

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Call to Order: Chair Keith Regier, on February 7, 2019 at 9:00 AM, in Room 303 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: HB 47, 2/1/2019; SB 184, 2/1/2019; SR 20, 2/1/2019

Executive Action: SB 138 TABLED; SR 10 BE ADOPTED

09:01:24 Sen. Fielder assumed the chair.

HEARING ON SR 20

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:01:35 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SR 20, Confirm Governor's appointee for Water Court judge.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:02:16 Stephen Brown, appointee
09:04:37 Beth McLaughlin, Montana Supreme Court
09:05:13 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:06:13 Sen. Sands
09:06:26 Mr. Brown, appointee
09:06:34 Sen. Sands
09:06:36 Mr. Brown
09:06:58 Sen. Sands
09:07:17 Mr. Brown
09:08:49 Sen. Sands
09:09:09 Mr. Brown
09:10:06 Sen. Sands
09:10:13 Sen. Fielder
09:10:24 Mr. Brown
09:10:56 Sen. Fielder
09:11:03 Mr. Brown
09:11:16 Sen. Fielder
09:11:20 Mr. Brown
09:12:04 Sen. Fielder
09:12:18 Mr. Brown

Closing by Sponsor:

09:12:38 Sen. Regier

09:12:53 Sen. Regier resumed the chair.

HEARING ON HB 47

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:13:23 Rep. Terry Moore (R), HD 54, opened the hearing on HB 47, Generally revise criminal records laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:16:58 Jon Bennion, Montana Attorney General's Office (AG)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

09:20:42 Jason Bright, Division of Criminal Investigations, Department of Justice (DOJ)
09:21:06 Greg Mohr, Montana Magistrates Association

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:21:24 Sen. Sands
09:22:03 Mr. Bennion, AG
09:22:44 Sen. Sands
09:23:04 Sen. Gross
09:23:42 Mr. Bennion

Closing by Sponsor:

09:24:35 Rep. Moore

09:25:26 Sen. MacDonald

[EXHIBIT\(jus25a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(jus25a02\)](#)

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 138

09:26:23 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Hinebauch moved that **SB 138 BE TABLED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. S. Sales voted by proxy.

[EXHIBIT\(jus25a03\)](#)

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 10

09:27:12 **Motion:** Sen. Fielder moved that **SR 10 BE ADOPTED**.

Discussion:

09:27:22 Sen. Sands
09:27:47 Chair Regier

09:28:05 **Vote:** Motion carried 9-1 by voice vote with Sen. Vance voting no. Sen. S. Sales voted by proxy.

HEARING ON SB 184

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:28:32 Sen. Roger Webb (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 184, Generally revise laws related to tenant debt.

[EXHIBIT\(jus25a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

09:32:10 John Sinrud, Montana Landlords Association (MLA)
09:36:57 Rick Linafelter, president, Montana Landlords Association (MLA)
09:37:23 Raymond Linder, self

[EXHIBIT\(jus25a05\)](#)

09:39:54 Karl Christians, self
09:43:22 Travis Martinez, self
09:47:39 Chris Mockel, self
09:50:49 George Harris, Helena Association of Realtors
09:51:29 Laurie Koutnik, Helena Association of Realtors
09:54:06 Sherry Featherly, Missoula Property Management
09:55:30 Joshua Bibbau, self

Opponents' Testimony:

09:56:39 Travis Dye, self
10:11:23 Sam Forstag, Montana Associated Students
10:16:07 Brenna Love, Associated Students of the University of Montana
10:17:47 Kim Wilson, self

EXHIBIT(jus25a06)

10:22:12 Geneva Zoltek, Associated Students of Montana State University
10:24:41 Michael Toppen, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MontPIRG)
10:26:17 Zuri Moreno, American Civil Liberties Union of Montana (ACLU)

Informational Testimony: None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

10:27:51 Sen. Bennett
10:28:19 Mr. Dye, self
10:29:49 Sen. Bennett
10:30:20 Mr. Dye
10:32:15 Sen. Bennett
10:33:09 Mr. Dye
10:35:09 Chair Regier
10:35:27 Mr. Dye
10:37:11 Chair Regier
10:37:45 Mr. Toppen, MontPIRG
10:38:11 Sen. Fielder
10:38:32 Mr. Dye
10:39:32 Sen. Fielder
10:39:46 Mr. Sinrud, MLA

Closing by Sponsor:

10:43:09 Sen. Webb

10:55:01 Sen. MacDonald

EXHIBIT(jus25a07)

10:56:49 Sen. Fielder
10:56:55 Sen. MacDonald

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:57 AM

Noah Horan, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([jus25aad.pdf](#))