

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Jason Small-R, on April 19, 2023 at 9:33 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:** 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:

Executive Action:

HB 87  
HB 546 TO TABLE  
HB 648  
HB 867  
HB 952  
HB 969 TO TABLE

**Committee Discussion:** Amendments

09:33:50 Chair Jason Small  
09:35:36 Erin Sullivan  
09:40:06 Vice Chair Willis Curdy  
09:40:16 Erin Sullivan  
09:43:23 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick joined the meeting.  
09:46:09 Chair Jason Small  
09:46:30 **Recessed**  
10:15:08 **Reconvened**

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 87 - Standardize licensing board organization**

10:15:21 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 87 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:15:41 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 87 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:15:58 Vice Chair Mark Noland  
10:16:13 Sen. Walt Sales  
10:15:41 **Vote:** Motion carried 7 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Curdy, Sen. Fox, Sen. Pope, voting no.  
Sen. Pope, By Proxy

10:17:14 **Motion:** Vice Chair Willis Curdy moved that **HB 87 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:17:32 Vice Chair Willis Curdy  
10:19:22 Chair Jason Small  
10:17:14 **Vote:** Motion tied 5 - 5 roll call vote  
10:20:56 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 87 BE AMENDED.**  
10:20:56 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.  
10:21:55 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 87 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**  
10:21:55 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:21:55 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Bruce Gillespie

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 546 - Authorize additional funding for coal trust loan program for housing**

10:23:22 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 546 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:23:52 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 546 BE AMENDED.**

10:23:52 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:24:35 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 546 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:24:51 Chair Jason Small

10:25:06 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick-R

10:25:37 **Substitute Motion:** Vice Chair Willis Curdy moved that **HB 546 TO TABLE.**

10:25:37 **Vote:** Substitute Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 648 - Provide for the best beginnings scholarship program**

10:26:13 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 648 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

10:26:29 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick

10:26:58 Vice Chair Mark Noland

10:27:28 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick

10:28:04 Vice Chair Willis Curdy

10:28:47 Sen. Walt Sales

10:26:13 **Vote:** Motion carried 9 - 1 by voice vote with Sen. Noland, voting no.

10:26:13 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 867 - Generally revise agency liquor store laws**

10:29:58 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 867 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:30:25 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 867 BE AMENDED.**

10:30:25 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:31:13 **Motion:** Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 867 BE AMENDED.**

10:31:13 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:31:55 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 867 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:32:02 Vice Chair Mark Noland

10:31:55 **Vote:** Motion carried 9 - 1 by voice vote with Sen. Noland, voting no.

10:31:55 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Jason Small

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 952 - Create grant program for autism facilities**

10:33:06 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 952 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:33:06 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:33:06 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Shane Morigeau

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 969 - Creating a third-party alcohol delivery license**

10:34:05 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 969 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:34:16 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 969 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:34:38 Vice Chair Mark Noland

10:34:16 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:35:24 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 969 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:35:37 Vice Chair Mark Noland

10:36:45 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mark Noland moved that **HB 969 TO TABLE.**

10:36:45 **Vote:** Motion carried 7 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Fitzpatrick, Sen. Small, Sen. Vermeire, voting no.

**Committee Discussion:** Schedule Discussion

10:37:36 Chair Jason Small

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 10:39:33

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Daisy Rhodes, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230419BUSaad\)](#)