

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Call to Order: Chair Barry Usher, on January 12, 2021 at 8:00 AM, in Room 137 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Barry Usher, Chair (R)
Rep. Kathy Kelker, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Amy Regier, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R)
Rep. Robert Farris-Olsen (D)
Rep. Frank Fleming (R)
Rep. Tom France (D)
Rep. Jane Gillette (R)
Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)
Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R)
Rep. Brandon Ler (R)
Rep. Bob Phalen (R)
Rep. Ed Stafman (D)
Rep. Mallerie Stromswold (R)
Rep. Danny Tenenbaum (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Seth Berglee (R)
Rep. Dennis R. Lenz (R)
Rep. Derek Skees (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Lydia Balian, Committee Secretary
Rachel Weiss, Legislative Branch
Joe Carroll, Legislative Branch
Hallie Swain, 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:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 56, 1/6/2021; HB 78, 1/6/2021; HB 109, 1/6/2021; HB 114, 1/6/2021; HB 126, 1/6/2021

08:05:00 Chair Usher
08:06:19 Rep. Lenz joined the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 56

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

08:07:20 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, opened the hearing on HB 56, Revise tire chain laws to provide for enforcement.

EXHIBIT(juh07a01)

08:08:04 Chair Usher
08:08:30 Rep. Loge
08:11:55 Rep. Berglee joined the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

08:13:59 Duane Williams, Motor Carriers of Montana (MCM)
08:14:51 Rep. Skees joined the meeting.
08:15:43 Brad Marten, Department of Transportation (DOT)

Opponents' Testimony:

08:20:43 Mark French, self

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

08:22:05 Rep. Phalen
08:22:37 Rep. Loge
08:23:35 Rep. Carlson
08:23:51 Rep. Loge
08:24:10 Rachel Weiss, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
08:24:33 Joe Carroll, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
08:24:52 Rep. J. Hinkle
08:27:49 Rep. Loge
08:29:37 Rep. J. Hinkle
08:30:30 Brad Marten, DOT
08:31:00 Chair Usher
08:31:33 Jon Swartz, self
08:32:33 Rep. Skees
08:33:31 Rep. Loge

Closing by Sponsor:

08:34:16 Rep. Loge

08:36:30 Joe Carroll, LSD

HEARING ON HB 109**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

08:38:02 Rep. Frank Smith (D), HD 31, opened the hearing on HB 109, Provide for primary enforcement of seatbelt laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

08:39:41 Jessie Luther, Montana Hospital Association (MHA); Association of Montana Troopers (AMT)
08:42:19 John Iverson, American Automobile Association (AAA)
08:42:51 Greg Dorrington, Montana Medical Association (MMA)
08:44:02 Rep. Dunwell
08:44:22 Chair Usher

Opponents' Testimony:

08:45:00 Sam Forstag, American Civil Liberties Union of Montana (ACLU)
08:46:42 Mark French, self
08:50:19 Pascal Ridfern, self

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

08:53:48 Rep. Skees
08:54:22 Jessie Luther, MHA; AMT
08:55:06 Rep. Gillette
08:55:58 Rep. Smith

Closing by Sponsor:

08:56:37 Rep. Smith

HEARING ON HB 114**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

08:59:43 Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell (D), HD 84, opened the hearing on HB 114, Revise privacy in communication exception laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:04:39 Tracie Dahl, self
09:10:12 Wilbur Rehmann, self
09:12:31 James Nelson, self
09:15:24 Darci Anderson, self
09:19:57 Matthew Larson, self
09:22:52 Nathan Griesse, self
09:28:10 Claudia Morley, self

Opponents' Testimony:

09:29:40 Benjamin Halverson, self
09:32:29 James Gonzales, self

Informational Testimony:

09:35:16 Jaime Gabrielli, Helena Friendship Center

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:36:05 Rep. Kelker
09:37:10 Benjamin Halverson, self
09:38:38 Rep. Skees
09:39:41 James Nelson, self
09:42:30 Rep. Skees
09:45:44 Benjamin Halverson, self
09:46:29 Rep. Stafman
09:49:34 James Nelson, self
09:50:44 Rep. J. Hinkle
09:54:42 Nathan Griesse, self
09:55:08 Rep. J. Hinkle
09:55:19 Chair Usher
09:55:36 Rep. J. Hinkle
09:56:19 Nathan Griesse, self

Closing by Sponsor:

09:57:04 Rep. Dunwell

09:58:20 Brief Recess
10:11:01 Reconvened

10:11:02 Chair Usher

HEARING ON HB 78**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

10:11:34 Rep. Bill Mercer (R), HD 46, opened the hearing on HB 78, Require certain employees to report suspected child abuse and neglect.

Proponents' Testimony:

10:15:43 Daniel Farr, self
10:18:48 Emily Dean, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)
10:19:34 Shelby DeMars, Montana Police Protective Association (MPPA)
10:20:15 Jesse Slaughter, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (MSPOA)

Opponents' Testimony: None**Informational Testimony:**

10:21:59 Marti Vining, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

10:22:42 Vice Chair Kelker
10:25:28 Rep. Mercer
10:26:31 Rep. Phalen
10:27:31 Chair Usher

10:27:59 Rep. Hawk
10:28:23 Rep. Mercer
10:28:52 Marti Vining, DPHHS
10:29:25 Rep. Tenenbaum
10:30:05 Marti Vining, DPHHS
10:30:45 Rep. Lenz
10:31:46 Rep. Mercer
10:34:36 Rep. Carlson
10:35:39 Rep. Mercer
10:35:54 Marti Vining, DPHHS
10:36:29 Rep. Hawk
10:37:20 Marti Vining, DPHHS
10:38:11 Rep. Stafman
10:40:45 Marti Vining, DPHHS
10:42:03 Rep. Gillette
10:43:02 Rep. Mercer
10:44:21 Jesse Slaughter, MSPOA
10:48:20 Rep. France
10:49:20 Jesse Slaughter, MSPOA
10:50:02 Rep. Lenz
10:55:01 Rep. Mercer

Closing by Sponsor:

10:56:01 Rep. Mercer

HEARING ON HB 126

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

10:59:26 Rep. Kathy Kelker (D), HD 47, opened the hearing on HB 126, Revise laws concerning conduct of persons with alcoholism and drug addiction.

10:01:00 Chair Usher left the meeting.

10:01:05 Vice Chair Regier assumed the chair.

Proponents' Testimony:

11:07:01 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Academy of Physician Assistants (MTAPA)

11:08:43 Greg Dorrington, Montana Medical Association (MMA)

11:09:51 Stacey Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA)

11:10:08 Chair Usher resumed the chair.

11:11:41 Laurie Little Dog, self

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

11:13:42 Rep. Kelker

11:16:07 Chair Usher
11:17:28 Rep. Carlson
11:17:57 Rep. Bishop

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:18:26

Lydia Balian, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([juh07aad.pdf](#))