

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Llew Jones, on March 11, 2021 at 8:00 AM, in Room 102 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Llew Jones, Chair (R)
Rep. Mary Caferro, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Kenneth L. Holmlund, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Matt Regier, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Brad Tschida, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Dan Bartel (R)
Rep. David Bedey (R)
Rep. John Fuller (R)
Rep. Frank Garner (R)
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)
Rep. Mike Hopkins (R)
Rep. Jim Keane (D)
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)
Rep. Bill Mercer (R)
Rep. Terry Moore (R)
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)
Rep. Jimmy Patelis (R)
Rep. Joe Read (R)
Rep. Vince Ricci (R)
Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R)
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Sue Vinton (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Joe Triem, Legislative Fiscal Division
Julie Johnson, Legislative Fiscal Division
Jamie Bonilla, Committee Secretary
Anthony Nuno, 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 2, 3/4/202

08:07:45 Reconvened

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 2 SECTION E AMENDMENTS

08:09:58 Chair Jones

0810:09 **Motion:** Rep. Bedey moved that **HB 2 BE AMENDED**.
[EXHIBIT\(aph49a01\)](#)

Discussion:

08:10:33 Rep. Bedey

08:11:48 Rep. Windy Boy

08:12:45 Brief Recess

08:22:34 Reconvened

08:23:43 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Caferro and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy.

08:24:12 **Motion:** Rep. Fuller moved **HB 2 BE AMENDED**

Discussion:

08:25:42 **Motion:** Rep. Bedey moved **HB 2 BE AMENDED** by segregating Amendment 000204-E.AKG to act separately on Subsections 1, 2, 4 and Subsections 3 and 5 together.

[EXHIBIT\(aph49a02\)](#)

Discussion:

08:25:45 Rep. Fuller

08:26:34 Rep. Windy Boy

08:31:35 Rep. Bedey

08:34:33 Chair Jones

08:34:36 Rep. Mercer

08:35:12 Rep. Bedey

08:35:49 Rep. Mercer

08:36:12 Rep. Bedey

08:36:49 Rep. Windy Boy

08:38:31 Chair Jones

08:38:42 Rep. Mercer

08:38:56 Rep. Stewart-Perogoy

08:40:47 Rep. Nave

08:41:30 Rep. Windy Boy

08:42:31 Rep. Bedey

08:44:23 Rep. Fuller

08:45:38 **Vote:** Subsection 1 of HB 2 Amendment 000204-E.AKG failed 12-12 by roll call vote with Rep. Fuller, Rep. Holmlund, Rep. Jones, Rep. Mercer, Rep. Nave, Rep. Patelis, Rep. Read, Rep. M. Regier, Rep. Ricci, Rep. Schillinger, Rep. Tschida and Rep. Vinton voting aye. Rep. Mercer, Rep. Patelis, Rep. Read and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy.

08:47:18 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Fuller moved that subsection 2 of Amendment 000204-E.AKG. Motion failed 12-12 by roll call vote with Rep. Bartel, Rep. Fuller, Rep. Mercer, Rep. Moore, Rep. Nave, Rep. Patelis, Rep. Read, Rep. M. Regier, Rep. Ricci, Rep. Schillinger, Rep. Tschida and Rep. Vinton voting aye. Rep. Mercer, Rep. Patelis, Rep. Read and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy.

08:50:20 **Motion:** Rep. Fuller moved that subsection 3 and 5 of Amendment 000204-E.AKG.

Discussion:

08:51:07 Rep. Bedey

08:52:18 Rep. Windy Boy

08:52:44 **Vote:** Motion failed 12-12 by roll call vote with Rep. Bartel, Rep. Fuller, Rep. Mercer, Rep. Moore, Rep. Nave, Rep. Patelis, Rep. Read, Rep. M. Regier, Rep. Ricci, Rep. Schillinger, Rep. Tschida and Rep. Vinton voting aye. Rep. Mercer, Rep. Patelis, Rep. Read, Rep. Ricci and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy.

08:54:51 **Motion:** Rep. Fuller moved that subsection 4 of Amendment 000204-E.AKG.

Discussion:

08:46:05 Rep. Bedey

08:58:56 Rep. Caferro

09:01:26 Rep. Schillinger

09:01:57 Chair Jones

09:03:18 Rep. Bedey

09:04:20 Rep. Keogh

09:05:20 Rep. Fuller

09:06:21 **Vote:** Motion failed 12-12 by roll call vote with Rep. Bartel, Rep. Fuller, Rep. Mercer, Rep. Moore, Rep. Nave, Rep. Patelis, Rep. Read, Rep. M. Regier, Rep. Ricci, Rep. Schillinger, Rep. Tschida and Rep. Vinton voting aye. Rep. Garner, Rep. Keane, Rep. Mercer, Rep. Patelis, Rep. Read and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy.

09:08:05 **Motion:** Rep. Tschida moved that **HB 2 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(aph49a03\)](#)

Discussion:

09:09:20 Rep. Bedey

09:10:59 Chair Jones

09:11:11 Rep. Windy Boy

09:11:51 Rep. Bedey
09:12:22 Rep. Fuller
09:13:45 Rep. Schillinger
09:14:10 Rep. Bedey
09:14:44 Chair Jones
09:14:58 Kenneth Bailey, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
09:15:23 Rep. Fuller
09:15:33 Kenneth Bailey, OPI
09:16:05 Rep. Schillinger
09:16:21 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
09:20:12 Chair Jones
09:20:23 Rep. Tschida

09:22:17 **Vote:** Motion failed 11-13 by roll call vote with Rep. Bartel, Rep. Fuller, Rep. Moore, Rep. Nave, Rep. Patelis, Rep. Read, Rep. M. Regier, Rep. Ricci, Rep. Schillinger, Rep. Tschida and Rep. Vinton voting aye. Rep. Garner, Rep. Mercer, Rep. Read and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy.

