurse Anesthetists (MTANA)

08:54:44 Kristen Kafer

08:56:25 Troy Wagner

08:59:35 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity (AFP)

Opponent Testimony:

09:00:38 Jean Branscum, CEO, Montana Medical Association (MMA)

[EXHIBIT\(230203BUHa2\)](#)

09:11:38 Elaine Samuel, American College of Physicians, Montana Chapter (ACP) and Montana Medical Association (MMA)

09:18:11 Michael Fuller, Montana Medical Association (MMA)

09:21:51 Eric Anderson, Montana Nurses Association (MNA)

09:23:17 Donald Grewell

09:29:53 Jonathan Bingham

09:33:39 Mark Jones, Montana Academy of Dermatology (MAD)
09:37:53 Nathan Allen, Montana Chapter of American College of Emergency Physicians (MTACEP)
09:42:20 Justin Cole, Montana Medical Association (MMA)
09:46:54 Erik van Kuijk

Proponent Testimony:

09:52:01 Eric Strauss, Administrator, Department of Revenue, Employment Management Division (DOR-EMD)

Questions from Committee:

09:52:30 Vice Chair Kerri Seekins-Crowe
09:52:46 Henry Kriegel, AFP
09:54:47 Vice Chair Kerri Seekins-Crowe
09:55:16 Rep. Jodee Etchart-R
09:57:51 Vice Chair Kerri Seekins-Crowe
09:57:53 Rep. Etchart
09:58:52 Rep. Denley Loge
09:59:45 Jean Branscum, MMA
10:00:51 Rep. Denley Loge
10:01:00 Jean, Branscum, MMA
10:01:21 Rep. Ron Marshall
10:02:03 Rep. Jodee Etchart-R
10:02:14 Rep. Ron Marshall
10:02:46 Rep. Jodee Etchart-R
10:04:47 Rep. Ron Marshall
10:05:10 Kali Wicks, BCBSMT
10:05:56 Rep. James Bergstrom

10:06:26 Megan Zowacki, MTAPA
10:07:33 Rep. Steve Gist
10:08:09 Megan Zowacki, MTAPA
10:09:15 Rep. Steve Gist
10:09:36 Rep. Jodee Etchart-R
10:11:00 Rep. Greg Oblander
10:11:35 Jean Branscum, MMA
10:12:11 Rep. Greg Oblander
10:12:19 Jean Branscum, MMA
10:13:14 Rep. Greg Oblander
10:13:53 Jean Branscum, MMA
10:14:58 Rep. Greg Oblander
10:15:36 Megan Zowacki, MTAPA
10:16:53 Vice Chair Derek Harvey
10:17:49 Jean Branscum, MMA
10:18:53 Vice Chair Derek Harvey
10:19:29 Kali Wicks, BCBSMT
10:19:37 Rep. Steve Gunderson
10:20:07 Rep. Jodee Etchart-R
10:22:27 Rep. Steve Gunderson
10:23:44 Rep. Jodee Etchart-R
10:23:51 Rep. Bob Carter
10:24:19 Rep. Jodee Etchart-R
10:26:04 Rep. Bob Carter

10:26:19 Rep. Jodee Etchart-R
10:26:34 Rep. Bob Carter
10:26:52 Rep. Jodee Etchart-R
10:27:07 Rep. Bob Carter
10:27:10 Rep. Jodee Etchart-R
10:27:52 Rep. Bob Carter
10:28:03 Rep. Jodee Etchart-R
10:28:40 Rep. Nelly Nicol
10:29:14 Rep. Jodee Etchart-R
10:29:21 Rep. Katie Zolnikov
10:30:24 Jean Branscum, MMA
10:31:44 Chair Edward Buttrey
10:32:17 Jean Branscum, MMA
10:34:15 Chair Edward Buttrey
10:34:33 Rep. Etchart

Closing Statement:

10:35:47 Rep. Jodee Etchart (R), HD 48, closed the hearing on HB 313.

[EXHIBIT\(230203BUHa4\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230203BUHa5\)](#)

10:40:57 **Recessed**

10:47:44 **Reconvened**

HEARING ON HB 300 - Revise tobacco, alternative nicotine, and vapor product laws

Opening Statement:

10:47:51 Rep. Frank Smith (D), HD 16, opened the hearing on HB 300, Revise tobacco, alternative nicotine, and vapor product laws.

