

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

Call to Order: Chair Jason Small-R, on March 16, 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. Mike Fox (D)
Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)
Sen. Walt Sales (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R)
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)
Sen. Terry Vermeire (R)

Staff Present: Lynnette Sena, 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 156 03/13/2023
HB 164 03/13/2023
HB 305 03/13/2023
HB 336 03/13/2023
HB 353 03/13/2023

Executive Action:

HB 156
HB 336
HB 353

HEARING ON HB 353 - Revise barber and cosmetology occupational licensing laws

Opening Statement:

08:30:42 Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R), HD 69, opened the hearing on HB 353, Revise barber and cosmetology occupational licensing laws.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230316BUSa1\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

08:33:08 Jessica Poitras, Institute for Justice (IJ)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:36:13 Chair Jason Small

08:36:15 Sen. Bruce Gillespie

08:36:30 Rep. Jennifer Carlson-R

Closing Statement:

08:37:25 Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R), HD 69, closed the hearing on HB 353.

08:39:09 Sen. Vermeire has arrived

08:50:51 Vice Chair Noland has left

HEARING ON HB 156 - Generally revise laws enforced by the State Auditor

Opening Statement:

08:39:06 Rep. Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, opened the hearing on HB 156,
Generally revise laws enforced by the State Auditor.

Proponent Testimony:

08:44:45 Frank Cote, State Auditor's Office

08:45:42 Aimee Grmoljez, American Property and Casualty Insurance Association
of America

08:46:20 Greg Van Horssen, State Farm Insurance

08:46:43 Scott Reichner, Blue Cross Blue Shield

08:47:10 Melissa Shannon, Pacific Source Health Plans

08:47:37 John Iverson, Independent Insurance Agents of Montana

08:47:53 Michelle Truax, Inspector General Office

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:49:00 Barbara Smith, Senior Long Term Care Division

Questions from Committee:

08:49:24 Sen. Bruce Gillespie

08:49:53 Frank Cote, Auditors Office

08:50:40 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

08:51:13 Frank Cote, Auditors Office

08:52:56 Sen. Walt Sales

08:54:33 Frank Cote, Auditors Office

Closing Statement:

08:55:28 Rep. Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, closed the hearing on HB 156.

09:23:30 Vice Chair Noland has arrived

HEARING ON HB 305 - Generally revise alcohol laws relating to manufacturing and retail

Opening Statement:

08:58:02 Rep. Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, opened the hearing on HB 305, Generally revise alcohol laws relating to manufacturing and retail.

Proponent Testimony:

09:02:03 Matt Leow, Montana Brewers Association (MBA)

09:12:19 Jennifer Hensley, Montana Distillers Guild (MDG)

09:16:55 Debra Pitassy, Montana Beer and Wine Distributers Association

09:19:24 John Iverson, Montana Taverns Association (MTA)

09:20:01 Ethan Quoter, Montana Brewers Association (MBA)

09:21:58 Shana Helfert, Montana Gaming Institution

09:22:23 Tim Chisman, Blackfoot River Brewing Company

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:24:18 Becky Schlauch, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee:

09:25:47 Chair Jason Small

09:26:02 Rep. Edward Buttrey-R

09:26:36 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

09:27:15 Becky Schlauch, DOR

09:27:28 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

09:28:17 Matt Leow, MBA

09:29:10 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

09:29:27 Becky Schlauch, DOR

09:30:01 Vice Chair Mark Noland

09:31:01 Becky Schlauch, DOR

Closing Statement:

09:31:46 Rep. Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, closed the hearing on HB 305.

HEARING ON HB 336 - Provide licensure exemptions for military family child care providers

Opening Statement:

09:33:56 Rep. Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, opened the hearing on HB 336, Provide licensure exemptions for military family child care providers.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230316BUSa2\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

09:35:56 Roger Hagan, American Legion and Montana National Guard

09:37:11 Jody Lehman, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:39:11 Vice Chair Mark Noland

09:39:50 Rep. Edward Buttrey-R

09:41:06 Chair Jason Small

Closing Statement:

09:41:19 Rep. Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, closed the hearing on HB 336.

HEARING ON HB 164 - Revise alcohol laws relating to catering endorsements

Opening Statement:

09:43:28 Rep. Derek Harvey (D), HD 74, opened the hearing on HB 164, Revise alcohol laws relating to catering endorsements.

Proponent Testimony:

09:45:09 Becky Schlauch, Department of Revenue (DOR)

09:47:24 Brad Griffin, Montana Restaurant Association (MRA)

09:49:39 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)

09:49:58 Shauna Helfert, Montana Gaming Association (MGA)

09:50:09 Matt Leow, Montana Brewers Association (MBA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:51:05 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

09:52:50 Becky Schlauch, DOR

Closing Statement:

09:53:15 Rep. Derek Harvey (D), HD 74, closed the hearing on HB 164.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 156 - Generally revise laws enforced by the State Auditor

09:55:51 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 156 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

09:56:05 Chair Jason Small

13:48:12 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

09:55:51 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 336 - Provide licensure exemptions for military family child care providers

09:57:11 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 336 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

09:58:30 Sen. Walt Sales

09:58:36 Sen. Mike Fox

13:48:12 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

09:57:11 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Willis Curdy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 353 - Revise barber and cosmetology occupational licensing laws

09:58:54 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 353 BE CONCURRED IN.**

13:48:12 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

09:58:54 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Bruce Gillespie

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:00:12

Lynnette Sena, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230316BUSaad\)](#)