

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY

Call to Order: Chair Fred Thomas, on March 18, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Fred Thomas, Chair (R)
Sen. David Howard, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Mary Caferro (D) (arrived after roll call)
Sen. Diane Sands (D)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)
Sen. Nels Swandal (R)
Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy (D) (arrived after roll call)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Barbara Pietuch, Committee Secretary
Alexis Sandru, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 517, 3/13/2015

00:00:01 Chairman Thomas

HEARING ON HB 517

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:42 Rep. Jeff Essmann (R), HD 54, opened the hearing on HB 517, Revising laws regarding the commitment of incapacitated persons.

[EXHIBIT\(phs56a01\)](#)

00:02:27 Sen. Windy Boy entered the hearing.

00:04:24 Sen. Caferro entered the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:09:28 Leo Gallagher, county attorney, Lewis and Clark County (LCC)

[EXHIBIT\(phs56a02\)](#)

00:20:43 Luke Berger, deputy county attorney, Lewis and Clark County (LCC)

00:27:52 Beth Brennehan, staff attorney, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)

00:32:14 Larry Epstein, Montana County Attorney's Association (MCAA)

00:35:10 Aimee Grmoljez, Billings Clinic

00:36:51 Mike Foster, Catholic Hospitals of Montana (CHM)

00:39:23 Claudia Clifford, advocacy director, AARP Montana

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:41:02 Glenda Oldenburg, administrator, Addictive and Mental Disorders Division, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:41:15 Sen. Swandal

00:41:39 Mr. Berger, LCC

00:41:48 Sen. Swandal

00:41:52 Mr. Berger

00:42:20 Sen. Swandal

00:42:39 Mr. Berger

00:42:56 Mr. Gallagher, LCC

00:43:28 Sen. Swandal

00:43:42 Mr. Gallagher

00:44:22 Sen. Swandal

00:44:43 Mr. Gallagher

00:45:31 Sen. Swandal

00:45:39 Mr. Gallagher

00:45:47 Sen. Howard

00:46:13 Mr. Foster, CHM

00:46:40 Sen. Caferro
00:47:05 Mr. Gallagher
00:47:51 Sen. Caferro
00:48:16 Mr. Gallagher
00:49:00 Sen. Caferro
00:49:38 Mr. Gallagher
00:51:03 Sen. Caferro
00:51:46 Mr. Gallagher
00:52:12 Sen. Caferro
00:53:11 Mr. Gallagher
00:54:26 Sen. Caferro
00:55:24 Mr. Gallagher
00:56:47 Sen. Sands
00:57:23 Ms. Brenneman, DRM
00:59:20 Chairman Thomas
00:59:37 Mr. Epstein, MCAA
01:00:48 Chairman Thomas
01:01:26 Mr. Gallagher
01:01:42 Chairman Thomas
01:01:53 Mr. Gallagher
01:03:38 Chairman Thomas
01:03:46 Mr. Gallagher
01:04:18 Chairman Thomas
01:04:23 Mr. Gallagher
01:05:13 Chairman Thomas
01:05:31 Mr. Gallagher
01:05:43 Chairman Thomas
01:05:53 Mr. Gallagher
01:06:07 Chairman Thomas
01:06:13 Mr. Gallagher
01:06:39 Chairman Thomas

Closing by Sponsor:

01:07:10 Rep. Essmann

Committee Business:

01:13:43 Chairman Thomas
01:13:49 Sen. Swandal
01:13:56 Chairman Thomas
01:14:24 Sen. Sands
01:14:54 Chairman Thomas
01:15:15 Sen. Howard
01:15:18 Chairman Thomas
01:15:22 Sen. Howard
01:15:27 Chairman Thomas
01:15:39 Sen. Caferro
01:15:50 Chairman Thomas
01:16:52 Sen. Smith

01:17:07 Chairman Thomas
01:17:17 Sen. Howard
01:17:32 Chairman Thomas
01:18:11 Sen. Sands
01:18:48 Chairman Thomas
01:18:57 Sen. Sands
01:19:05 Chairman Thomas

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:22 PM

Barbara Pietuch, Secretary

bp

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([phs56aad.pdf](#))