

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Call to Order: Chair Keith Regier, on February 14, 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. Scott Sales (R)
Sen. Gordon Vance (R)

Members Excused: None

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 145, 2/8/2019; HB 228, 2/8/2019; SB 202, 2/8/2019; SB 203,
2/8/2019

HEARING ON HB 228**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:02:18 Rep. Forrest Mandeville (R), HD 57, opened the hearing on HB 228, Revise privacy in communication law to reflect MT Supreme Court decision.

[EXHIBIT\(jus31a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

09:04:00 SK Rossi, American Civil Liberties Union of Montana (ACLU)

09:04:21 Maddell Ployhar, Attorney General's Office (AG)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:05:19 Sen. Fielder

09:05:41 Rep. Mandeville

Closing by Sponsor:

09:05:51 Rep. Mandeville

HEARING ON SB 202**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:06:29 Sen. Roger Webb (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 202, Generally revise guardianship and conservatorship laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:09:10 Jackie Jones, AARP

[EXHIBIT\(jus31a02\)](#)

09:12:08 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)

09:17:27 Sen. Vance left the hearing.

09:18:21 Denise Armstrong, Big Sky Senior Services

09:22:50 Susan Bailey, Adult Resource Alliance Center

09:25:58 Rebecca Wiehe, Yellowstone County Guardianship Council

09:30:23 Dawn Larimer, Personal Financial Care

09:34:49 Al Ward, AARP

09:35:49 June Hermanson, Montana Association for Rehabilitation

09:38:02 Susan Gecho Gobbs, Montana Alzheimer's Association

09:39:08 President Sales entered the hearing.

09:41:28 Nicholas Hart, Montana Alzheimer's Association

[EXHIBIT\(jus31a03\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

09:44:45 Beth McLaughlin, Judicial Branch

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

09:55:25 Sen. Esp
09:56:06 Sen. Webb
09:56:15 Ms. Jones, AARP
09:57:21 Sen. Esp
09:57:32 Ms. Jones

EXHIBIT(jus31a04)

09:58:06 Sen. Sands
09:58:39 Sen. Webb
09:59:38 Sen. Sands
10:00:42 Ms. Jones
10:03:47 Sen. Sands
10:04:10 Ms. Jones
10:05:06 Sen. Sands
10:05:47 Sen. Fielder
10:07:35 Ms. McLaughlin, Judicial Branch
10:08:20 Sen. Fielder
10:08:30 Ms. McLaughlin
10:09:34 Sen. Fielder
10:09:53 Ms. McLaughlin
10:11:21 Sen. MacDonald
10:11:41 Ms. Jones
10:12:19 Sen. MacDonald
10:13:08 Ms. Jones
10:15:38 Sen. Sands
10:15:56 Ms. Jones
10:16:20 Sen. Sands
10:16:34 Ms. McLaughlin
10:17:38 Sen. Gross
10:18:38 Ms. Jones
10:20:10 Sen. Gross
10:20:52 Ms. Jones
10:21:22 Sen. Gross
10:21:32 Ms. Jones
10:22:34 Sen. MacDonald
10:23:42 Ms. Brenneman, DRM
10:25:19 Sen. MacDonald
10:25:36 Ms. Brenneman
10:26:19 Chair Regier
10:26:26 Ms. McLaughlin
10:27:28 Chair Regier
10:27:40 Ms. McLaughlin

Closing by Sponsor:

10:28:33 Sen. Webb

HEARING ON SB 203**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

10:32:41 Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D), SD 33, opened the hearing on SB 203, Add a District Court Judge to the 18th Judicial District.

Proponents' Testimony:

10:34:30 Holly Brown, district court judge, 18th Judicial District

10:43:40 Mike Wheat, self

[EXHIBIT\(jus31a05\)](#)[EXHIBIT\(jus31a06\)](#)

10:48:57 Joe Skinner, commissioner, Gallatin County
10:52:25 Marty Lambert, county attorney, Gallatin County
10:53:56 Rienne McElyea, district court judge, 18th Judicial District
10:57:33 Daryl Schliem, Bozeman Area Chamber of Commerce
10:58:46 Ed Bartlett, Montana Chamber of Commerce
10:59:45 Marley McKenna, self
11:02:11 Ed Bartlett, speaking on behalf of Montana State Bar
11:02:52 Dennis Munson, self
11:06:10 Greg Dorrington, Montana Defense Trial Lawyers
[EXHIBIT\(jus31a07\)](#)

11:11:01 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA)
11:12:21 Lilia Tyrrell, Gallatin County Bar Association
11:14:53 Russ Nelson, mayor, City of Belgrade

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

11:15:57 Chair Regier
11:16:15 Ms. Brown, 18th Judicial District
11:17:50 Sen. Esp
11:18:10 Sen. MacDonald
11:19:01 Mr. Wheat, self
11:21:00 President Sales
11:22:33 Mr. Skinner, Gallatin County
11:24:32 President Sales
11:24:55 Mr. Skinner
11:25:59 Sen. Fielder
11:27:33 Ms. Brown
11:30:50 Sen. Fielder
11:31:21 Sen. Pomnichowski

Closing by Sponsor:

11:32:00 Sen. Pomnichowski

HEARING ON HB 145

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

11:33:24 Rep. Daniel Zolnikov (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB 145, Generally revise gun laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

11:34:59 Dave Galt, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (MSPOA)

11:35:51 Miles Hutton, self

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

11:36:27 Sen. Sands

11:36:44 Mr. Galt, MSPOA

Closing by Sponsor:

11:37:12 Rep. Zolnikov

11:37:41 Chair Regier

11:37:59 Sen. MacDonald

11:38:13 Chair Regier

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:38 AM

Noah Horan, Secretary

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Additional Documents

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([jus31aad.pdf](#))