

**THE MINUTES OF THE HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
COMMERCE**

Wednesday, May 7, 2014

10:30 a.m.

Room 519 House Office Building

The House Standing Committee on Commerce was called to order by **Representative Frank Foster**, Chair.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Foster, Zorn, Haines, Schmidt, Farrington, Gardon, Johnson, Nesbitt, Somerville, Outman, Kelly, Leonard, Switalski, Barnett, Townsend, Santana, Oakes, Driskell and Yanez.

MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED: None.

Representative Gardon moved to adopt the minutes of the **April 30, 2014**, meeting. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Chair Foster laid **HB 5478, HB 5479, HB 5480, HB 5481, HB 5482, HB 5483, HB 5484, HB 5485** and **HB 5486** before the committee:

HB 5478 (Graves)	Worker's compensation; administration; private employer group self-insurers security fund; create.
HB 5479 (Graves)	Worker's compensation; administration; liability of various self-insurer funds; establish.
HB 5480 (Graves)	Worker's compensation; administration; trustee authorization of payments from the private employer group self-insurers security fund; provide for.
HB 5481 (Graves)	Worker's compensation; administration; reimbursement from second injury fund; provide for private employer group self-insurers security fund.
HB 5482 (Graves)	Worker's compensation; administration; reimbursement from the compensation supplement fund; provide for the private employer group self-insurers security fund.
HB 5483 (Santana)	Worker's compensation; administration; authority to assess for insufficiencies in the private employer group self-insurers security fund; establish.
HB 5484 (Santana)	Worker's compensation; administration; attorney general representation of the private employer group self-insurers security fund; provide for.

HB 5485 (Santana) Worker's compensation; administration; rights against insolvent employer; establish for private employer group self-insurers security fund.

HB 5486 (Santana) Worker's compensation; administration; availability of certain records; provide for private employer group self-insurers security fund.

TESTIMONY

Representative Graves, sponsor of HB 5478, HB 5479, HB 5480, HB 5481 and HB 5482, explained his bills to the committee.

Representative Santana, sponsor of HB 5483, HB 5484, HB 5485 and HB 5486, explained his bills to the committee.

Chair Foster laid **HB 5487** and **HB 5488** before the committee:

HB 5487 (Phelps) Worker's compensation; administration; calculation of and increased assessment limits for certain claims; authorize and provide for audits and for sanctions for delinquent payments.

HB 5488 (Kosowski) Worker's compensation; administration; reimbursement for delinquent carriers; restrict.

TESTIMONY

Representative Phelps, sponsor of HB 5487, explained his bill to the committee.

Representative Kosowski, sponsor of HB 5488, explained his bill to the committee.

Chair Foster laid **HB 5489** before the committee:

HB 5489 (Jacobsen) Worker's compensation; administration; certain payments from the self-insurers' security fund; authorize.

TESTIMONY

Representative Jacobsen, sponsor of HB 5489, explained his bill to the committee.

Chair Foster laid **HB 5490** before the committee:

HB 5490 (Foster) Worker's compensation; administration; rights of certain funds; establish as same as an employer or carrier.

TESTIMONY

Chair Foster, sponsor of HB 5490, explained his bill to the committee.

Kevin Elsenheimer, senior deputy director for the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) and director of the Michigan Workers' Compensation Agency, testified in support of the bills.

Questions and discussion followed.

Wendy Block, representing the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, testified in support of the bills.

Bill Jackson, representing the Michigan Insurance Coalition, testified and submitted written testimony in opposition to HB 5489.

Robert and **Tim MacDonald**, attorneys representing Mark Odette, introduced Mr. Odette to the committee and submitted written testimony.

Mark Odette, a Delphi worker, testified in support of the bills.

Delaney McKinley, representing the Michigan Manufacturers Association, testified in support of the bills.

Tim Hanna, representing the Michigan Council of Self-Insured Groups, testified in support of the bills.

Questions and discussion followed.

Kevin Elsenheimer returned and gave additional comments.

Questions and discussion followed.

The following people submitted a card and/or written testimony but did not wish to speak:

Pat Herndon, representing the Michigan Bankers Association, supports the bills.

Robert MacDonald, representing the Michigan Association for Justice, supports the bills.

Kurt Berryman, representing the Auto Dealers of Michigan, supports the bills.

Jim deSpelder, representing the County Road Association Self-Insured Fund (CRASIF), supports the bills.

Linda Gobler, representing the Michigan Grocers Association, supports the bills.

Tim Hughes, representing the United Auto Workers (UAW), supports the bills.

Judy Augenstein, representing the Michigan Association of Timbermen Self-Insurers' Fund, supports the bills.

Mark Long, representing the Funds Administration Board of Trustees (LARA), supports the bills.

Chris Fisher, representing the Associated Builders and Contractors of Michigan, supports the bills.

Dawn Droblich, representing the Michigan Self-Insured Association, supports the bills.

Justin Winslow, representing the Michigan Restaurant Association, supports the bills.

Patrick Harrington, representing the Retail Hardware Association, supports the bills.

Jason Puscas, representing the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce, supports the bills.

David Newman, representing the Economic Alliance for Michigan, supports the bills.

Amy Frankmann, representing the Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association, supports the bills.

Steve Currie, representing the Michigan Association of Counties, Workers' Compensation Fund, supports the bills.

Allie Bush, representing the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce, supports the bills.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m.

Representative Frank Foster, Chair
House Standing Committee on Commerce

Malika Abdul-Basir

Committee Clerk

517-373-7256

1 Hour and 23 Minutes