



MEMBERS:

SEN. TONYA SCHUITMAKER, VICE CHAIRMAN
SEN. TORY ROCCA
SEN. STEVE BIEDA, MINORITY VICE CHAIR

THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
SENATOR RICK JONES
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Senate Committee on Judiciary

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Judiciary was held on Tuesday, September 20, 2011 at 2:30 p.m. in Room 110 of the Farnum Building.

The meeting was called to order at 2:32 p.m.

Members present: Senators Jones, Schuitmaker, Rocca, Bieda
Members excused: none

Senator Jones called the meeting to order.

Senator Jones announced that the agenda for the committee:

Approval of Minutes

SB 642	Sen. Jones	Crimes; assaultive; assaulting a health care professional; increase penalties.
SB 643	Sen. Kahn	Criminal procedure; sentencing guidelines; sentencing guidelines for crime of assaulting or battering a health care professional; enact.
HB 4403	Rep. Jackson	Courts; juries; individuals who fail to return jury questionnaires; ensure continued eligibility for jury service.
SB 542	Sen. Emmons	Torts; liability; personal injury or property damage caused by propane gas equipment or appliances; provide protection from liability.

Senator Jones placed before the committee Senate Bills 642 (Senator Jones) and 643 (Senator Kahn).
Senator Jones explained the bills to the committee members and answered questions.

The following persons testified and answered questions on Senate Bills 642 and 643:

- Ken Fletcher and Terri Thuss, representing the Michigan Nurses Association—Support (Organization also submitted written testimony)

Senator Bieda moved to adopt the substitute (S-1) to Senate Bill 642. By an affirmative vote of the majority of members serving, the substitute was adopted. Voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Jones, Schuitmaker, Rocca, Bieda (4/4)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: none (0)

Senator Bieda moved that Senate Bill 642 (S-1) be reported out of committee with the recommendation that the bill then pass. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Jones, Schuitmaker, Rocca, Bieda (4/4)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: none (0)

Senator Bieda moved to recommend immediate effect for Senate Bill 642 (S-1). Without objection, the committee further recommended that the bill be given immediate effect by unanimous consent.

Senator Bieda moved to adopt the substitute (S-1) to Senate Bill 643. By an affirmative vote of the majority of members serving, the substitute was adopted. Voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Jones, Schuitmaker, Rocca, Bieda (4/4)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: none (0)

Senator Bieda moved that Senate Bill 643 (S-1) be reported out of committee with the recommendation that the bill then pass. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Jones, Schuitmaker, Rocca, Bieda (4/4)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: none (0)

Senator Bieda moved to recommend immediate effect for Senate Bill 643 (S-1). Without objection, the committee further recommended that the bill be given immediate effect by unanimous consent.

Senator Jones placed before the committee House Bill 4403 (Rep. Jackson).

The following persons testified and answered questions on House Bill 4403:

- Anne Vrooman, representing the State Bar of Michigan—Support (Organization also submitted written testimony)

Senator Rocca moved that House Bill 4403 be reported out of committee with the recommendation that the bill then pass. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Jones, Schuitmaker, Rocca, Bieda (4/4)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: none (0)

Senator Rocca moved to recommend immediate effect for House Bill 4403. Without objection, the committee further recommended that the bill be given immediate effect by unanimous consent.

Senator Jones placed before the committee Senate Bill 542 (Senator Emmons). Brittany Koehler, representing Senator Emmons, explained the bill to committee members.

The following persons testified and answered questions on Senate Bill 542:

- Wayne Kohley, representing the Michigan Propane Gas Association—Support
- Robert Darling, representing the Michigan Association for Justice—Oppose
- Cynthia Maher, representing the Michigan Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association—Oppose (Also submitted written testimony)

Senator Jones indicated that more work was needed on Senate Bill 542 and the committee would not vote on it at the day's meeting.

Senator Jones adjourned the committee at 3:10 p.m.

9/27/11

Date Approved by Committee

**An audio recording of this committee meeting is available upon request for a minimal fee.