

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA SENATE  
60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN TRUDI SCHMIDT**, on February 15, 2007  
at 8:00 A.M., in Room 317-B Capitol.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Trudi Schmidt, Chairman (D)  
Sen. Keith Bales (R)  
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)  
Sen. John Brueggeman (R)  
Sen. John Cobb (R)  
Sen. Mike Cooney (D)  
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)  
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)  
Sen. Bob Hawks (D)  
Sen. Rick Laible (R)  
Sen. Lane L. Larson (D)  
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)  
Sen. Greg Lind (D)  
Sen. Corey Stapleton (R)  
Sen. Bill Tash (R)  
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)  
Sen. David E. Wanzonried (D)  
Sen. Dan Weinberg (D)  
Sen. Carol Williams (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary  
Taryn Purdy, Legislative Branch

**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 127, 2/12/2007; SB 113,  
2/12/2007; SB 68, 2/12/2007; SB  
235, 2/12/2007  
Executive Action: SB 55; SB 79; SB 112; SB 118; SB  
243; SB 413; SB 68; SB 127; SB 113

00:00:00

*Note: First hearing was delayed several minutes to get fiscal note.*

**HEARING ON SB 127**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:04:06 **SEN. DAVID WANZENRIED (D), SD 49**, opened the hearing on **SB 127**, Revise out-of-state winery access to Montana retailers.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None.

00:05:21 Shauna Helfert, Department of Revenue

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:09:08 Sen. Hanson to Shauna Helfert

00:09:45 Sen. Barkus to Shauna Helfert

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:10:31 Sen. Wanzenried.

**HEARING ON SB 113**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:11:53 **SEN. DAVE LEWIS (R), SD 42**, opened the hearing on **SB 113**, Increase meal reimbursement rates for state employees.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:14:27 Tom Schneider, MT Public Employees Association (MPEA)

00:15:27 J. C. Weingartner, MEA-MFT

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

00:16:10 Paul Christofferson, Department of Administration

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:16:35 Sen. Weinberg to Sen. Lewis

00:18:00 Sen. Hawks to Sen. Lewis

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:18:52 Sen. Lewis

**HEARING ON SB 68**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:19:10 **SEN. DAVID WANZENRIED (D), SD 49**, opened the hearing on **SB 68**, Clarify confidentiality terms in private equity investments using public funds.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:21:17 Carroll South, Executive Director, Montana Board of Investments

**EXHIBIT (fcs34a01)**

00:30:40 Riley Johnson, Montana Newspaper Association

**EXHIBIT (fcs34a02)**

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:33:36 Sen. Weinberg to Carroll South

00:40:04 Sen. Barkus to Carroll South

00:47:09 Sen. Lewis to Carroll South

00:51:42 Sen. Hawks

00:51:54 Sen. Lewis to Carroll South

00:53:11 Sen. Laible to Carroll South

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:55:34 Sen. Cooney closed on the bill for Sen. Wanzenried.

**HEARING ON SB 235**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:56:08 **SEN. STEVEN GALLUS (D), SD 37**, opened the hearing on **SB 235**, Establish SW Montana veterans' home - use 2 cents cigarette tax money.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:59:41 Bob Pavlovich

01:01:46 Roger Hagen, National Guard of Montana

01:04:34 Colonel Jim Jacobsen

01:06:42 Dan Antonietti, VFW

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

01:07:25 Kelly Williams, Senior and Long Term Care Division,  
Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

**EXHIBIT (fcs34a03)**

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:08:27 Sen. Hawks to Sen. Gallus

01:10:35 Sen. Hawks to Kelly Williams

01:12:48 Sen. Cobb to Kelly Williams

01:14:14 Sen. Tash to Sen. Gallus

01:15:54 Sen. Stapleton to Sen. Gallus

01:21:05 Sen. Hawks to Sen. Steve Gallus

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:21:53 Sen. Gallus closed on the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 55**

01:24:01 **Motion:** SEN. HAWKS moved that SB 55 DO PASS AS AMENDED.

