

**MINUTES**

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

**COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN VICKI COCCHIARELLA**, on March 16, 2007  
at 9:00 A.M., in Room 422 Capitol.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Vicki Cocchiarella, Chairman (D)  
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)  
Sen. Roy Brown (R)  
Sen. John Esp (R)  
Sen. Verdell Jackson (R)  
Sen. Lane L. Larson (D)  
Sen. Don Ryan (D)  
Sen. Frank Smith (D)  
Sen. Carolyn Squires (D)  
Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser (R)  
Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Claudia Johnson, Committee Secretary  
Pat Murdo, 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: HB 58, 3/13/2007; HB 113,  
3/13/2007; HB 378, 3/13/2007  
Executive Action: HB 378, HB 58, HB 409, HB 485

00:01:58 Vice Chair Sen. Tropila

**HEARING ON HB 58**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:41 **REP. JIM KEANE (D), HD 75**, opened the hearing on **HB 58**, Increase unemployment benefit/allow if leave job for spouse's military transfer.

**EXHIBIT (bus56a01)**

**Proponents:**

00:06:56 Dan Antoniette, Self

00:07:31 Roger Hagan, Montana Enlisted Officers and National Guard Association

00:08:14 Jim Jacobsen, Retired Col., American Legion

**Opponents:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

00:08:48 Roy Mulvaney, Administrator, Unemployment Insurance Division, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:10:00 Sen. Esp to Rep. Keane

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:11:15 Rep. Keane

**HEARING ON HB 113**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:11:40 **REP. BILL MCCHESENEY (D), HD 40**, opened the hearing on **HB 113**, Revise residency requirements for liquor licenses.

**Proponents:**

- 00:13:44 Shauna Helfert, Administrator, Liquor Division,  
Department of Revenue (DOR)
- 00:17:37 Gene Huntington, Administrator, Gambling Control  
Division, Department of Justice (DOJ)
- 00:18:10 Chris Gallus, Staples Law Firm, Montana Tavern's  
Association (MTA)

**Opponents:**

- 00:19:00 Rachel Roberts, Montana Family Foundation

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

- 00:21:37 Sen. Balyeat to Gene Huntington, DOJ
- 00:23:03 Sen. Balyeat to Shauna Helfert, DOR
- 00:23:48 Sen. Balyeat to Jason Wood, Licensing Supervisor,  
Liquor Division, DOR
- 00:28:52 Sen. Balyeat to Shauna Helfert, DOR
- 00:32:11 Sen. Esp to Shauna Helfert, DOR
- 00:33:16 Sen. Brown to Shauna Helfert, DOR
- 00:36:30 Sen. Brown to Rep. McChesney
- 00:36:58 Sen. Ryan to Shauna Helfert, DOR
- 00:37:32 Sen. Ryan to Jason Wood, DOR
- 00:38:59 Sen. Ryan to Chris Gallus, MTA
- 00:40:21 Sen. Ryan to Shauna Helfert, DOR
- 00:41:25 Sen. Ryan to Gene Huntington, DOJ
- 00:44:29 Sen. Ryan to Chris Gallus, MTA
- 00:45:28 Sen. Jackson to Chris Gallus, MTA
- 00:49:35 Sen. Jackson to Gene Huntington, DOJ

00:51:02 Sen. Squires to Jason Wood, DOR

00:53:07 Sen. Jackson to Rachel Roberts, Montana Family Foundation

00:54:29 Sen. Smith to Rachel Roberts, Montana Family Foundation

00:56:41 Sen. Squires to Rachel Roberts, Montana Family Foundation

00:59:55 Sen. Brown to Rachel Roberts, Montana Family Foundation

01:01:40 Sen. Smith to Rachel Roberts, Montana Family Foundation

01:02:39 Sen. Tropila to Shauna Helfert, DOR

01:03:09 Sen. Tropila to Pat Murdo, LSD

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:03:36 Rep. Mcchesney

**HEARING ON HB 378**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:07:09 **REP. JONATHAN WINDY BOY (D), HD 32**, opened the hearing on **HB 378**, Revise nursing home administration laws.

