

MINUTES

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND LABOR

Call to Order: By Chairman Scott Mendenhall, on April 3, 2007 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 172 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Scott Mendenhall, Chairman (R)
Rep. Jim Keane, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Mike Milburn, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Elsie Arntzen (R)
Rep. Shannon Augare (D)
Rep. Scott Boggio (R)
Rep. Ernie Dutton (R)
Rep. Kevin T. Furey (D)
Rep. Ralph Heinert (R)
Rep. Llew Jones (R)
Rep. Harry Klock (R)
Rep. Michele Reinhart (D)
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)
Rep. Bill Thomas (D)
Rep. Kendall Van Dyk (D)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Bart Campbell, Legislative Branch
Nancy Kraft, Committee Secretary

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: SB 140, 3/27/2007; SB 542,
3/27/2007
Executive Action: SB 419; SB 542; SB 140; SB 426

HEARING ON SB 542

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:49 Sen. Don Ryan (D), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 542, Revise group life insurance payment options.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:01:39 Jacqueline Lenmark, American Council of Life Insurers

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:05:53 Carol Roy, State Auditor's Office

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:07:05 Rep. Mendenhall

00:07:15 Ms. Lenmark

Closing by Sponsor:

00:08:09 Sen. Ryan

HEARING ON SB 140

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:09:13 Sen. Dan Weinberg (D), SD 2, opened the hearing on SB 140, Revise small business health insurance pool laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:17:16 Gordy Higgins, Deputy State Auditor, State Auditor's Office

EXHIBIT (buh71a01)

00:18:55 Emily Lipp Sirota, Governor's Office of Economic Development

00:19:21 Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce

00:23:13 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business

00:26:28 Claudia Clifford, Associate State Director, AARP

00:27:45 Tanya Ask, Blue Cross Blue Shield

00:29:02 Gary Amestoy, Richland County Economic Development Corporation

Opponents' Testimony:

00:29:52 Brad Griffin, Montana Retail Association
00:31:31 Darren Engellant, Montana Retail Association
00:35:14 Frank Cote, America's Health Insurance Plans

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:38:09 Rep. Furey
00:38:28 Mr. Higgins
00:41:44 Rep. Dutton
00:41:50 Mr. Higgins
00:43:02 Rep. Reinhart
00:43:11 Mr. Engellant
00:44:12 Sen. Weinberg
00:48:25 Rep. Reinhart
00:48:40 Mr. Higgins
00:49:35 Rep. Milburn
00:49:52 Mr. Cote
00:52:38 Rep. Arntzen
00:53:08 Mr. Higgins

Closing by Sponsor:

00:54:49 Sen. Weinberg
00:58:04 Break

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 419

01:33:52 **Motion:** Rep. Reinhart moved that SB 419 **BE CONCURRED IN.**

01:34:17 **Motion:** Rep. Keane moved that SB 419 **BE AMENDED.**

EXHIBIT (buh71a02)

Discussion:

01:34:28 Bart Campbell
01:35:03 Rep. Reinhart

01:36:09 **Vote:** Motion carried 12-4 by voice vote with Reps. Augare, Furey, Reinhart, and Van Dyk voting no. Rep. Windy Boy voted by proxy.

01:36:55 **Motion:** Rep. Reinhart moved that SB 419 **BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:37:06 Rep. Furey
01:37:59 Rep. Dutton
01:38:10 Rep. Boggio
01:38:41 Rep. Reinhart
01:39:10 Rep. Thomas
01:39:26 Rep. Keane
01:39:49 Rep. Furey
01:40:13 Rep. Keane
01:40:36 Rep. Milburn

01:40:46 **Vote:** Motion carried 13-3 by roll call vote with Reps. Boggio, Mendenhall, and Milburn voting no. Reps. Windy Boy, Klock, and Stahl voted by proxy. Rep. Reinhart will carry this bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 542

01:42:10 **Motion:** Rep. Milburn moved that SB 542 **BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:42:43 Rep. Keane
01:43:05 Rep. Mendenhall
01:43:30 Rep. Jones
01:44:16 Rep. Boggio

01:45:12 **Vote:** Motion carried 13-3 by roll call vote with Reps. Boggio, Mendenhall, and Windy Boy voting no. Reps. Klock and Stahl voted by proxy. Rep. Heinert will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 140

01:47:07 **Motion:** Rep. Milburn moved that SB 140 **BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:47:18 Rep. Milburn
01:48:03 Rep. Keane
01:48:11 Rep. Reinhart

01:49:03 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Boggio made a substitute motion that SB 140 **BE TABLED.** Substitute motion carried 9-5 by roll call vote of present and voting with Reps.

Augare, Furey, Milburn, Reinhart, and Van Dyk voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 426

01:50:41 **Motion:** Rep. Van Dyk moved that SB 426 **BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:50:50 Rep. Milburn

01:51:41 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Furey moved that SB 426 **BE AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Reps. Klock and Stahl voted by proxy.

EXHIBIT (buh71a03)

01:53:44 **Motion:** Rep. Van Dyk moved that SB 426 **BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:53:54 Rep. Van Dyk

01:55:07 Rep. Dutton

01:57:34 **Vote:** Motion failed 8-8 by roll call vote with Reps. Augare, Furey, Keane, Reinhart, Stahl, Thomas, Van Dyk, and Windy Boy voting aye. Reps. Klock and Stahl voted by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

01:59:22 Adjournment: 10:00 A.M.

REP. SCOTT MENDENHALL, Chairman

NANCY KRAFT, Secretary

SM/nk

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([buh71aad.pdf](#))