

Approved April 29, 1992
Date

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Labor and Industry

The meeting was called to order by Representative Anthony Hensley

Chairperson

9:12 a.m./p.m. on March 27, 1992 in room 526-S of the Capitol

All members were present except:

Rep. Edlund - excused

Committee staff present:

Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes
Jerry Donaldson, Principal Analyst
Barbara Dudney, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

The meeting was called to order at 9:12 a.m., by the chairman, Rep. Anthony Hensley.

Chairman Hensley announced that the committee would hear an update on the progress being made by the subcommittee on workers' compensation.

Rep. Denise Everhart, subcommittee chairperson, reviewed several issues that the subcommittee had worked on. She reported that Jim Wilson, committee revisor, would prepare a "balloon" draft of the amendments to House Bill No. 3039 recommended by the subcommittee for the full committee's consideration on Monday, March 30th. She stated that the subcommittee did not have time to address several issues, including limits on attorney's fees, the medical fee schedule, and establishment of a workers' compensation board of review. She said she thought these issues could be addressed by the full committee.

Another subcommittee member, Rep. Don Smith, reported that he would offer an amendment to House Bill No. 3039, which would provide for the creation of a competitive state insurance fund, similar to the provisions of House Bill No. 2523. At that point, the chairman stated that it was an oversight on his part that he had not announced earlier that the committee would conduct a public hearing on House Bill No. 2523 during its meeting on Monday, March 30th.

Rep. Arthur Douville stated his belief that the issues of workplace safety and vocational rehabilitation should not be addressed this session and should be held over for interim study.

The chairman announced the committee would discuss and take final action on House Bill No. 2984, an act prohibiting employers from hiring or firing employees for engaging in "lawful activities" off premises during non-working hours.

Rep. George Gomez moved to report House Bill No. 2984 favorable for passage. The motion was seconded by Rep. Darrel Webb. Rep. Diane Gjerstad made a substitute motion to amend the bill to exclude non-profit organizations whose primary mission is to encourage health and fitness. The motion was seconded by Rep. Eloise Lynch. Motion carried.

After considerable discussion, Rep. Webb moved to report House Bill No. 2984 favorable for passage, as amended. The motion was seconded by Rep. Bob Grant. Motion failed by a vote of 9 to 9.

Rep. Darlene Cornfield moved to report House Bill No. 3023 favorable for passage. The motion was seconded by Rep. Jack Sluiter. The chairman ruled the motion out of order because House Bill No. 3023 was not acted on by the House prior to the "House of Origin" deadline of March 11, 1992.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