**EXHIBIT (bus56a02)**

**Proponents:**

01:09:35 Rose Hughes, Executive Director, Montana Health Care Association (MHCA)

**EXHIBIT (bus56a03)**

01:12:34 Linda Sandman, Sunheaven Assisted Living Center

01:13:49 Casey Blumenthal, Montana Hospital Association, and Nursing Homes Association

01:14:50 Lisa Addington, Health Care Licensing, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

**Opponents:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:15:30 Sen. Esp to Lisa Addington, DLI  
01:16:43 Sen. Cocchiarella arrived  
01:16:55 Sen. Squires to Sen. Cocchiarella  
01:18:00 Sen. Squires to Lisa Addington, DLI  
01:20:03 Sen. Balyeat to Rose Hughes, MHCA

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:23:21 Rep. Windy Boy

**Discussion:**

01:24:21 Chairwoman Cocchiarella

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 378**

01:24:26 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. SQUIRES moved that HB 378 BE CONCURRED IN. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 58**

01:25:15 **Motion:** SEN. RYAN moved that HB 58 BE CONCURRED IN.

**Discussion:**

01:27:12 Sen. Balyeat to Don Gilbert, DLI  
01:28:19 Sen. Cocchiarella to Don Gilbert, DLI  
01:30:39 Sen. Cocchiarella to Don Gilbert, DLI  
01:31:28 Sen. Squires to Don Gilbert, DLI  
01:32:45 Sen. Esp to Sen. Cocchiarella  
01:32:59 Sen. Ryan to Don Gilbert, DLI

01:34:11 Sen. Cocchiarella to Don Gilbert, DLI

01:34:26 Sen. Balyeat to Sen. Esp

01:34:52 Sen. Balyeat

01:36:27 Sen. Cocchiarella

01:38:19 Sen. Squires

01:40:36 Sen. Esp

01:41:10 Sen. Tropila

01:41:18 Sen. Larson

01:43:45 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. RYAN CALLED THE QUESTION ON HB 58.  
Motion carried 10-1 by voice vote with SEN. BALYEAT  
voting no.

Discussion:

01:44:04 Sen. Esp to Sen. Larson

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 409

01:45:39 **Motion:** SEN. SQUIRES moved that HB 409 BE CONCURRED  
IN.

Discussion:

01:46:16 Sen. Cocchiarella to Sen. Balyeat

01:46:41 **Motion:** SEN. BALYEAT moved that AMENDMENT HB040901.APM  
BE ADOPTED.

EXHIBIT (bus56a04)

Discussion:

01:50:37 SEN. BALYEAT withdrew his motion on amendment  
HB040901.APM.

01:50:57 **Motion:** SEN. BALYEAT moved that AMENDMENT HB040902.APM  
BE ADOPTED.

EXHIBIT (bus56a05)

**Discussion:**

01:53:51 Sen. Cocchiarella

01:54:50 Sen. Esp to Pat Murdo, LSD

01:55:25 Sen. Brown

01:56:40 Sen. Balyeat to Pat Murdo, LSD

01:58:53 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. BROWN CALLED THE QUESTION ON AMENDMENT HB040902.APM. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

02:00:00 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. BALYEAT moved that HB 409 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 485**

02:01:32 **Motion:** SEN. SQUIRES moved that HB 448 BE CONCURRED IN.

**Discussion:**

02:02:22 Pat Murdo, LSD

[EXHIBIT \(bus56a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(bus56a07\)](#)

02:06:20 **Motion:** SEN. SQUIRES moved that AMENDMENT HSB048501.APM BE ADOPTED.

**Discussion:**

02:07:27 Sen. Esp

02:08:33 sen. Brown

02:11:53 Sen. Ryan

02:12:43 Sen. Jackson

02:13:47 Sen. Balyeat

02:14:49 Sen. Cocchiarella

02:15:01 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. TROPILA moved that HB 485 BE TABLED.  
**Motion carried 8-3 by voice vote with SEN.**  
**COCCHIARELLA, SEN. LARSON, and SEN. SQUIRES voting no.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:15 A.M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SEN. VICKI COCCHIARELLA, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLAUDIA JOHNSON, Secretary

VC/cj

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([bus56aad.pdf](#))**