

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

Call to Order: Chair Mark Noland-R, on April 04, 2023 at 8:01 AM, in 422

ROLL CALL

Members Present: 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)
Sen. Jason Small (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 546 03/29/2023
HB 590 03/29/2023
HB 612 03/29/2023
HB 636 03/29/2023
HB 652 03/29/2023
HB 682 03/29/2023
HB 751 03/29/2023

Executive Action:

HB 636
HB 682
HB 751
HB 115
HB 358
HB 409 TO TABLE
HB 573

HB 658 TO TABLE

HEARING ON HB 590 - Revise labor laws relating to violence against healthcare workers

Opening Statement:

08:02:43 Rep. Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, opened the hearing on HB 590, Revise labor laws relating to violence against healthcare workers.

Proponent Testimony:

08:05:54 Vicky Byrd, CEO, Montana Nurses Association (MNA)

[EXHIBIT\(230404BUSa1\)](#)

08:11:02 Heather O'Hara, Montana Hospital Association (MHA)

08:12:24 Aimee Grmoljez, Billings Clinic

08:14:17 Adrienna Hines, Benefis Health System (BHS)

08:14:51 Jon Soyj, Montana Medical Association (MMA)

08:15:10 Amanda Curtis, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

08:15:47 John Honsky, Montana Nurses Association (MNA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:17:29 Eric Strauss, Montana Department of Labour and Industry (DLI)

Questions from Committee:

08:17:53 Sen. Bruce Gillespie

08:20:17 Heather O'Hara, MHA

08:20:48 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

08:21:04 Scott Boulanger, MMA

08:21:12 Vice Chair Mark Noland

08:24:30 Vicky Byrd, MNA

08:25:30 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

08:25:59 Vicky Byrd, MNA

Closing Statement:

08:26:15 Rep. Edward Buttrey (R), HD 21, closed the hearing on HB 590.

08:31:25 Chair Small has arrived

08:43:53 Vice Chair Noland has left

HEARING ON HB 612 - Revise insurance requirements for diabetes self-management

Opening Statement:

08:29:00 Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R), HD 75, opened the hearing on HB 612, Revise insurance requirements for diabetes self-management.

Proponent Testimony:

08:30:58 Tonya Fuhrmann, self

08:32:17 Marcie Butcher, self

08:35:22 Heather O'Hara, Montana Hospital Association (MHA)

08:36:35 Stacy Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA)

08:37:41 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe

08:39:37 Allison Hines, self

08:40:26 Karen Fairbrother, self

08:43:24 Julie OConnor, self

08:44:54 Carissa Kemp, American Diabetes Association (ADA)

08:46:05 Lisa Raines, Billings Clinic

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:48:46 Sen. Bruce Gillespie

08:50:12 Marcie Butcher, self

Closing Statement:

08:51:03 Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R), HD 75, closed the hearing on HB 612.

08:57:46 Vice Chair Noland has arrived

HEARING ON HB 546 - Authorize additional funding for coal trust loan program for housing

Opening Statement:

08:53:07 Rep. Dave Fern (D), HD 5, opened the hearing on HB 546, Authorize additional funding for coal trust loan program for housing.

Proponent Testimony:

08:57:14 Sheila Rice, Montana Housing Coalition

09:01:25 Beki Brandborg, Montana Housing Coalition

09:05:56 Rebecca Myers, Economic Developers Association (EDA)

09:07:12 Margaret McDonald, Big Ski 55+

09:08:48 Liz Moore, Montana Nonprofit Association

09:10:30 Sheridan Johnson, Montana Chamber of Commerce

09:11:01 Madison Grady, Montana Association of Realtors (MAR)

09:11:27 Stacy Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA)

09:12:01 Jake Brown, Shelter Whitefish

09:12:21 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe

09:12:45 Melissa Shannon, Montana Housing Coalition

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:14:11 Cheryl Cohen, Montana Board of Housing

Questions from Committee:

09:14:34 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

09:16:08 Cheryl Cohen, BOH

09:16:25 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

09:17:03 Rep. Dave Fern-D

09:20:13 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

09:20:42 Melissa Shannon, Montana Housing Coalition

09:21:08 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

09:21:17 Sen. Walt Sales

09:21:39 Cheryl Cohen, BOH

09:22:00 Sen. Walt Sales

Closing Statement:

09:22:14 Rep. Dave Fern (D), HD 5, closed the hearing on HB 546.

HEARING ON HB 636 - Revise workers' compensation laws relating to exemptions from the act

Opening Statement:

09:24:19 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 636, Revise workers' compensation laws relating to exemptions from the act.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:25:14 Kevin Braun, Montana State Fund

Questions from Committee:

09:25:40 Sen. Bruce Gillespie

09:26:58 Kevin Braun, MSF

09:27:25 Vice Chair Mark Noland

09:27:51 Rep. Joshua Kassmier-R

Closing Statement:

09:28:29 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, closed the hearing on HB 636.

09:36:00 **Recessed**

09:39:22 **Reconvened**

HEARING ON HB 652 - Revise unemployment insurance law relating to benefit duration

Opening Statement:

09:39:20 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, opened the hearing on HB 652, Revise unemployment insurance law relating to benefit duration.

