

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA SENATE**

**68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON (S) BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**

**Call to Order:** Chair Sen. Jason Small-R, on January 04, 2023 at 8:30 AM, in 422

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Sen. Jason Small, Chair (R)  
Sen. Willis Curdy, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Mark Noland, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)  
Sen. Mike Fox (D)  
Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)  
Sen. Walt Sales (R)  
Sen. Terry Vermeire (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R)  
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)

**Staff Present:** Daisy Rhodes, Secretary  
Erin Sullivan, Attorney

**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 21 12/30/2022

SB 59 01/02/2023

SB 75 01/02/2023

Executive Action:

09:01:10

**Committee Discussion:**

09:01:18 Sen. Jason Small

09:01:19 Becky Schlauch, Department of Revenue - Alcoholic Beverage Control Division (DOR-ABC)

09:01:23 [EXHIBIT\(230104BUSb1\)](#)

09:01:24 Sen. Jason Small

09:01:35 Sen. Willis Curdy

09:02:03 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABC

09:02:21 Sen. Jason Small

**HEARING ON SB 21 - Revise laws related to alcohol fingerprint requirements**

**Opening Statement:**

08:31:40 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 21, Revise laws related to alcohol fingerprint requirements.

**Proponent Testimony:**

08:32:53 Becky Schlauch, Department of Revenue - Alcoholic Beverage Control Division (DOR-ABC)

08:34:48 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)

08:35:11 Shauna Helfert, Gaming Industry Association (GIA)

08:37:23 Jennifer Hensley, Montana Distillers Guild

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

08:40:40 Sen. Mark Noland  
08:40:42 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABC  
08:40:52 Sen. Mark Noland  
08:41:08 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABC  
08:41:14 Sen. Jason Small  
08:41:16 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABC

**Closing Statement:**

08:41:34 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, closed the hearing on SB 21.

**HEARING ON SB 59 - Generally revise laws related to alcohol**

**Opening Statement:**

08:42:04 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 59, Generally revise laws related to alcohol.

**Proponent Testimony:**

08:43:01 Becky Schlauch, Department of Revenue - Alcoholic Beverage Control Division (DOR-ABC)  
08:46:15 Shauna Helfert, Gaming Industry Association (GIA)  
08:46:46 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)  
08:46:49 Jesse Luthar, Hospitality and Development Association of Montana (HDAM)

**Opponent Testimony:**

08:47:19 Larry Robertson, Winery Association of Montana (WAM)  
08:48:00 Brian McGuire, Winery Association of Montana (WAM)

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

08:48:51 Sen. Mark Noland  
08:49:30 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABC  
08:50:34 Sen. Bruce Gillespie  
08:50:58 Larry Robinson, WAM  
08:52:14 Sen. Jason Small  
08:52:20 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABC  
08:52:53 Sen. Mark Noland  
08:53:39 Brian McGuire, WAM  
08:55:41 Sen. Mark Noland  
08:55:47 Brian McGuire, WAM

**Closing Statement:**

08:56:01 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, closed the hearing on SB 59.

**HEARING ON SB 75 - Generally revise laws related to alcohol licenses**

**Opening Statement:**

08:56:31 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 75, Generally revise laws related to alcohol licenses.

**Proponent Testimony:**

08:57:07 Becky Schlauch, Department of Revenue - Alcoholic Beverage Control Division (DOR-ABC)  
08:58:47 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)  
08:58:53 Shauna Helfert, Montana Gaming Industry Association (GIA)  
08:59:02 Jessie Luther, Hospitality and development Association of Montana (HDAM)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

08:59:54 Sen. Willis Curdy

09:00:09 Becky Schlauch, DOR-ABC

**Closing Statement:**

09:00:43 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, closed the hearing on SB 75.

**Discussion:**

09:01:10

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 09:02:55

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Daisy Rhodes, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230104BUSbad\)](#)