

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

Call to Order: Chair Jason Small-R, on March 17, 2023 at 8:29 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)
Sen. Terry Vermeire (R)

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

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 127 03/13/2023
HB 254 03/13/2023
HB 272 03/13/2023
HJ 10 03/13/2023

Executive Action:

HB 127
HB 254
HB 272 TO TABLE
HJ 10

HEARING ON HJ 10 - Resolution for reaffirming Montana's commitment to its relationship with Taiwan

Opening Statement:

08:30:54 Rep. Sue Vinton (R), HD 56, opened the hearing on HJ 10, Resolution for reaffirming Montana's commitment to its relationship with Taiwan.

Proponent Testimony:

08:32:38 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

08:33:45 Rep. Sue Vinton (R), HD 56, closed the hearing on HJ 10.

HEARING ON HB 127 - Creating a combined beer and table wine distributor license

Opening Statement:

08:34:21 Rep. Fred Anderson (R), HD 20, opened the hearing on HB 127, Creating a combined beer and table wine distributor license.

Proponent Testimony:

08:36:11 Steve Swanson, Department of Revenue (DOR)

08:37:07 Debra Pitassy, Montana Beer and Wine Distributors (MBWDA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:37:55 Vice Chair Mark Noland

08:38:17 Steve Swanson, DOR

08:39:36 Chair Jason Small

08:40:06 Steve Swanson, DOR

Closing Statement:

08:40:17 Rep. Fred Anderson (R), HD 20, closed the hearing on HB 127.

08:43:14 Vice Chair Curdy has left

HEARING ON HB 272 - Revise alcohol laws relating to contrived events and employees of licensees

Opening Statement:

08:42:56 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, opened the hearing on HB 272, Revise alcohol laws relating to contrived events and employees of licensees.

Proponent Testimony:

08:44:43 John Hayes, self

08:46:37 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)

08:49:31 Shana Helfert, Gaming Industry Association (GIA)

Opponent Testimony:

08:51:57 Dan Smith, Montana Police Protection Association (MPPA)

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:54:50 Becky Schlauch, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee:

08:55:11 Chair Jason Small
08:55:20 Dan Smith, MPPA
08:55:29 Becky Schlauch, DOR
08:55:38 Chair Jason Small
08:55:42 Becky Schlauch, DOR
08:56:05 Sen. Bruce Gillespie
08:57:34 Dan Smith, MPPA
08:58:32 Vice Chair Mark Noland
08:59:44 John Iverson, MTA
09:02:33 Becky Schlauch, DOR
09:03:15 Sen. Walt Sales
09:03:53 Rep. Scot Kerns-R
09:04:04 Sen. Walt Sales
09:04:49 Rep. Scot Kerns-R
09:05:11 Becky Schlauch, DOR
09:05:30 Sen. Walt Sales
09:05:45 Dan Smith, MPPA
09:06:15 Chair Jason Small
09:06:23 Dan Smith, MPPA

Closing Statement:

09:06:44 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, closed the hearing on HB 272.

HEARING ON HB 254 - Revise alcohol laws relating to curbside pickup

Opening Statement:

09:10:20 Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB 254, Revise alcohol laws relating to curbside pickup.

Proponent Testimony:

09:13:52 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)

09:14:33 Shauna Helfert, Montana Gaming Association (MGA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:15:01 Steve Swanson, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee:

09:15:22 Sen. Walt Sales

09:16:58 Rep. Katie Zolnikov-R

Closing Statement:

09:18:11 Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R), HD 45, closed the hearing on HB 254.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 127 - Creating a combined beer and table wine distributor license

09:24:34 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 127 BE CONCURRED IN.**

14:31:57 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

09:24:34 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Terry Vermeire

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 254 - Revise alcohol laws relating to curbside pickup

09:25:31 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 254 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

09:25:50 Chair Jason Small

14:31:57 **Vote:** Motion carried 9 - 1 by voice vote with Sen. Noland, voting no.

09:25:31 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Daniel Zolnikov

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 272 - Revise alcohol laws relating to contrived events and employees of licensees

09:27:01 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 272 TO TABLE.**

14:31:57 **Vote:** Motion carried 9 - 1 by voice vote with Sen. Gillespie, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 10 - Resolution for reaffirming Montana's commitment to its relationship with Taiwan

09:29:31 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HJ 10 BE CONCURRED IN.**

14:31:57 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

09:29:31 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Bruce Gillespie

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 09:29:06

Lynnette Sena, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230317BUSaad\)](#)