

**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE**  
**SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE STANDING COMMITTEE**

April 15, 2016

6:45 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Senator Mia Costello, Chair  
Senator Cathy Giessel, Vice Chair  
Senator Kevin Meyer  
Senator Gary Stevens

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Senator Johnny Ellis

**COMMITTEE CALENDAR**

HOUSE BILL NO. 125

"An Act relating to the sale of products containing dextromethorphan; relating to the regulation of dextromethorphan by municipalities; and providing for an effective date."

- MOVED HB 125 OUT OF COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 305(EDC)

"An Act relating to an exemption from the regulation of postsecondary educational institutions."

- MOVED CSHB 305(EDC) OUT OF COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 234(L&C)

"An Act relating to insurance coverage for mental health benefits provided through telemedicine."

- MOVED SCS CSHB 234(L&C) OUT OF COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 372(L&C) AM

"An Act relating to insurance; relating to the annual report by the director of policies and variable annuities; establishing limitations on issuance of long-term care insurance; relating to expenses for insurance examinations; relating to regulations for insurance; relating to requirements for group health insurance policies; amending the insurance utilization review, benefits determination, health care insurance grievance definition of

'group health insurance'; relating to motor vehicle service contracts; resolution procedures, independent review of adverse determinations or final adverse relating to notice requirements for meetings of stockholders or members of a domestic determinations, independent review organizations, and continuing education providers; insurer; establishing a definition of 'bona fide association'; relating to requirements and relating to required provisions for health care insurance contracts and policies, penalties for committing a fraudulent or criminal insurance act; updating criteria for including health care provider choice; establishing civil penalties for insurers for failure examinations; relating to rate filing deviations; establishing civil penalties for certain to provide requested records; amending the definition of 'wet marine and wilful violations; and providing for an effective date." transportation' insurance; amending provisions on limited licenses to include crop insurance; relating to third-party administrator notification requirements; relating to certification filing by reinsurance intermediary brokers; relating to rate filings, delivery of insurance policies or endorsements; relating to refunds of variable life insurance

- SCHEDULED BUT NOT HEARD

**PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION**

BILL: HB 125

SHORT TITLE: RESTRICTIONS ON SALE OF DEXTROMETHORPHAN

SPONSOR(S): REPRESENTATIVE(S) MILLETT

02/25/15	(H)	READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
02/25/15	(H)	JUD
04/09/15	(H)	JUD AT 1:00 PM CAPITOL 120
04/09/15	(H)	Moved HB 125 Out of Committee
04/09/15	(H)	MINUTE (JUD)
04/10/15	(H)	JUD RPT 1DP 6NR
04/10/15	(H)	DP: MILLETT
04/10/15	(H)	NR: CLAMAN, LYNN, FOSTER, GRUENBERG, KELLER, LEDOUX
03/16/16	(H)	TRANSMITTED TO (S)
03/16/16	(H)	VERSION: HB 125
03/18/16	(S)	READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
03/18/16	(S)	L&C
04/08/16	(S)	L&C AT 1:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)
04/08/16	(S)	-- MEETING CANCELED --
04/09/16	(S)	L&C AT 4:00 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)
04/09/16	(S)	-- MEETING CANCELED --

04/12/16 (S) L&C AT 1:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)  
 04/12/16 (S) Heard & Held  
 04/12/16 (S) MINUTE (L&C)  
 04/14/16 (S) L&C AT 1:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)  
 04/14/16 (S) Scheduled but Not Heard  
 04/15/16 (S) L&C AT 5:00 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)

BILL: HB 305

SHORT TITLE: RECREATIONAL/AVOCATIONAL TRAINING EXEMPT.

SPONSOR(S): REPRESENTATIVE(S) GATTIS

02/08/16 (H) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS  
 02/08/16 (H) EDC  
 03/28/16 (H) EDC RPT CS (EDC) NT 5DP 1NR  
 03/28/16 (H) DP: TALERICO, SEATON, COLVER,  
 SPOHNHOLZ, KELLER  
 03/28/16 (H) NR: DRUMMOND  
 03/28/16 (H) EDC AT 8:00 AM CAPITOL 106  
 03/28/16 (H) Moved CSHB 305(EDC) Out of Committee  
 03/28/16 (H) MINUTE (EDC)  
 03/31/16 (H) TRANSMITTED TO (S)  
 03/31/16 (H) VERSION: CSHB 305(EDC)  
 04/01/16 (S) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS  
 04/01/16 (S) L&C  
 04/07/16 (S) L&C AT 1:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)  
 04/07/16 (S) Heard & Held  
 04/07/16 (S) MINUTE (L&C)  
 04/14/16 (S) L&C AT 1:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)  
 04/14/16 (S) Scheduled but Not Heard  
 04/15/16 (S) L&C AT 5:00 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)

BILL: HB 234

SHORT TITLE: INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR TELEMEDICINE

