

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY

Call to Order: Vice Chair David Howard, on March 16, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Fred Thomas, Chair (R) (arrived after roll call)
Sen. David Howard, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Mary Caferro (D)
Sen. Diane Sands (D)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)
Sen. Nels Swandal (R)
Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy (D) (arrived after roll call)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Barbara Pietuch, 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: HB 318, 3/6/2015; HB 337, 3/6/2015; HB 422, 3/11/2015;
HB 429, 3/11/2015

Executive Action: HB 337 - BE CONCURRED IN; HB 422 - BE CONCURRED IN; HB 429 BE CONCURRED IN; HB 318 BE CONCURRED IN; HB 237 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED; HB 507 BE CONCURRED IN; HB 513 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED

HEARING ON HB 318

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:53 Rep. Ellie Boldman Hill (D), HD 90, opened the hearing on HB 318, Require insurance coverage for children with down syndrome.

EXHIBIT(phs54a01)

00:02:24 Sen. Windy Boy entered the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:06:04 Sarah Corbally, representing herself

00:08:16 Janice Driscoll Nugent, speech/language pathologist, Missoula County Public Schools

00:11:45 Bruce Brensdaal, representing himself

00:13:18 Jessica Crowley, representing herself and the Montana Downs Syndrome Association (MTDSA)

00:16:08 Wally Melcher, Montana Association for Community Disability Services - Systems Advocacy

00:19:26 Beth Brennehan, Disability Rights Montana

00:20:15 Joel Peden, Montana Centers for Independent Living

00:22:10 Jani McCall, Legacy Provider Group

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:22:52 Sen. Howard

00:23:05 Ms. Crowley, MTDSA

00:24:25 Sen. Sands

00:24:46 Rep. Hill

00:25:03 Sen. Sands

00:25:43 Ms. Nugent, Self

00:26:02 Sen. Sands

00:26:30 Rep. Hill

Closing by Sponsor:

00:28:48 Rep. Hill

HEARING ON HB 429

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:30:21 Rep. Ellie Boldman Hill (D), HD 90, opened the hearing on HB 429, Interstate medical licensure compact.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:32:51 Mary Anne Guggenheim, MD, Montana Board of Medical Examiners (MBME)
[EXHIBIT\(phs54a02\)](#)

00:43:36 Jean Branscum, executive vice president, Montana Medical Association
00:46:07 Dan Aune, executive director, Mental Health America of Montana
00:46:49 Casey Blumenthal, Association of Montana Health Care Providers
00:47:38 Aimee Grmoljez, Billings Clinic
00:48:34 Mike Foster, representing Catholic Hospitals, St Peter's Hospital, Benefis
Hospital and Bozeman Deaconess Hospital
00:49:18 Aidan Myhre, Kalispell Regional Medical Center

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:49:44 Ian Marquand, Montana Board of Medical Examiners

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:49:59 Sen. Sands
00:51:24 Ms. Guggenheim, MBME

00:52:01 Chairman Thomas entered the hearing.

Closing by Sponsor:

00:52:52 Rep. Hill

00:53:39 Sen. Windy Boy entered the hearing.

HEARING ON HB 337

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:54:26 Rep. Jessica Karjala (D), HD 48, opened the hearing on HB 337, Increase
resource limits for medicaid program for workers with disabilities.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:57:44 Travis Hoffman, advocacy coordinator, Summit Independent Living Center
[EXHIBIT\(phs54a03\)](#)

01:05:15 Michael Woods, representing himself
01:08:55 Justice Ender, Summit Independent Living Center
[EXHIBIT\(phs54a04\)](#)

01:12:07 Shyla Patera, independent living specialist, North Central Independent Living
Services

01:16:40 Bob Maffit, executive director, Montana Independent Living Project
01:19:54 Joel Peden, Montana Centers for Independent Living
01:24:33 Wally Melcher, Montana Association for Community Disability Services -
Systems Advocacy
01:25:07 Alicia Smith, NAMI Montana
01:25:46 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana
01:26:15 Matt Kuntz, executive director, NAMI Montana
01:26:59 Jani McCall, Legacy Provider Group

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:27:27 Duane Preshinger, administrator, Health Resources Division, Department of
Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

01:28:09 Rep. Karjala

01:31:13 Vice Chair Howard turned the chair over to Chairman Thomas.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 337

01:31:32 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Sands moved that **HB 337 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion
carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Thomas will carry the bill.