01:24:20 Sen. Cooney

01:25:00 **Vote:** Motion carried 12-7 by roll call vote with SEN. BALES, SEN. BARKUS, SEN. BRUEGGEMAN, SEN. LAIBLE, SEN. LEWIS, SEN. STAPLETON, and SEN. TASH voting no. SEN. GALLUS, SEN. LARSON, SEN. LIND, SEN. WANZENRIED, SEN. WEINBERG and SEN. WILLIAMS voting aye by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 79**

01:27:20 **Motion:** SEN. LAIBLE moved that SB 79 DO PASS.

**Discussion:**

01:27:45 Taryn Purdy, Legislative Fiscal Division

01:28:40 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. LAIBLE moved that AMENDMENT SB07902.ATP BE ADOPTED. Motion carried 19-0.

01:28:59 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. LAIBLE moved that SB 79 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 112**

01:29:53 **Motion:** SEN. LEWIS moved that SB 112 DO PASS.

01:30:13 **Motion:** SEN. COBB moved that AMENDMENT SB011201.ATP BE ADOPTED.

**EXHIBIT (fcs34a04)**

**Discussion:**

01:30:45 Sen. Lewis

01:31:57 Taryn Purdy, Legislative Fiscal Division  
01:32:15 Sen. Cobb  
01:33:03 Sen. Barkus  
01:33:39 Sen. Tropila to Sue Daly, Fish, Wildlife and Parks  
01:34:42 **Vote: Motion failed 3-13 with SEN. COBB, SEN. COONEY,  
and SEN. SCHMIDT voting aye.**  
01:35:46 **Vote: Motion carried 18-1 with SEN. COBB voting no.**

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 118**

01:36:18 **Motion/Vote: SEN. COBB moved that SB 118 DO PASS.  
Motion carried unanimously.**

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 243**

01:37:32 **Motion: SEN. LEWIS moved that SB 243 DO PASS.**  
01:37:39 **Motion/Vote: SEN. COBB moved that AMENDMENT  
SB024301.APS BE ADOPTED. Motion failed with SEN. COBB,  
SEN. COONEY, SEN. HAWKS, SEN. SCHMIDT and SEN.  
WANZENRIED voting aye.**

**EXHIBIT** (fcs34a05)

01:38:55 **Vote: Motion carried 18-1 with SEN. COBB voting no.**

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 413**

01:39:38 **Motion: SEN. COBB moved that SB 413 DO PASS.**  
01:39:44 **Motion: SEN. COBB moved that AMENDMENT SB041301.ADB BE  
ADOPTED.**

**EXHIBIT** (fcs34a06)

**Discussion:**

01:40:02 Taryn Purdy, Legislative Fiscal Division  
01:40:25 **Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

01:40:32 Motion/Vote: SEN. COBB moved that AMENDMENT SB041302.ADB BE ADOPTED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXHIBIT (fcs34a07)

01:41:02 Motion/Vote: SEN. COBB moved that SB 413 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 68

01:42:50 Motion: SEN. WANZENRIED moved that SB 68 DO PASS.

01:43:02 Motion/Vote: SEN. WANZENRIED moved that AMENDMENT SB006801.APM BE ADOPTED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

01:43:37 Motion: SEN. WANZENRIED moved that SB 68 DO PASS AS AMENDED.

Discussion:

01:43:47 Motion: SEN. BARKUS moved a CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT to strike the "whereas's" in the preamble of the bill.

01:44:07 Sen. Wanzenreid

01:44:15 Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

01:44:41 Sen. Hawks

01:45:21 Motion/Vote: SEN. WANZENRIED moved that SB 68 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried 17-2 with SEN. STAPLETON and SEN. WEINBERG voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 127

01:46:51 Motion/Vote: SEN. WANZENRIED moved that SB 127 DO PASS. Motion carried 18-1 by voice vote with SEN. BARKUS voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 113

01:47:28 Motion: SEN. LEWIS moved that SB 113 DO PASS.

Discussion:

01:47:39 Sen. Stapleton to Sen. Lewis

01:50:44 Sen. Cooney

01:51:54 Sen. Hawks to Sen. Lewis

01:52:17 Sen. Laible to Sen. Lewis

01:52:36 Sen. Schmidt

01:52:50 **Vote: Motion carried 18-1 by voice vote with SEN.  
STAPLETON voting no.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 9:57 P.M.

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SEN. TRUDI SCHMIDT, Chairman

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PRUDENCE GILDROY, Secretary

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Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([fcs34aad.pdf](#))**