

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

**Call to Order:** Chair Keith Regier, on January 10, 2019 at 10:00 AM, in Room 422  
Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Keith Regier, Chair (R)  
Sen. Jennifer Fielder, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Diane Sands, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Bryce Bennett (D)  
Sen. John Esp (R)  
Sen. Jen Gross (D)  
Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R)  
Sen. Margaret (Margie) MacDonald (D)  
Sen. Gordon Vance (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Scott Sales (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Julianne Burkhardt, Legislative Branch  
Noah Horan, Committee Secretary

**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: SB 3, 1/4/2019; SB 19, 1/4/2019; SB 36, 1/4/2019

10:02:37 Chair Regier

**HEARING ON SB 3**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

10:03:55 Sen. Jen Gross (D), SD 25, opened the hearing on SB 3, Revise laws related to interim oversight of the office of public defender.

[EXHIBIT\(jus04a01\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

10:05:59 Rhonda Schaffer, Office of Public Defender

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

10:06:40 Sen. Fielder

10:07:03 Sen. Gross

**Closing by Sponsor:**

10:07:21 Sen. Gross

**HEARING ON SB 36**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

10:07:39 Sen. Margaret (Margie) MacDonald (D), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB 36, Provide exceptions to mandatory inmate savings.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

10:09:32 Gayle Butler, Montana Correctional Enterprises, Department of Corrections (DOC)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

10:14:51 Sen. Sands

10:15:15 Ms. Butler, DOC

10:15:25 Chair Regier

10:15:31 Ms. Butler

**Closing by Sponsor:**

10:15:53 Sen. MacDonald

**HEARING ON SB 19****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

10:16:56 Sen. Roger Webb (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 19, Revise laws related to local government budgeting and accounting.

[EXHIBIT\(jus04a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(jus04a03\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

10:22:57 James Nelson, self

[EXHIBIT\(jus04a04\)](#)

10:38:35 Rep. Llew Jones, HD 18

10:44:44 Sen. Fielder

10:45:00 Rep. Jones

10:47:20 Chair Regier

10:47:29 Rep. Jones

10:48:12 LeAnne Kavanaugh, self

[EXHIBIT\(jus04a05\)](#)

10:55:41 Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell, HD 84

10:59:09 Elaine Mitchell, self

[EXHIBIT\(jus04a06\)](#)

11:17:01 Darryl Omsberg, superintendent of schools, Glacier County

11:24:20 Scott Laird, business manager, Cut Bank School District

11:28:53 Wade Johnson, superintendent of schools, Cut Bank

11:31:03 Sen. Bruce "Butch" Gillespie, SD 9

11:32:06 Carol Larson, self

11:32:54 Donna Taylor, self

**Opponents' Testimony:**

11:33:23 Kelly Lynch, deputy director, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)

11:41:05 Eric Bryson, executive director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

11:47:21 Rachel Carroll Rivas, Montana Human Rights Network

[EXHIBIT\(jus04a07\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(jus04a08\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(jus04a09\)](#)

11:51:52 Rep. Tyson Runningwolf, HD 16

**Informational Testimony:**

11:53:30 Jon Bennion, Attorney General's Office (AG)

11:53:53 Kara Flath, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

11:54:12 Sen. MacDonald

11:54:38 Mr. Bryson, MACo

11:55:20 Chair Regier

11:55:54 Sen. Webb

11:56:05 Chair Regier  
11:56:10 Sen. Webb  
11:56:33 Sen. Bennett  
11:57:01 Sen. Webb  
11:58:16 Chair Regier  
11:58:25 Sen. Bennett  
11:58:55 Ms. Lynch, MLCT  
12:00:32 Sen. Esp  
12:01:08 Mr. Nelson  
12:03:26 Sen. Esp  
12:03:48 Sen. Webb  
12:04:11 Sen. Vance  
12:04:40 Mr. Bennion, AG  
12:05:19 Sen. Vance  
12:05:28 Mr. Bennion  
12:05:35 Chair Regier  
12:05:42 Mr. Bennion  
12:06:54 Sen. Gross  
12:07:29 Mr. Bennion  
12:08:07 Sen. Gross  
12:08:19 Mr. Bennion  
12:08:47 Sen. Gross  
12:09:36 Julianne Burkhardt, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
12:10:00 Sen. Gross  
12:10:26 Sen. Webb

**Closing by Sponsor:**

12:10:53 Sen. Webb

12:19:38 Chair Regier

12:19:49 Sen. Esp

**EXHIBIT(jus04a10)**

12:20:37 Sen. Gross

12:20:52 Chair Regier

12:21:04 Sen. Vance

12:21:28 Chair Regier

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 12:21 PM

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Noah Horan, Secretary

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**Additional Documents**

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([jus04aad.pdf](#))