

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Edward Buttrey-R, on April 05, 2023 at 8:00 AM, in 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. Denley Loge (R)  
Rep. Jennifer Lynch (D)  
Rep. Ron Marshall (R)  
Rep. Eric Matthews (D)  
Rep. Nelly Nicol (R)  
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Jonathan Karlen (D)  
Rep. Greg Oblander (R)  
Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R)

**Staff Present:** Macy McCauley, 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:

SB 314 03/23/2023  
SB 369 03/21/2023  
SB 378 03/21/2023  
SB 430 03/21/2023  
SB 492 03/21/2023

Executive Action:

SB 165

SB 236

SB 262

SB 269

SB 310

SB 380

SB 451

**HEARING ON SB 314 - Revise construction laws relating to bonds**

**Opening Statement:**

08:02:16 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 314, Revise construction laws relating to bonds.

**Discussion:**

08:02:19 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick-R

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

08:05:22 Rep. Steven Galloway

08:06:51 Chair Edward Buttrey

**Closing Statement:**

08:07:05 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, closed the hearing on SB 314.

**Discussion:**

08:07:09 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick-R

**HEARING ON SB 378 - Revise evidence laws**

**Opening Statement:**

08:07:25 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 378, Revise evidence laws.

**Discussion:**

08:07:28 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick-R

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

08:09:55 Rep. Steven Galloway

08:10:16 Chair Edward Buttrey

08:11:23 Rep. Denley Loge

08:11:57 Rep. Steve Gist

**Closing Statement:**

08:13:22 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, closed the hearing on SB 378.

**Discussion:**

08:13:25 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick-R

**HEARING ON SB 430 - Revise financial institution laws relating to bank boards**

**Opening Statement:**

08:13:37 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 430, Revise financial institution laws relating to bank boards.

**Discussion:**

08:13:39 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick-R

**Proponent Testimony:**

08:14:42 Melanie Hall

08:16:10 Aimee Grmoljez

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

08:17:32 Rep. James Bergstrom

**Closing Statement:**

08:18:35 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, closed the hearing on SB 430.

**Discussion:**

08:18:37 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick-R

**HEARING ON SB 492 - Revise insurance laws relating to the duty to defend**

**Opening Statement:**

08:18:57 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 492, Revise insurance laws relating to the duty to defend.

**Discussion:**

08:18:58 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick-R

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

08:23:27 Rep. Denley Loge

**Closing Statement:**

08:24:04 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, closed the hearing on SB 492.

**Discussion:**

08:24:07 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick-R

**HEARING ON SB 369 - Provide worker's comp coverage of injury caused by employer-mandated vaccine**

**Opening Statement:**

08:24:20 Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB 369, Provide worker's comp coverage of injury caused by employer-mandated vaccine.

**Discussion:**

08:24:23 Sen. Jeremy Trebas-R

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

08:28:19 Peter Strauss

08:32:12 Ethan Heverly

**Questions from Committee:**

08:34:17 Vice Chair Kerri Seekins-Crowe

08:34:25 Rep. Greg Oblander

08:34:36 Chair Edward Buttrey

08:37:36 Rep. Steve Gist

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

08:37:14 Bill Wheeler

**Closing Statement:**

08:39:18 Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R), SD 26, closed the hearing on SB 369.

**Discussion:**

08:39:23 Sen. Jeremy Trebas-R

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 165 - Establishing a duty of cooperation relating to insurance policies**

09:13:30 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **SB 165 BE CONCURRED IN.**

09:13:30 **Vote:** Motion carried 18 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Sullivan, voting no.

09:13:30 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 236 - Establish time limited demand standards**

09:14:56 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **SB 236 BE CONCURRED IN.**

09:14:56 **Vote:** Motion carried 18 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Sullivan, voting no.

09:14:56 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 262 - Generally revise licensing requirements**

09:15:55 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **SB 262 BE CONCURRED IN.**

09:15:55 **Vote:** Motion carried 10 - 9 by roll call vote with Rep. Carter, Rep. Gunderson, Rep. Harvey, Rep. Karlen, Rep. Lynch, Rep. Marshall, Rep. Matthews, Rep. Nicol, Rep. Sullivan, voting no.

09:15:55 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 269 - Establish consumer protections and disclosures in litigation financing**

09:17:47 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **SB 269 BE CONCURRED IN.**

09:17:47 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

09:17:47 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Katie Zolnikov

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 310 - Revise presumptive occupational disease laws**

09:18:35 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **SB 310 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

09:18:55 Rep. Steve Gist  
09:19:18 Chair Edward Buttrey  
09:18:35 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.  
09:18:35 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Sue Vinton

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 380 - Generally revise healthcare insurance laws**

09:20:10 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **SB 380 BE CONCURRED IN.**  
09:20:19 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **SB 380 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

09:20:39 Rep. Steven Galloway  
09:20:19 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.  
09:21:06 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **SB 380 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**  
09:21:06 **Vote:** Motion carried 18 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Nicol, voting no.  
09:21:06 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Jodee Etchart

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 451 - Revise healthcare contract laws to prohibit certain restrictions**

09:21:46 **Motion:** Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe moved that **SB 451 BE CONCURRED IN.**  
09:21:46 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.  
09:21:46 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Jodee Etchart

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 09:25:19

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Macy McCauley, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230405BUHaad\)](#)