

## 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 27, 2021 at 8:00 AM, in Room 317A Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Bill Mercer, Chair (R)  
Sen. David Howard, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)  
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)  
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)  
Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R)  
Rep. Jimmy Patelis (R)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:**

Cristen Friede, Committee Secretary  
Marci Lewandowski, Legislative Fiscal Division  
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:** Montana Judicial Branch Court Administrators Office

**Montana Judicial Branch Court Administrators Office**

08:00:41 Chair Mercer  
08:01:21 Marci Lewandowski, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)  
08:01:46 Chair Mercer

08:05:03 Recess  
08:14:00 Reconvened

08:14:11 Chief Justice Mike McGrath, Montana Supreme Court  
08:45:55 Chair Mercer  
08:46:45 Beth McLaughlin, Montana Judicial Branch Court Administrator's Office  
08:47:18 Chair Mercer  
08:47:39 Marci Lewandowski, LFD  
08:57:22 Christine Hultin, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)  
08:57:45 Chair Mercer  
08:58:35 Marci Lewandowski, LFD  
08:59:13 Chair Mercer  
09:00:24 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
09:01:35 Chair Mercer  
09:02:01 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
**EXHIBIT(jch18a01)**

09:15:06 Rep. Patelis  
09:15:38 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
**EXHIBIT(jch18a02)**

09:37:50 Chair Mercer  
09:37:53 Rep. Nave  
09:42:00 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
09:43:49 Chair Mercer  
09:52:42 Rep. Patelis  
09:54:52 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
09:56:30 Chief Justice McGrath, Montana Supreme Court  
09:57:13 Chair Mercer  
10:02:06 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
10:04:33 Chair Mercer

10:05:40 Recess  
10:15:14 Reconvened

10:15:27 Chair Mercer  
10:15:51 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
**EXHIBIT(jch18a03)**

10:16:27 Chair Mercer  
10:16:59 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
10:20:47 Rep. Patelis assumed role of chair  
10:25:53 Sen. Lynch

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JOINT APPROPS SUBCOM ON JUDICIAL BRANCH, LAW  
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10:30:46 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
10:37:44 Chair Patelis  
10:37:50 Rep. Nave  
10:39:18 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
10:39:25 Sen. Osmundson  
10:39:59 Chair Patelis  
10:41:19 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
10:43:55 Sen. Lynch  
10:45:19 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office

[EXHIBIT\(jch18a04\)](#)

10:58:33 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter  
10:59:07 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
11:00:19 Rep. Nave  
11:00:57 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
11:03:31 Sen. Lynch  
11:04:14 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
11:16:03 Chair Patelis  
11:16:12 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
11:21:45 Chair Patelis  
11:21:54 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter  
11:22:00 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office  
11:23:05 Rep. Mercer  
11:23:25 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office

[EXHIBIT\(jch18a05\)](#)

11:30:16 Sen. Lynch left the meeting  
11:41:26 Chair Patelis  
11:42:27 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator's Office

[EXHIBIT\(jch18a06\)](#)

11:44:43 Chair Patelis  
11:44:59 Laurie Little Dog, self

[EXHIBIT\(jch18a07\)](#)

11:49:18 Clemente Arciga, self  
11:51:32 Chair Patelis

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:51:46

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Cristen Friede, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([jch18aad.pdf](#))