

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Call to Order: Chair Jason Small-R, on January 20, 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:

HB 71 01/17/2023
HB 160 01/17/2023
SB 140 01/17/2023
SB 167 01/17/2023
SB 174 01/17/2023

Executive Action:

SB 53 DO PASS AS AMENDED
SB 166 DO PASS

HEARING ON SB 167 - Revise nonprofit corporation laws relating to directors

Opening Statement:

08:31:50 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 167, Revise nonprofit corporation laws relating to directors.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:34:23 Sen. Walt Sales

08:34:36 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick-R

Closing Statement:

08:35:29 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, closed the hearing on SB 167.

HEARING ON HB 71 - Generally revise alcohol licenses relating to the transfer of licenses

Opening Statement:

08:36:13 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, opened the hearing on HB 71, Generally revise alcohol licenses relating to the transfer of licenses.

Proponent Testimony:

08:37:38 Steve Swanson, Department of Revenue - Alcoholic Beverage Control (DOR-ABC)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:40:12 Vice Chair Mark Noland

08:40:48 Steve Swanson, DOR-ABC

08:41:12 Chair Jason Small

08:41:31 Steve Swanson, DOR-ABC

08:42:00 Sen. Bruce Gillespie

08:42:24 Steve Swanson, DOR-ABC

Closing Statement:

08:42:59 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, closed the hearing on HB 71.

HEARING ON SB 174 - Allow counties funding for broadband infrastructure

Opening Statement:

08:44:14 Sen. Wendy McKamey (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SB 174, Allow counties funding for broadband infrastructure.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230120BUSa1\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

08:46:47 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

08:49:00 Joe Briggs, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

08:52:50 Darryl James, Executive Director, Montana Infrastructure Coalition (MIC)

Opponent Testimony:

08:54:32 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe

08:55:45 Bridger Mahlum, Charter Communications

[EXHIBIT\(230120BUSa2\)](#)

09:03:13 Geoff Feiss, Broadband Montana

09:07:51 Aimee Grmoljez, Verizon

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:09:57 Vice Chair Mark Noland

09:10:28 Sen. Wendy McKamey-R

09:11:13 Vice Chair Mark Noland

09:11:47 Bridger Mahlum, Charter Communications

09:12:45 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick

09:14:25 Bridger Mahlum, Charter Communications

09:14:39 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

09:15:57 Jason Rittal, MACo

09:16:22 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

09:16:51 Joe Briggs, MACo

09:17:20 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

09:17:25 Geoff Feiss, Broadband Montana

09:17:55 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

09:18:05 Sen. Wendy McKamey-R

09:19:55 Chair Jason Small

09:20:26 Geoff Feiss, Broadband Montana

09:22:44 Chair Jason Small

09:22:52 Jason Rittal, MACo

09:24:57 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick

09:25:36 Geoff Feiss, Broadband Montana

09:28:18 Sen. Bruce Gillespie

09:29:00 Bridger Mahlum, CHTR

09:30:16 Chair Jason Small

09:30:40 Jason Rittal, MACo
09:30:52 Vice Chair Mark Noland
09:31:13 Aimee Grmoljez, Verizon

Closing Statement:

09:34:33 Sen. Wendy McKamey (R), SD 19, closed the hearing on SB 174.

HEARING ON HB 160 - Revise laws related to alcohol advertising

Opening Statement:

09:42:02 Rep. Derek Harvey (D), HD 74, opened the hearing on HB 160, Revise laws related to alcohol advertising.

Proponent Testimony:

09:43:33 Steve Swanson, Department of Revenue - Alcoholic Beverage Control (DOR-ABC)

09:44:33 Matt Leow, Montana Brewers Association (MBA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

09:46:58 Rep. Derek Harvey (D), HD 74, closed the hearing on HB 160.

10:30:46 Sen. Fitzpatrick has left

HEARING ON SB 140 - Revise union membership laws

Opening Statement:

09:51:25 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB 140, Revise union membership laws.

Proponent Testimony:

09:54:22 Craig Lambrecht, Logan Health
09:55:53 Aimee Grmoljez, Billings Clinic
09:57:09 Adrienna Hines, Benefis Health System (BHS)
09:58:29 Cherie Taylor, Logan Heath-Cut Bank

Opponent Testimony:

09:59:53 Amanda Frikle, Montana American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (MT AFL-CIO)
10:03:34 Robin Haux, Montana Nursing Association (MNA)
10:05:56 Charlotte Skinner, self
10:08:34 Eric Anderson, Montana Nursing Association (MNA)
10:10:34 Erin Foley, President, Montana American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (MT AFL-CIO)
10:12:27 Amanda Curtrs, President, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)
10:13:52 Adam Haight, Laborers Local #1686
10:15:21 John Johnson, Operating Engineers Local #400
10:15:51 Andy Ekblad, Montana State Council of Professional Fire Fighters (COPFF)
10:16:25 Jacky Mcbroom, President, Montana State Conference of Electrical Workers and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local #233
10:16:49 Joe Worth, Carpenters Union
10:17:16 John Forkan, Montana State Building and Construction Trades Council
10:17:47 Dwight Rose, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local #44
10:18:06 DB Kenner, Brotherhood of Locomotives Engineers and Trainmen
10:18:23 Pat Noonan, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (ARSCME)
10:18:49 Luke Hoffer, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local #233

10:19:09 Darrell Holzer, self
10:20:21 Al Ekblad, International Union of Operating Engineers #400
10:21:03 Mark Anderlik, Montana Democratic Socialists of America (DSA)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

10:24:34 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick
10:30:54 Amanda Frickle, MT AFL-CIO
10:31:06 Vice Chair Willis Curdy
10:31:54 Curtis, MFPE
10:32:49 Vice Chair Willis Curdy
10:33:30 Robin Haux, MNA
[EXHIBIT\(230120BUSa3\)](#)
10:34:12 Chair Jason Small
10:34:51 Robin Haux, MNA

Closing Statement:

10:35:17 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, closed the hearing on SB 140.
10:38:30 Sen. Fox has arrived
10:40:46 **Recessed**
10:48:13 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 53 - Revise laws related to weights and measures

10:48:25 **Motion:** Sen. Mark Noland moved that **SB 53 DO PASS.**
10:48:55 **Motion:** Sen. Mark Noland moved that **SB 53 BE AMENDED.**
10:48:55 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:49:46 **Motion:** Sen. Mark Noland moved that **SB 53 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

10:49:46 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 166 - Exempt barbering services in prisons and detention centers from licensing laws

10:50:34 **Motion:** Sen. Mark Noland moved that **SB 166 DO PASS.**

10:50:34 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:51:40

Daisy Rhodes, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230120BUSaad\)](#)