HEARING ON HB 422

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:32:37 Rep. Ron Ehli (R), HD 86, opened the hearing on HB 422, Improve outcomes for
youth in the children's mental health system.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:35:09 Jani McCall, representing Legacy Provider Group and Children's Initiative Project
EXHIBIT(phs54a05)

01:39:57 Matt Kuntz, executive director, NAMI Montana

01:41:22 Alicia Smith, NAMI Montana

01:42:41 Aimee Grmoljez, Billings Clinic

01:44:41 Jim FitzGerald, chief executive officer, Intermountain

01:47:06 Charles Briggs, Easter Seals-Goodwill Northern Rocky Mountain

01:47:56 Dan Aune, executive director, Mental Health America of Montana

EXHIBIT(phs54a06)

01:49:20 Erin McGowan, executive director, Montana Children's Initiative

01:50:32 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana
01:50:47 Jon Metropoulos, attorney, A.W.A.R.E., Inc.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:52:06 Sen. Windy Boy
01:52:29 Rep. Ehli

Closing by Sponsor:

01:53:23 Rep. Ehli
01:55:52 Chairman Thomas

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 422

01:56:12 **Motion:** Sen. Sands moved that **HB 422 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:56:47 Sen. Sands
01:57:11 Chairman Thomas
01:57:19 Sen. Sands

01:57:26 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Sands will carry the bill.

Discussion:

01:58:02 Sen. Sands
01:58:06 Chairman Thomas
01:58:10 Sen. Sands

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 429

01:58:29 **Motion:** Sen. Swandal moved that **HB 429 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:58:54 Sen. Sands
01:59:14 Chairman Thomas
01:59:22 Sen. Swandal
01:59:29 Sen. Sands
01:59:45 Chairman Thomas

01:59:56 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Windy Boy will carry the bill

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 318

02:00:47 **Motion:** Sen. Sands moved that **HB 318 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

02:00:56 Chairman Thomas
02:01:06 Bruce Spencer, American Insurance Association
02:02:01 Sen. Smith
02:03:11 Sen. Sands
02:04:11 Sen. Smith
02:04:14 Sen. Caferro
02:04:41 Sen. Smith
02:05:05 Sen. Sands
02:06:01 Sen. Howard
02:06:35 Sen. Caferro

02:07:02 **Vote:** Motion carried 5-2 by voice vote with Sen. Howard and Sen. C. Smith voting no. Sen. Sands will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 237

02:08:12 Chairman Thomas
02:08:15 Sen. Swandal

02:08:47 **Motion:** Sen. Howard moved that **HB 237 BE CONCURRED IN.**

02:08:59 **Motion:** Sen. C. Smith moved that **HB 237 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(phs54a07\)](#)

Discussion:

02:09:11 Sen. Smith

02:09:58 **Vote:** Motion carried 6-1 by voice vote with Sen. Windy Boy voting no.

02:10:18 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Howard moved that **HB 237 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.** Motion carried 5-2 by voice vote with Sen. Sands and Sen. Windy Boy voting no. Sen. Smith will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 507

02:11:29 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Swandal moved that **HB 507 BE CONCURRED IN.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Swandal will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 513

02:12:25 Chairman Thomas

02:12:35 **Motion:** Sen. Swandal moved that **HB 513 BE CONCURRED IN.**

02:12:43 **Motion:** Sen. Swandal moved that **HB 513 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(phs54a08)

Discussion:

02:12:51 Sen. Swandal

02:13:08 Sen. Sands

02:13:17 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Discussion:

02:13:32 Sen. Howard

02:14:20 Sen. Smith

02:14:43 Sen. Swandal

02:14:52 Chairman Thomas

02:15:08 Sen. Swandal

02:15:21 Sen. Howard

02:15:32 Sen. Smith

02:16:02 Sen. Windy Boy left the hearing.

02:16:12 Sen. Howard

02:16:20 Sen. Swandal

02:16:58 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Swandal moved that **HB 513 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.** Motion carried 6-1 by voice vote with Sen. Howard voting no. Sen. Windy Boy voted by proxy. Sen. Swandal will carry the bill.

Committee Business:

02:17:36 Chairman Thomas

02:17:50 Sen. Sands

02:17:57 Chairman Thomas

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:20 PM

Barbara Pietuch, Secretary

bp

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([phs54aad.pdf](#))