

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

Wednesday, December 3, 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, Glardon, Johnson, Nesbitt, Somerville, Outman, Kelly, Leonard, Switalski, Barnett, Townsend, Santana, Driskell and Yanez.

MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED: Representative Oakes.

Representative Zorn moved to adopt the minutes from the **8:15 a.m.** and the **10:30 a.m. November 12, 2014**, meetings. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Chair Foster laid **HB 5804** and **HB 5959** before the committee:

HB 5804 (Singh) Civil rights; general discrimination; sexual orientation and gender identity or expression; include as categories protected under the Elliott-Larsen civil rights act.

HB 5959 (Foster) Civil rights; general discrimination; sexual orientation; include as category protected under the Elliott-Larsen civil rights act.

TESTIMONY

Representative Singh, sponsor of HB 5804, explained his bill to the committee.

Questions and discussion followed.

Vice-Chair Zorn was called to the Chair.

Chairman Foster, sponsor of HB 5959, explained his bill to the committee.

Chairman Foster resumed the Chair.

Allan Gilmour, representing himself, testified in support of HB 5804.

Jeff Padnos, representing himself, testified in support of HB 5804.

Michael Ryan, representing himself, testified in support of HB 5804.

Kary Moss and Jay Kaplan, representing the ACLU, testified in support of HB 5804.

Keith den Hollander, representing the Christian Coalition of Michigan, testified in opposition to HB 5804 and HB 5959.

David Kallman, representing Citizens for Traditional Values and the Michigan Family Forum, testified in opposition to HB 5804 and HB 5959.

Minister Stacy Swimp, representing the National Christian Leadership Council, testified in opposition to HB 5804 and HB 5959.

Randall Thompson, representing the Faith and Freedom Coalition, testified in opposition to HB 5804.

Due to time restraints the following people submitted a card and/or written testimony but did not speak:

Amy Hunter, supports HB 5804.

Leslee Fritz and Daniel Levy, from the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, supports HB 5804 and opposes HB 5959.

Thomas Coy, representing the Christian Conservative Caucus, opposes both bills.

Isabelle Terry from Rockford, opposes both bills.

Alfred L. Harris, representing Concerned Pastors for Social Action, opposes both bills.

Mark S. McDonald from Monroe, opposes both bills.

Heather Lewis from Ann Arbor, supports HB 5804 and opposes HB 5959.

Mira Krishnan, representing The Network, supports HB 5804 and opposes HB 5959.

Madeleine Townsend, representing the Lansing Association for Human Rights, supports HB 5804 and opposes HB 5959.

Former State Representative Dave Agema, opposes both bills.

Michelle Fox-Phillips, representing the Gender Identity Network Alliance, supports HB 5804 and opposes HB 5959.

R. Cole Bouck from Lansing, supports HB 5804.

Brian Baker, representing Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, supports HB 5804.

Amanda Niven from Okemos, supports HB 5804.

Zoe Steinfield from Lansing, supports HB 5804.

Lex Eversson from Grand Rapids, supports HB 5804.

Sojn Boothroyd from Kalamazoo, supports HB 5804.

Caitlyn Diana Laufey, opposes HB 5959.

Ryan Cowmeadow, representing the Area Agency on Aging 1-B, supports HB 5804.

Reverend Jeff Liebmann, representing Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Midland, supports HB 5804.

Emily Dievendorf, representing Equality Michigan, supports HB 5804.

Nathan Triplett, representing the Michigan Municipal League and Local Electeds against Discrimination, supports HB 5804.

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

Cheryl Overley from Lansing, opposes both bills.
Zoe Steinfield from Lansing, opposes HB 5959.
Birgit Klohs, from The Right Place, supports both bills.
Camille Welcher from Lansing, opposes HB 5959 and supports HB 5804.
Alena Haxsey from East Lansing, opposes HB 5959 and supports HB 5804.
Judy Karandieff, representing the League of Women Voters, supports HB 5804.
Matt Maddock from Milford, opposes both bills.
Emily Horvatn, opposes HB 5959 and supports HB 5804.
James Muffett, representing Citizens for Traditional Values, opposes both bills.
Cameron Fure from Marquette, opposes HB 5959 and supports HB 5804.
Samantha Harkins, representing the Michigan Municipal League, supports HB 5804.
Andy Johnston, representing the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce, supports HB 5804.
Harriette and Bill Cook, representing Cook Investments/Southwestern Oil and Gas, supports HB 5804.
Patti Aaron, representing Production Tool Supply, supports HB 5804.
Grace Wojcik from Farmington Hills, opposes HB 5958.
Nancy Schlichting, CEO of Henry Ford Health System, supports HB 5804.
Brian Walker, representing Herman Miller, supports HB 5804.
Henry Grix and Howard Israel, supports HB 5804.
Mark Bernstein, supports HB 5804.
Dr. Gary Rudgers, representing Dow Chemical Co., supports HB 5804.
Shelley Padnos, Vice-President of Padnos, support HB 5804.
Cynthia Pasky, representing Strategic Staffing Solutions, supports HB 5804.
Jeff Noel, Corporate Vice-President of Whirlpool Corporation, supports HB 5804.
Brian Lloyd, representing Steelcase, supports HB 5804.
Jennifer Smith, representing the Michigan Association of School Boards, supports HB 5804.
David Lossing, Mayor of the City of Linden, supports HB 5804.
Sojn Boothroyd from Kalamazoo, opposes HB 5959.
Seth Sobczale from Lansing, opposes HB 5959.
Lex Everson from Grand Rapids, opposes HB 5959.
Julie Rowe, representing AFT Michigan, supports HB 5804 and opposes HB 5959.
Amanda West, representing Planned Parenthood, supports HB 5804 and opposes HB 5959.
Jason Puscas, representing the Detroit Regional Chamber, supports both bills.
Allison VanKuiken from Royal Oak, supports HB 5804 and opposes HB 5959.
Sommer Foster from Detroit, supports HB 5804 and opposes HB 5959.
Mr. Hollowell from Hazel Park, opposes HB 5959.
Glenna DeJong from Saugatuck, supports HB 5804.
Dan Jarvis, representing the Michigan Family Forum, opposed both bills.
Karen Holcomb-Merrill, representing the Michigan League for Public Policy, supports HB 5804.
Kathryn Kelly from Lansing, supports HB 5804 and opposes HB 5959.
Marissa Luna from Lansing, supports HB 5804 and opposes HB 5959.
Sam Ingot from Lansing, supports HB 5804 and opposes HB 5959.
Allan Wachendorfer, representing the National Association of Social Workers – Michigan, supports HB 5804.
Sam Jones-Darling from Grand Rapids, supports HB 5804.
Sara Clavez from Sanford, supports HB 5804.
Brad Ward, representing the Michigan Realtors, supports both bills.

Amanda Niven from Okemos, opposes HB 5959.

David Neuman, representing the Economic Alliance for Michigan, supports HB 5804.

Chair Foster placed the committee at ease, the time being 11:58 a.m.

Chair Foster called the meeting back to order, the time being 12:00 p.m.

Representative Zorn moved to excuse Representative Oakes from the meeting. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Representative Frank Foster, Chair
House Standing Committee on Commerce

Doug Simon

Acting Committee Clerk

517-373-8099

1 Hour and 30 Minutes