SPONSOR(S): REPRESENTATIVE(S) VAZQUEZ

01/19/16 (H) PREFILE RELEASED 1/8/16  
 01/19/16 (H) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS  
 01/19/16 (H) HSS, L&C  
 03/15/16 (H) HSS AT 3:00 PM CAPITOL 106  
 03/15/16 (H) Heard & Held  
 03/15/16 (H) MINUTE (HSS)  
 03/17/16 (H) HSS AT 3:00 PM CAPITOL 106  
 03/17/16 (H) Moved HB 234 Out of Committee  
 03/17/16 (H) MINUTE (HSS)  
 03/18/16 (H) HSS RPT 3DP 1NR 1AM  
 03/18/16 (H) DP: TARR, VAZQUEZ, WOOL  
 03/18/16 (H) NR: TALERICO

03/18/16 (H) AM: SEATON  
04/06/16 (H) L&C AT 3:15 PM BARNES 124  
04/06/16 (H) Heard & Held  
04/06/16 (H) MINUTE (L&C)  
04/11/16 (H) L&C AT 3:15 PM BARNES 124  
04/11/16 (H) Moved CSHB 234(L&C) Out of Committee  
04/11/16 (H) MINUTE (L&C)  
04/12/16 (H) L&C RPT CS (L&C) 3DP 3NR  
04/12/16 (H) DP: TILTON, HUGHES, OLSON  
04/12/16 (H) NR: LEDOUX, KITO, JOSEPHSON  
04/13/16 (H) TRANSMITTED TO (S)  
04/13/16 (H) VERSION: CSHB 234(L&C)  
04/14/16 (S) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS  
04/14/16 (S) L&C  
04/14/16 (S) L&C AT 1:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)  
04/14/16 (S) Heard & Held  
04/14/16 (S) MINUTE (L&C)  
04/15/16 (S) L&C AT 5:00 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)

**WITNESS REGISTER**

GRACE ABBOTT, Staff  
Representative Charisse Millett  
Alaska State Legislature Juneau, Alaska  
**POSITION STATEMENT:** Sponsor of HB 125.

TYSON GALLAGHER, Staff  
Representative Lynn Gattis  
Alaska State Legislature  
Juneau, Alaska  
**POSITION STATEMENT:** Offered to answer questions related to HB 305.

WESTON EILER, Staff  
Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee and  
Senator Costello  
Alaska State Legislature  
Juneau, Alaska  
**POSITION STATEMENT:** Explained the changes in HB 234, version H.

**ACTION NARRATIVE**

6:45:13 PM

**CHAIR MIA COSTELLO** called the Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. Present at the call to

order were Senators Stevens, Giessel, Meyer, and Chair Costello. She reviewed the agenda.

**HB 125-RESTRICTIONS ON SALE OF DEXTROMETHORPHAN**

[6:45:54 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO announced the consideration of HB 125. She noted that this is the second hearing and public testimony is closed.

[6:46:03 PM](#)

GRACE ABBOTT, Staff, Representative Charisse Millett, sponsor of HB 125, Alaska State Legislature, thanked the committee for its consideration of the bill.

SENATOR GIESSEL moved to report HB 125, labeled 29-LS0544\A, from committee with individual recommendations and attached fiscal note(s).

CHAIR COSTELLO announced that without objection, HB 125 is reported from the Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee.

[6:46:59 PM](#)

At ease

**HB 305-RECREATIONAL/AVOCATIONAL TRAINING EXEMPT.**

[6:48:21 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO reconvened the meeting and announced the consideration of HB 305. She noted that this is the second hearing and public testimony is closed. She asked Mr. Gallagher if he had any final comments.

[6:48:45 PM](#)

TYSON GALLAGHER, Staff, Representative Lynn Gattis, Alaska State Legislature, thanked the committee for its consideration of HB 305.

SENATOR GIESSEL moved [the CS for] HB 305, labeled 29-LS1401\H from committee with individual recommendations and attached fiscal note(s).

CHAIR COSTELLO announced that without objection, CSHB 305(EDC) is reported from the Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee.

[6:49:38 PM](#)

At ease

**HB 234-INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR TELEMEDICINE**

6:50:54 PM

CHAIR COSTELLO reconvened the meeting and announced the consideration of HB 234. She noted that this is the second hearing, public testimony is closed, and there is a proposed committee substitute (CS).

SENATOR GIESSEL moved to adopt the Senate CS for CS for HB 234, labeled 29-LS1251\H, as the working document.

CHAIR COSTELLO objected for an explanation of the changes.

WESTON EILER, Staff, Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee and Senator Costello, explained that the substantive change in HB 234, version H, is to replace the term "telemedicine" with "telehealth" throughout the bill.

SENATOR STEVENS questioned the reason for the change.

MR. EILER replied telehealth is a more encompassing, forward-looking term.

SENATOR GIESSEL added that she submitted the amendment because the term telemedicine was coined in the 1990s and is outdated. The term "telehealth" encompasses all the types of health care that is delivered electronically.

CHAIR COSTELLO removed her objection and finding no further objection, stated the SCS is adopted.

SENATOR GIESSEL moved to report the Senate CS for CS for HB 234, labeled 29-LS1251\H, from committee with individual recommendations and attached fiscal note(s).

CHAIR COSTELLO announced that without objection, SCS CSHB 234(L&C) is reported from the Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee.

6:54:22 PM

There being no further business to come before the committee, Chair Costello adjourned the Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee meeting at 6:54 p.m.