

**MINUTES**

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

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

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN VICKI COCCHIARELLA**, on April 13, 2007  
at 11:00 A.M., in Room 350 Capitol.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Vicki Cocchiarella, Chairman (D)  
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)  
Sen. Roy Brown (R)  
Sen. John Esp (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:**

Sen. Verdell Jackson (R)

**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 141, 4/9/2007; HB 790, 4/9/2007;  
SJ 29, 4/12/2007; SJ 30, 4/12/2007  
Executive Action: HB 790, HB 141, HB 665

00:23:55 Chairwoman Cocchiarella

**HEARING ON HB 141**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:24:37 **REP. HAL JACOBSON (D), HD 82**, opened the hearing on **HB 141**, Generally revise Montana consumer loan act.

**Proponents:**

00:26:34 Annie Goodwin, Commissioner of Banking Financial Institutions, Department of Administration (D of A)

**EXHIBIT (bus78b01)**

00:31:55 Jerry Loendorf, Montana Consumer Finance Association

**Opponents:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:32:47 Rep. Jacobson

**HEARING ON HB 790**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:33:20 **REP. LLEW JONES (R), HD 27**, opened the hearing on **HB 790**, Revise unemployment insurance contribution rates & admin. assessments.

**Proponents:**

00:38:07 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)

00:41:31 Jason Miller, Montana AFL-CIO

**Opponents:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

00:42:07 Roy Mulvaney, Administrator, Unemployment Division,  
Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:42:56 Sen. Cocchiarella to Roy Mulvaney, DLI

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:47:34 Rep. Jones

**HEARING ON SJ 29**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:51:01 **SEN. JOE BALLYEAT (R), SD 34**, opened the hearing on **SJ 29**, Study board of investment policies.

**Proponents:** None.

**Opponents:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:52:45 Sen. Balyeat

**HEARING ON SJ 30**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:52:50 **SEN. FRANK SMITH (D), SD 16**, opened the hearing on **SJ 30**, Study employee drug testing.

**Proponents:**

00:53:53 Jani McCall, Employment Benefit Management Services,  
Inc. (EBMS)

00:54:13 Jason Miller, Montana AFL-CIO

**EXHIBIT (bus78b02)**

**Opponents:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

01:00:32 Mark Cadwallader, Attorney, DLI

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:01:59 Sen. Smith

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 790**

01:03:03 **Motion:** SEN. SQUIRES moved that HB 790 BE CONCURRED IN.

**Discussion:**

01:03:11 Sen. Squires to Sen. Cocchiarella

01:05:04 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. ESP CALLED THE QUESTION ON HB 790. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. SEN. JACKSON voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 141**

01:06:08 **Motion:** SEN. STEINBEISSER moved that HB 141 BE CONCURRED IN.

**Discussion:**

01:06:21 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. ESP moved that AMENDMENT HB014101.APM BE ADOPTED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. SEN. JACKSON voted by proxy.

01:06:42 **Motion:** SEN. STEINBEISSER moved that HB 141 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.

**Discussion:**

01:06:52 Sen. Brown

01:07:50 **Vote:** MOTION that HB 141 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED carried 7-4 by voice vote with SEN. BALYEAT, SEN. BROWN, SEN. ESP, and SEN. JACKSON voting no. SEN. JACKSON voted by proxy.

**Discussion:**

01:08:29 Pat Murdo, LSD  
01:09:12 Sen. Squires to Sen. Cocchiarella  
01:09:48 Sen. Cocchiarella  
01:11:15 Sen. Smith  
01:11:34 Sen. Cocchiarella

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 665**

01:12:39 **Motion:** SEN. SQUIRES moved that HB 665 BE CONCURRED IN.

**Discussion:**

01:13:09 Sen. Esp  
01:13:53 Sen. Steinbeisser  
01:14:17 Sen. Cocchiarella  
01:14:30 Sen. Squires  
01:15:49 Sen. Esp  
01:16:20 **Vote:** Motion that HB 665 BE CONCURRED IN carried 6-5 by voice vote with SEN. BALYEAT, SEN. BROWN, SEN. ESP, SEN. JACKSON, and SEN. STEINBEISSER voting no. SEN. JACKSON voted by proxy.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 1:00 P.M.

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

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

VC/cj

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([bus78bad.pdf](#))**