

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 63rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY

Call to Order: Chair Jason Priest, on February 13, 2013 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Terry Murphy, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Mary Caferro (D)
Sen. Greg Jergeson (D)
Sen. Fred Thomas (R)
Sen. David E. Wanzonried (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Jason Priest, Chair (R)
Sen. Art Wittich (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Julie Emge, Committee Secretary
Alexis Sandru, 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 181, 1/23/2013; SB 218, 2/1/2013; HB 270 2/8/2013

HEARING ON SB 218

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:14:09 Sen. Janna Taylor (R), SD 6, opened the hearing on SB 218, Revise laws related to containing health care costs.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:20:23 Kiely Keane, Montana Medical Association (MMA)
00:27:58 Dewey Hahlbohm, Montana Academy of Physician Assistants (MTAPA)
00:29:18 William Gallea, MD, representing Montana Medical Association (MMA), Montana Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (MCACEP), St. Peters Hospital (SPH)
00:34:55 Carter Beck, MD, representing Montana Medical Association (MMA)
00:37:34 Bill Hasquet, OD, President, Montana Optometric Association (MOA)
00:41:56 Tom Ebzery, representing Montana Catholic Hospitals (MCH), St. Joseph's Hospital (SJH), St. Patrick's Hospital (SPH), St. Vincent Hospital (SVH), Holy Rosery Hospital (HRH), St. James Hospital (SJH)
00:43:17 Bob Olsen, Montana Hospital Association (MHA)
00:43:34 Aimee Grmoljez, Billings Clinic (BC)
00:44:33 Bill Warden, representing St. Peter's Hospital (SPH), Benefis Healthcare Systems, Bozeman Deaconess Hospital (BDH)
00:44:54 Glen Oppel, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)
00:45:38 David Hemion, Executive Director, Montana Dental Association (MDA)
00:46:25 Mona Jamison, representing The Doctor's Company (TDC)
00:47:02 Marti Wangen, Executive Director, Montana Podiatric Medical Association (MPMA)
00:47:25 Mark Staples, representing Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana (BCBSMT)
00:47:40 Greg Drapes, CEO, Monida Healthcare Network (MHN)
00:48:35 Leo Barry, representing Utah Medical Insurance Association (UMIA)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:49:12 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA)
[EXHIBIT\(phs32a01\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:00:18 Sen. Jergeson
01:01:38 Sen. Taylor
01:01:52 Ms. Keane, MMA
01:02:16 Sen. Jergeson
01:03:04 Ms. Keane

Closing by Sponsor:

01:03:45 Sen. Taylor

HEARING ON SB 181

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:05:55 Sen. Mary Caferro (D), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB 181, Exempt health care sharing ministries from insurance laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:07:00 Joe Guarino, Government Affairs Director, Alliance of Health Care Sharing Ministries (AHCSM)

01:14:02 Sen. Verdell Jackson, SD 5, representing himself

Opponents' Testimony:

01:19:51 Jesse Laslovich, representing Montana Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, State Auditor (CSI)

Informational Testimony: None

01:25:00 Sen. Wittich entered the hearing

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:26:23 Sen. Thomas

01:26:35 Mr. Guarino, AHCSM

01:27:23 Sen. Walker

01:27:31 Mr. Guarino

Closing by Sponsor:

01:27:44 Sen. Caferro

HEARING ON SB 270

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:28:36 Sen. Edward Buttrey (R), SD 13, opened the hearing on SB 270, Require insurance coverage of telemedicine services.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:31:22 Thelma McClosky-Armstrong, Director, Eastern Montana Telemedicine Network (EMTN)

EXHIBIT(phs32a02)

01:35:35 Cindy Leenknecht, Telehealth Clinical Nurse Specialist for Partners in Health Telemedicine Network (PHTN), St. Vincent Health Care (SVHC)

01:37:35 Cherie Taylor, CEO, Northern Rockies Medical Center (NRMC)

01:40:50 Mona Jamison, representing Shodair Children's Hospital (SCH)

01:42:10 Kip Smith, Executive Director, Health Information Exchange of Montana (HIEM)
01:44:42 Jack King, Executive Director, REACH Montana Telehealth Network (RMTN),
Director, North Central Montana Health Care Alliance (NCMHCA)
01:47:30 Mike Foster, representing Catholic Hospitals of Montana (CHM)
01:48:20 Bob Olsen, Montana Hospital Association (MHA)
01:50:19 Cliff Christian, Government Affairs Director, American Heart Association (AHA),
American Stroke Association (ASA)

EXHIBIT(phs32a03)

01:54:20 Aidan Myhre, representing Kalispell Regional Medical Center

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:54:56 Christina Goe, representing Montana Commissioner of Securities and Insurance,
State Auditor (CSI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:55:12 Sen. Thomas
01:55:25 Sen. Buttrey
01:56:28 Sen. Wittich
01:57:40 Sen. Buttrey
01:58:31 Ms. McClosky-Armstrong, EMTN
01:59:45 Sen. Wittich

Closing by Sponsor:

02:01:35 Sen. Buttrey

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:50 p.m.

Julie Emge, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([phs32aad.pdf](#))