

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 63rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY

Call to Order: Chair Jason Priest, on April 3, 2013 at 4:25 PM, in Room 350 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Jason Priest, Chair (R)
Sen. Terry Murphy, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Mary Caferro (D)
Sen. Greg Jergeson (D)
Sen. David E. Wanzenried (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Fred Thomas (R)
Sen. Art Wittich (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Nadine Spencer, 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: HB 87, 3/27/2013; HJ 16, 3/28/2013; SB 409, 4/2/2013

Executive Action: HB 87 - Tabled
HJ 16 - Be Concurred In
SB 409 - Tabled

HEARING ON HB 87

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:04:52 Rep. Jeffrey Welborn (R), HD 72, opened the hearing on HB 87, Provide state insurance commissioner with health insurance rate review authority.

00:05:53 Sen. Priest left the hearing and Vice Chair Murphy took over as Chair.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:06:35 Jesse Laslovich, Chief Legal Counsel, Office of the Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, State Auditor (CSI)

[EXHIBIT\(phs69a01\)](#)

00:08:32 Frank Cote, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana (BCBSMT)

00:09:32 Joy Bruck, State President, AARP Montana

[EXHIBIT\(phs69a02\)](#)

00:10:32 Bruce Spencer, Americas Health Insurance Plans and Pacific Source Insurance

00:11:43 Amiee Grmoljez, New West Health Insurance

00:12:08 John Barrows, Montana Newspaper Association

00:13:12 Sheena Rice, Montana Organizing Project

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:14:21 Rep. Welborn

HEARING ON HJ 16

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:16:24 Rep. Jennifer Eck (D), HD 82, opened the hearing on HJ 16, Interim study of state-operated public institutions.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:19:26 Matt Kuntz, Executive Director, NAMI Montana

[EXHIBIT\(phs69a03\)](#)

00:19:56 Sen. Priest entered the hearing.

00:21:48 John Wilkinson, self

[EXHIBIT\(phs69a04\)](#)

00:27:09 Charlie Briggs, Easter Seals/Goodwill Rocky Mountain

00:28:23 Deborah Swingley, Executive Director and CEO of the Montana Council on
Developmental Disabilities (MTCDD)

[EXHIBIT\(phs69a05\)](#)

00:30:37 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:32:55 Rep. Eck

HEARING ON SB 409

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:33:26 Sen. Cliff Larsen (D), SD 50, opened the hearing on SB 409, Generally revise laws related to conversion of nonprofit health entities.

00:35:42 Sen. Caferro and Sen. Wanzenried left the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

00:36:08 Frank Cote, Blue Cross Blue Shield Montana (BCBSMT)

00:38:35 Sen. Thomas entered the hearing.

Informational Testimony:

00:39:58 Jesse Laslovich, Chief Legal Counsel, Office of the Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, State Auditor (CSI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:40:33 Chairman Priest

00:40:44 Frank Cote, BCBSMT

00:42:05 Chairman Priest

00:46:45 Sen. Larsen

00:47:01 Sen. Murphy

00:47:37 Jesse Laslovich, CSI

00:48:01 Sen. Murphy
 00:48:37 Sen Thomas left the hearing.
 00:48:41 Jesse Laslovich
 00:48:52 Sen. Murphy
 00:48:56 Sen. Larsen
 00:50:04 Chairman Priest
 00:50:51 Sen. Larsen
 00:51:40 Sen. Murphy
 00:52:17 Frank Cote
 00:54:12 Sen. Murphy
 00:54:31 Frank Cote
 00:55:57 Sen. Murphy
 00:56:34 Chairman Priest
 00:59:35 Sen. Larsen
 01:00:17 Sen. Wittich entered the hearing.
 01:00:52 Chairman Priest
 01:02:49 Sen. Larsen
 01:03:44 Chairman Priest
 01:03:56 Frank Cote
 01:07:14 Jesse Laslovich
 01:07:54 Chairman Priest
 01:08:50 Frank Cote
 01:10:16 Sen. Wittich
 01:15:53 Sen. Larsen
 01:16:09 Sen. Jergeson
 01:17:13 Jesse Laslovich
 01:17:18 Sen. Jergeson
 01:18:21 Frank Cote

Closing by Sponsor:

01:19:20 Sen. Larsen

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 87

01:23:02 **Motion:** Sen. Jergeson moved that **HB 87 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

j01:23:11 Chairman Priest
 01:24:31 Sen. Jergeson
 01:26:27 Sen. Wittich

01:27:56 **Vote:** Motion failed 3-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Caferro, Sen. Jergeson and Sen. Wanzenried voting aye. Sen. Caferro, Sen. Thomas and Sen. Wanzenried voted by proxy.

01:28:29 Without objection from the committee, Chairman Priest requested that the vote be reversed and the bill **TABLED.**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 16

01:28:44 **Motion:** Sen. Jergeson moved that **HJ 16 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:29:01 Sen. Wittich

01:29:36 Sen. Murphy

01:30:42 **Vote:** Motion carried 4-0 by voice vote. Sen. Caferro, Sen. Thomas and Sen. Wanzenried were excused. Sen. Murphy will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 409

01:31:12 **Motion:** Sen. Wittich moved that **SB 409 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:31:17 Sen. Jergeson

01:34:36 Sen. Murphy

01:36:16 Sen. Wittich

01:37:20 **Vote:** Motion failed 1-6 by roll call vote with Sen. Caferro voting aye. Sen. Caferro, Sen. Thomas and Sen. Wanzenried voted by proxy.

01:37:59 Without objection from the committee, Chairman Priest requested that the vote be reversed and the bill **TABLED.**

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 6:00 P.M.

Nadine Spencer, Secretary

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Additional Document:

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([phs69aad.pdf](#))