



West Virginia Senate

Committee on Banking and Insurance

Minutes for MARCH 8, 2021, 2:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Senate Committee on Banking and Insurance met on March 8, 2021, 2:05 PM in Room 451-M.

Members present: Senators Azinger, Clements, Boley, Hamilton, Nelson, Rucker, Swope, Weld, Ihlenfeld, Romano, Woelfel

Members absent: Senators Beach and Karnes

A silent roll call being taken, the presence of a quorum was established.

On motion of Vice Chair Clements, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Chair Azinger announced that he was changing the order of the agenda.

Com. Sub. for S. B. 493 - Issuing license suspensions to insurance producers and adjusters who fail to meet CE requirements.

Chair Azinger recognized counsel, Marey Casey, to explain the proposed committee substitute in lieu of having it read. Counsel explained. The committee approved the language of the committee substitute. Vice Chair Clements moved that the committee substitute be reported to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass. Upon voice vote, the motion was adopted.

Com. Sub. for S. B. 398 - Limiting eligibility of certain employers to participate in PEIA plans.

Chair Azinger recognized counsel, Marey Casey, to explain the proposed committee substitute in lieu of having it read. Counsel explained and answered questions from the committee.

With leave of the committee, Mr. Allan McVey, Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Administration, appeared in person and stated that he would defer to Mr. Ted Cheatham, Director of the West Virginia Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA), who was attending remotely via Microsoft Teams.

Mr. Cheatham spoke concerning the bill and answered questions from the committee.

With leave of the committee, Chair Azinger recognized and swore in Mr. Jim Kaufman, Director of WV Hospital Association. Mr. Kaufman testified in person and answered questions from the committee.

With leave of the committee, Chair Azinger recognized and swore in Mr. Dan Lauffer, President and CEO of Thomas Health. Mr. Lauffer testified in person and answered questions from the committee.

With leave of the committee, Mr. Cheatham answered further questions from the committee.

Counsel answered further questions from the committee. Upon motion by Chair Azinger, the committee adopted an amendment as explained by counsel, a proviso in subdivision (3), clarifying the cutoff date for further participation in PEIA.

The Senator from Harrison offered an amendment, a proviso in subdivision (2), excluding employees not employed directly by a non-profit charter school. Discussion followed related to the amendment from the Senator from Harrison. Upon voice vote, the amendment was adopted.

Vice Chair Clements moved the language of the committee substitute, as amended. Upon voice vote, the motion was adopted. Vice Chair Clements moved the committee substitute, as amended, be reported with the recommendation that it do pass, but under the original double committee reference first be referred to the committee on Finance. Upon voice vote, the motion was adopted.

On motion of Vice Chair Clements, the committee adjourned.



Michael T. Azinger
Committee Chair



Tina L. Burs
Committee Clerk