

HOUSE BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE

March 9, 1977

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. with all members present with the exception of Rep. Bradley, who was excused, and Reps. Fagg and Fabrega, who were absent.

Senate Bill No. 73 was discussed. Sen. Regan, sponsor, stated the bill was introduced upon request by the Department of Business Regulation. She gave a brief explanation of the bill. She also submitted an amendment to the committee at the request of the Insurance Commissioner.

Mr. Dick Disney stated there is a need to cover this area and the telephone solicitation. Ms. Jo Driscoll stated that the three-day cooling off period is insufficient. The Insurance Commissioner does not want to be tied down to a three-day cooling off period.

Senate Bill No. 36 was discussed. Sen. Devine, sponsor, gave a brief explanation of the bill. He said if the customers could come into the plant and we could offer this type of thing it would be great. He said that some people have fears with the bill. The bill states that one may build the room, it does not require it. By Federal Law, one cannot sell any beer in this room.

Mr. Phil Strobe expressed his support in the bill.

Mr. Elton M. Andrew, Mr. Al Dougherty, Mr. Bert Olson, and Mr. Carl Rembe expressed their opposition to the bill (testimonies attached). Mr. Olson stated that the Montana Beer Wholesalers have a good thing going for them. The tavern owners are finally beginning to speak to them. This would ruin it all. Mr. Bob Zucconi also spoke as a opponent.

Sen. Devine stated in closing that there would be no problem with these things. It cannot be sold to the public. The only people involved are those with a licensed account.

Senate Bill No. 107 was discussed. Sen. Regan, sponsor, stated that in the old act a license was required for liquor and beer. The total revenue for the State was \$1,000. Under the old act, a first class city could tax \$500.

Mr. Tom Hall expressed his support in the bill and said he would answer any questions.

Mr. Phil Strobe and Mr. Curtis Lees expressed their opposition in the bill.

Sen. Regan, in closing, said that it was true that the floater license was killed, but that she saw the floater license was not acceptable to the tavern owners anyway. In terms of the revenue, the intention was to restore the revenue which was lost in the cities due to an oversight.

March 9, 1977, page 2.

Senate Bill No. 223 was discussed. Sen. Devine, sponsor, said it was designed to facilities. He gave an explanation of the title and then introduced Mr. Ross Cannon.

Mr. Ross Cannon expressed his support in the bill (testimony attached).

Mr. Steve Gross encouraged the passage of this bill in that it gives the Board of Investments more flexibility (testimony attached).

Mr. Bob Pendington and Mr. Harold Pitts expressed their support.

Mr. Jim Howeth and Mr. John Cadby also expressed their support in the measure.

There were no opponents or questions.

The committee then went into executive session.

Rep. Ellison moved that Senate Bill No. 218 BE CONCURRED IN. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Vincent asked the committee to defer consideration on Senate Bill No. 223 and Senate Bill No. 107 until a further date. They all agreed.

Rep. Ellison moved to adopt the amendment to Senate Bill No. 73 (attached). The motion carried unanimously. Rep. Kenny moved that Senate Bill No. 73 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED. The motion carried unanimously.

Rep. Metcalf moved that Senate Bill No. 36 BE NOT CONCURRED IN. The motion carried with all members voting yes, with the exception of Reps. Vincent, Burnett, and Harrington who voted no.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.


JOHN C. VINCENT, Chairman