Proponent Testimony:

10:49:50 Patrick Yawaki, Black Feet Tribe

10:50:20 Lance Four Star, Director, American Indian Caucus (AIC)

10:54:29 Liz Albers, American Heart Association (AHA)

10:56:15 Kristin Page-Nej, American Cancer Society-Cancer Action Network (ACS-CAN)

11:02:56 Erin McGowan, Confluence Public Health Alliance

11:05:16 Stacy Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA)

11:06:08 Jean Branscum, Montana Medical Association (MMA)

[EXHIBIT\(230203BUHa3\)](#)

11:07:13 Lauren Wilson, Montana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MTAAP)

11:08:51 Carrie Nyssen, Senior Director of Advocacy, American Lung Association (ALA)

11:10:19 Charlie Moses, Parents Against Vaping e-cigarettes (PAVE)

11:12:40 Beth Morrison

Opponent Testimony:

11:13:25 Keith Bowman, Owner and General Manager, E-Cig Vapor Juice Store

11:16:35 Tommy Dobbs, Co-Owner, Liberty Vapor

11:19:38 Brett Clement, Leaf and Cloud Tobacco and Growlers on Main

11:21:01 Deanna Marshall, Co-Owner, Freedom Vapes

11:22:33 Tony Dobbs, Co-Owner, Liberty Vapor

11:24:00 Devin Plant, Manager, Juicity Vapor Stores

11:25:37 Tina Goldston, Growlers on Main

11:27:36 Brad Longcake, Montana Petroleum Marketers and Convenient Store Association (MPMCSA)

11:30:17 Robert Cracraft

11:31:37 Karen Lensing, Montana E-Cigs

11:31:55 Wesley Carroll, General Manager, Vaporology Vape Shop

11:32:22 Lucas Anderson, Retail Vapor Business, Billings

11:36:39 Tim Andrews, Americans for Tax Reform

11:41:15 Kellie Barland, Co-Owner, Juicity Vapor

11:42:40 Kevin Barland, Co-Owner, Juicity Vapor

11:44:28 John Monahan, Sales Manager, Noon's Food Stores

11:46:27 Earl Allen, Noon's Food Stores

Informational Witness Testimony:

11:50:43 Jason Lay, Miscellaneous Taxes Unit Manager, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee:

11:51:16 Rep. Steve Gist

11:52:19 Kristin Page-Nei, ACS-CAN

11:52:33 Rep. Steve Gist

11:52:43 Kristin Page-Nei, ACS-CAN

11:53:17 Rep. Steve Gist

11:53:47 Rep. Bob Carter left the meeting.

11:54:12 Jameson Walker

11:54:44 Rep. Steve Gunderson

11:55:09 Liz Albers, AHA

11:55:24 Rep. Steve Gunderson

11:55:29 Liz Albers, AHA

11:55:41 Rep. Katie Zolnikov left the meeting.

11:55:55 Rep. Steve Gunderson

11:55:59 Liz Albers, AHA

11:56:13 Rep. Steve Gunderson

11:56:21 Liz Albers, AHA

11:56:30 Rep. Ron Marshall

11:56:38 Liz Albers, AHA

11:57:06 Rep. Ron Marshall

11:58:00 Lance Four Star, American Indian Caucus

12:00:59 Rep. Ron Marshall

12:01:42 Earl Allen, Noon's Food Stores

12:02:08 Rep. Ron Marshall

12:02:23 Earl Allen, Noon's Food Stores

12:02:44 Rep. Greg Oblander

12:03:05 Jameson Walker, Legislative Service Division (LSD)

12:03:25 Rep. Steve Gist

12:04:01 Liz Albers, AHA

12:04:12 Rep. Steven Galloway

12:04:51 Lauren Wilson, MTAAP

12:05:24 Rep. Steven Galloway

12:05:31 Lauren Wilson, MTAAP

12:05:54 Rep. Ron Marshall

Closing Statement:

12:06:18 Rep. Frank Smith (D), HD 16, closed the hearing on HB 300.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:10:48

Jolanda Songer, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230203BUHaad\)](#)