

## 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 February 5, 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  
Marc 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:** Legislative Audit Division

**Legislative Audit Division**

- 08:03:27 Chair Mercer  
08:04:22 Marci Lewandowski, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)  
08:08:26 Chair Mercer  
08:11:11 Marci Lewandowski, LFD  
08:11:44 Sen. Osmundson  
08:12:10 Marci Lewandowski, LFD  
08:12:54 Sen. Lynch  
08:13:37 Marci Lewandoski, LFD  
08:14:06 Chair Mercer  
08:15:00 Christine Hultin, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)  
08:15:56 Sen. Osmundson  
08:16:33 Marci Lewandowski, LFD  
08:17:26 Chair Mercer  
08:17:36 Christine Hultin, OBPP  
08:18:54 Sen. Lynch  
08:19:12 Sen. Osmundson  
08:19:21 Sen. Lynch  
08:19:30 Sen. Osmundson  
08:19:48 Chair Mercer  
08:19:55 Christine Hultin, OBPP  
08:20:22 Chair Mercer  
08:20:39 Marci Lewandowski, LFD  
08:21:08 Sen. Lynch  
08:21:32 Chair Mercer  
08:21:44 Sen. Lynch  
08:22:05 Chair Mercer  
08:23:40 Commissioner James Brown, Public Service Commission (PSC)  
08:25:12 Chair Mercer  
08:26:28 Commissioner Brown, PSC  
08:26:41 Sen. Osmundson  
  
08:26:54 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Osmundson moved that **DP 1 Personal Services DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.  
  
08:27:24 **Motion:** Sen. Osmundson moved that **DP 2 Fixed Costs DO PASS**.  
  
**Discussion:**  
08:27:31 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter  
08:27:56 Sen. Osmundson  
  
08:28:34 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.  
  
08:28:42 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Osmundson moved that **DP 50 State Wide Present Law Fixed Cost Adjustment DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.  
  
08:28:56 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Osmundson moved that **DP 3 Inflation Deflation DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

08:29:08 **Motion:** Sen. Osmundson moved that **DP 4 Service Now Reduction DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

08:29:27 Marci Lewandowski, LFD

08:30:07 Chair Mercer

08:30:14 Marci Lewandowski, LFD

08:30:30 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

08:30:46 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Osmundson moved that **DP 5 DO PASS.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

08:31:06 Sen. Osmundson

08:32:39 Christine Hultin, OBPP

08:34:36 Sen. Lynch

08:35:06 Sen. Osmundson

08:35:20 Chair Mercer

08:35:59 Commissioner Brown, PSC

08:36:08 Chair Mercer

08:36:20 Sen. Lynch

08:36:31 Chair Mercer

08:37:31 Mary Yurewitch, Legislative Audit Division (LAD)

08:38:53 Sen. Osmundson left the meeting

08:42:16 Chair Mercer

08:42:46 Mary Yurewitch, LAD

08:44:18 Chair Mercer

08:48:31 Alyssa Sorenson, Legislative Audit Division (LAD)

09:03:47 Chair Mercer

09:16:39 Alyssa Sorenson, LAD

09:17:22 Rep. Nave

09:18:07 Chair Mercer

09:19:26 Recess

09:30:00 Reconvene

09:30:19 Rhonda Linqvist, Office of Public Defenders (OPD)

09:32:21 Travis Tillman, Office of Public Defenders (OPD)

09:32:59 Rep. Nave

09:33:22 Chair Mercer

09:34:57 Rhonday Linqvist, OPD

09:35:37 Travis Tillman, OPD

09:41:56 Brett Schandelson, Office of Public Defenders (OPD)

09:46:26 Rep. Nave

09:47:21 Rep. Patelis

09:48:24 Chair Mercer

09:58:25 Brett Shandelson, OPD

09:59:16 Rep. Nave

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JOINT APPROPS SUBCOM ON JUDICIAL BRANCH, LAW  
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10:00:30 Rhonda Linqvist, OPD  
10:02:03 Rep. Patelis  
10:02:46 Chair Mercer  
10:09:04 Brett Shandelson, OPD  
10:17:06 Rhonda Linqvist, OPD  
10:17:15 Chair Mercer  
10:17:55 Amber Robins, Legislative Audit Division (LAD)  
10:21:15 Chair Mercer  
10:21:55 Amber Robins, LAD  
10:32:15 Chair Mercer  
10:33:19 Amber Robins, LAD  
10:34:28 Rep. Patelis  
10:35:02 Amber Robins, LAD  
10:41:17 Chair Mercer  
10:43:11 Amber Robins, LAD  
10:44:00 Rep. Nave  
10:46:33 Amber Robins, LAD  
10:47:30 Rep. Nave  
10:48:30 Sen. Lynch  
10:51:56 Amber Robins, LAD  
10:54:39 Sen. Lynch  
10:54:03 Chair Mercer  
10:57:32 Sen. Lynch  
11:05:56 Amber Robins, LAD  
11:06:07 Sen. Lynch  
11:06:25 Rep. Patelis  
11:07:14 Amber Robins, LAD  
11:08:34 Sen. Lynch  
11:10:11 Chair Mercer  
11:11:51 Amber Robins, LAD  
11:12:09 Chair Mercer  
11:12:34 James Sutcliffe, Legislative Audit Division (LAD)  
11:22:56 Rep. Patelis assume the chair  
11:28:06 Katie Majerus, Legislative Audit Division (LAD)  
11:30:25 Rep. Nave assumed the chair  
11:33:37 Nolan Preeshl, Legislative Audit Division (LAD)  
11:37:18 Chair Nave  
11:38:41 Nolan Preeshl, LAD  
11:39:50 Chair Nave  
11:40:36 Lita Pepion, self  
11:44:17 Laurie Little Dog, self  
11:48:28 Clemente Arciga, self  
11:51:12 Josh Butterfly, Opening Doors  
12:01:54 Chair Nave

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 12:02:05

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Cristen Friede, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([jch25aad.pdf](#))