Proponent Testimony:

09:41:36 John Elizandro, Montana Department of Labour and Industry (DLI)

09:42:47 Rhonda Wiggers, National Federation of Independent Business Owners (NFIB)

09:45:01 Rebecca Myers, Billings Chamber of Commerce

09:45:48 Sheriden Johnson, Montana Chamber of Commerce

Opponent Testimony:

09:46:36 Amanda Frickle, AFL-CIO

09:50:04 Quint Nyman, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

09:51:17 AI Ekblad, Operating Engineers Local 400
09:55:21 Adam Haight, Laborers' Local 1686
09:57:07 Luke Hoffer, IBEW Local 233
09:58:47 Dwight Rose, IBEW Local 44
10:01:13 Connie Erickson, self

Informational Witness Testimony:

10:04:29 Quinlan O' Connor, Chief Legal Counsel, Department of Labour and Industry (DLI)

Questions from Committee:

10:04:45 Sen. Bruce Gillespie
10:09:08 Quinlan O'Connell, DLI
10:09:50 Sen. Bruce Gillespie
10:10:03 Rep. Steven Galloway-R
10:10:36 Chair Jason Small
10:12:57 Quinlan O'Connell, DLI
10:13:07 Chair Jason Small
10:13:11 John Elizandro, DLI
10:13:28 Chair Jason Small
10:13:36 Vice Chair Willis Curdy
10:14:25 John Elizandro, DLI
10:14:54 Chair Jason Small
10:16:45 John Elizandro, DLI
10:16:55 Vice Chair Mark Noland
10:17:26 John Elizandro, DLI
10:17:33 Vice Chair Mark Noland

10:21:48 Rep. Steven Galloway-R
10:22:42 Sen. Walt Sales
10:23:35 Quinlan O'Connell, DLI
10:23:43 Sen. Walt Sales
10:24:30 Rep. Steven Galloway-R
10:26:20 Vice Chair Willis Curdy
10:27:08 Quinlan O'Connell, DLI
10:27:14 Chair Jason Small
10:27:45 John Elizandro, DLI
10:27:51 Chair Jason Small
10:30:01 Rhonda Wiggers, NFIB

Closing Statement:

10:30:39 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, closed the hearing on HB 652.

HEARING ON HB 682 - Revise laws related to collection of genetic material for newborn screenings

Opening Statement:

10:33:03 Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB 682, Revise laws related to collection of genetic material for newborn screenings.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

10:37:34 Chair Jason Small
10:37:57 Rep. Katie Zolnikov-R
10:38:25 Sen. Bruce Gillespie
10:38:55 Rep. Katie Zolnikov-R
10:39:22 Vice Chair Mark Noland
10:39:47 Rep. Katie Zolnikov-R

Closing Statement:

10:40:32 Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R), HD 45, closed the hearing on HB 682.

HEARING ON HB 751 - Revise laws related to nonopioid alternatives for treatment of pain

Opening Statement:

10:43:42 Rep. Kim Abbott (D), HD 83, opened the hearing on HB 751, Revise laws related to nonopioid alternatives for treatment of pain.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

10:47:04 Chair Jason Small
10:47:15 Rep. Kim Abbott-D
10:47:33 Sen. Walt Sales
10:48:27 Rep. Kim Abbott-D
10:48:52 Vice Chair Mark Noland

10:49:17 Rep. Kim Abbott-D
10:49:55 Sen. Bruce Gillespie
10:50:15 Rep. Kim Abbott-D
10:50:38 Sen. Bruce Gillespie

Closing Statement:

10:50:53 Rep. Kim Abbott (D), HD 83, closed the hearing on HB 751.

10:56:01 **Recessed**

11:16:50 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 636 - Revise workers' compensation laws relating to exemptions from the act

11:16:58 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 636 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:45:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:16:58 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Bruce Gillespie

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 682 - Revise laws related to collection of genetic material for newborn screenings

11:18:09 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 682 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

11:18:19 Chair Jason Small

11:18:32 Sen. Bruce Gillespie

11:18:40 Vice Chair Mark Noland

10:45:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:18:09 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Mark Noland

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 751 - Revise laws related to nonopioid alternatives for treatment of pain

11:19:18 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 751 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

11:19:31 Vice Chair Mark Noland
10:45:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
11:19:18 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Willis Curdy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 115 - Consolidating and clarifying penalties for unlicensed practice

11:20:20 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 115 BE CONCURRED IN.**
10:45:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
11:20:20 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 358 - Revise property manager license law

11:21:30 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 358 BE CONCURRED IN.**
11:21:44 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 358 BE AMENDED.**
10:45:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
11:22:29 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 358 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:52:38 Executive Action Plan
11:22:40 Sen. Walt Sales
11:23:06 Vice Chair Mark Noland
10:45:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
11:22:29 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Daniel Zolnikov

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 409 - Adopt advanced practice nurse compact

11:23:56 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 409 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

11:24:06 Vice Chair Willis Curdy
11:24:24 Chair Jason Small
11:24:45 Vice Chair Mark Noland

11:25:24 Sen. Walt Sales

10:45:29 **Vote:** Motion tied 5 - 5 by voice vote

11:26:35 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 409 TO TABLE.**

10:45:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 573 - Remove contracts under MT Community Service Act
from the MT Procurement Act**

11:27:06 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 573 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:45:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:27:06 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Willis Curdy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 658 - Generally revise card transaction fees

11:28:30 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 658 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

11:28:46 Vice Chair Mark Noland

11:29:15 Sen. Bruce Gillespie

11:29:21 Erin Sullivan

11:29:29 Sen. Bruce Gillespie

10:45:29 **Vote:** Motion failed 9 - 1 by voice vote with Sen. Noland, voting yes.

11:30:21 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 658 TO TABLE.**

10:45:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:31:40

Lynnette Sena, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230404BUSaad\)](#)