

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON JOINT APPROPS SUBCOM ON JUDICIAL BRANCH, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND JUSTICE

**Call to Order:** Chair Bill Mercer, on January 7, 2021 at 2:00 P.M., in Room 317A Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Bill Mercer, Chair (R)  
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)  
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)  
Rep. Jimmy Patelis (R)  
Rep. Regier (R)  
Rep. Kelker (D)  
Rep. Carlson (R)  
Rep. Farris-Olsen (D)  
Rep. Hawk (D)  
Rep. Phalen (R)  
Rep. Stafman (D)  
Rep. Tenenbaum (D)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. David Howard, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)  
Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R)  
Rep. Usher (R)  
Rep. Berglee (R)  
Rep. Bishop (D)  
Rep. Fleming (R)  
Rep. France (D)  
Rep. Gillette (R)  
Rep. J. Hinkle (R)  
Rep. Lenz (R)  
Rep. Ler (R)  
Rep. Skees (R)  
Rep. Stromswold (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:**

Lydia Balian, Committee Secretary  
Jacquie Simmons, Remote Meeting Coordinator

**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:** Joint Meeting with House Judiciary Committee

14:04:42 Chair Mercer

**Panel Discussion:**

14:09:44 Judge Peter Ohman, District Court, 18th Judicial District  
14:23:28 Chair Mercer  
14:23:54 Judge Ohman  
14:29:15 Chair Usher  
14:30:37 Scott Twito, Yellowstone County Attorney  
14:46:36 Rep. Usher joined the meeting.  
14:50:27 Chair Mercer  
14:50:45 Tom Butler, self  
14:57:55 Chair Mercer  
14:58:16 Rep. Stafman  
14:58:25 Rep. Carlson, Rep. Tenenbaum, and Rep. Kelker left the meeting.  
14:59:11 Judge Ohman  
14:59:55 Rep. Stafman left the meeting.  
15:00:04 Tom Butler, self  
15:09:57 Chair Mercer  
15:10:31 Judge Ohman  
15:16:34 Scott Twito, Yellowstone County Attorney

**Questions from the Committee:**

15:23:12 Chair Mercer  
15:26:12 Judge Ohman  
15:32:31 Scott Twito, Yellowstone County Attorney  
15:38:26 Chair Mercer  
15:42:23 Scott Twito, Yellowstone County Attorney  
15:42:56 Judge Ohman  
15:43:41 Scott Twito, Yellowstone County Attorney  
15:44:28 Rep. Usher  
15:45:44 Tom Butler, self  
15:49:37 Chair Mercer  
15:49:58 Tom Butler, self  
15:50:53 Rep. Nave  
15:51:47 Scott Twito, Yellowstone County Attorney  
15:53:01 Rep. Nave  
15:53:28 Scott Twito, Yellowstone County Attorney  
15:56:55 Rep. Nave  
15:58:23 Chair Mercer  
15:58:52 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter  
15:59:48 Judge Ohman  
16:01:46 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter  
16:01:52 Scott Twito, Yellowstone County Attorney  
16:03:52 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter  
16:05:19 Tom Butler, self  
16:05:32 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter  
16:06:05 Chair Mercer  
16:10:22 Scott Twito, Yellowstone County Attorney

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JOINT APPROPS SUBCOM ON JUDICIAL BRANCH, LAW  
ENFORCEMENT, AND JUSTICE

January 7, 2021

PAGE 3 of 4

16:11:49 Judge Ohman  
16:12:53 Chair Mercer  
16:12:59 Rep. Usher  
16:13:33 Scott Twito, Yellowstone County Attorney  
16:15:49 Rep. Usher  
16:16:51 Judge Ohman  
16:17:41 Scott Twito, Yellowstone County Attorney  
16:19:26 Rep. Usher  
16:21:13 Scott Twito, Yellowstone County Attorney  
16:23:42 Chair Mercer  
16:23:54 Rep. Usher  
16:24:47 Tom Butler, self  
16:25:37 Rep. Patelis left the meeting.  
16:26:15 Rep. Usher  
16:26:29 Tom Butler, self  
16:27:54 Rep. Phalen  
16:30:32 Tom Butler, self  
16:31:39 Chair Mercer  
16:31:53 Judge Ohman  
16:32:28 Scott Twito, Yellowstone County Attorney  
16:33:20 Tom Butler, self  
16:34:42 Chair Mercer  
16:35:45 Rep. Usher  
16:36:33 Chair Mercer

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 16:36:54

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Lydia Balian, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([jch04bad.pdf](#))