09:24:14 **Motion:** Rep. M. Regier moved that **HB 2 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(aph49a04\)](#)

Discussion:

09:24:28 Rep. Regier
09:25:15 Rep. Bedey
09:27:33 Rep. Windy Boy
09:28:50 Chair Jones

09:31:11 **Vote:** Motion carried 14-10 by roll call vote with Rep. Bedey, Rep. Garner, Rep. Holmlund, Rep. Hopkins, Rep. Jones, Rep. Keane, Rep. Kerr-Carpenter, Rep. Patelis, Rep. Stewart Peregoy and Rep. Windy Boy voting no. Rep. Garner, Rep. Mercer, Rep. Read and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy.

09:31:31 Chair Jones

09:31:56 Recess
09:49:26 Reconvened

HEARING ON HB 2 (Section B)**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:49:30 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 18, opened the hearing on HB 2, Section B, General Appropriations Act.

09:49:59 Rep. Regier
09:52:54 Director Adam Meier, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
09:52:58 Rep. Holmlund assumed the chair

**HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 1, Disability Employment & Transitions,
Department of Health and Human Services**

10:00:50 Rep. Regier
10:02:45 Director Adam Meier, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
10:03:15 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Public Comment:

10:04:19 Mitch Tropila, Easter Seals
10:08:11 June Hermanson, Montana Association for Rehabilitation (MAR)
10:12:48 Director Joel Peden, Montana Association for Centers of Independent Living (MTCIL)
10:16:12 Beth Brennanam, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)
10:17:54 Shyla Patera, North Central Independent Living Services (NCILS)
10:20:52 Chandra Scheschy, Self
10:23:54 Jennifer Robinson, Great Falls Chapter Association for the Blind (MAB)
10:26:39 Lauren Caldwell, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)
10:27:39 Rep. Mercer joined the meeting
10:31:56 Chair Jones

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 2, Human and Community Services

10:32:16 Rep. Regier
10:33:53 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
10:34:29 Director Adam Meier, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
10:34:35 Rep. Holmlund assumed the chair
10:35:37 Shyla Patera, North Central Independent Living Services (NCILS)

Public Comment: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses

10:38:06 Rep. Regier
10:38:41 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy
10:39:27 Director Meier, DPHHS
10:40:50 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy
10:40:55 Director Meier, DPHHS
10:41:43 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy
10:42:25 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
10:43:55 Chair Holmlund

**HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 3, Child and Family Services Division,
Department of Health and Human Services**

10:44:32 Rep. Regier
10:45:44 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Public Comment:

10:46:38 Colleen Rahn, self
10:47:28 Beth Brennaman, Disability Rights Montana

Questions from Committee Members and Responses

10:48:27 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
10:48:38 Erica Johnston, DPHHS

HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 4, Director's Office

10:49:56 Rep. Regier
10:51:19 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
10:51:54 Director Adam Meier, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Public Comment:

10:55:03 Mayor Wilmot Collins, Helena
10:57:09 Rep. Caferro
10:59:01 Jean Branscum, Montana Medical Association (MMA)
11:01:12 Justin Dupree, Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes
11:03:47 Charles Headdress, Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes
11:05:45 Casey Wallat, self
11:07:36 Patrick Yawakie, self

EXHIBIT(aph49a05)

11:09:12 Vina Little Owl, self
11:14:50 Daniel Vesquez, self
11:15:33 Edith Beck, self
11:16:28 Stacy Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA)
11:17:51 Kristin Page-Nei, American Cancer Society (ACS)

11:19:11 Andy Werk, Jr., Fort Belknap Indian Community
11:21:48 Anna Whiting Sorrell, self
11:24:40 Shelly Fyant, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)
11:26:52 Loni Taylor, Rocky Boy Indian Reservation
11:29:15 Kelsen Young, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
11:31:43 Loni Taylor, Chippewa Cree Council

Questions from Committee Members and Responses

11:34:19 Rep. Windy Boy
11:34:27 Rep. Regier

11:35:19 Rep. Windy Boy
 11:35:42 Director Meier, DPHHS
 11:37:27 Rep. Windy Boy
 11:37:56 Director Meier, DPHHS
 11:37:58 Rep. Windy Boy
 11:40:17 Director Meier, DPHHS
 11:41:02 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
 11:41:39 Rep. Windy Boy
 11:42:47 Rep. Fuller
 11:43:21 Rep. Mercer
 11:47:26 Director Meier, DPHHS
 11:48:20 Rep. Mercer
 11:48:54 Chair Holmlund

HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 5, Child Support Enforcement Division

11:49:08 Rep. Regier
 11:50:02 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Public Comment: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 6, Business & Financial Services Division

11:50:45 Rep. Regier
 11:51:42 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Public Comment: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 7, Public Health & Safety Division

11:52:30 Rep. Regier
 11:54:01 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Public Comment:

11:54:41 Stacy Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA)
 11:55:32 Jean Branscum, Montana Medical Association (MMA)
 11:58:38 Annie Tegen, Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids
 12:01:47 Carrie Nyssen, American Lung Association
 12:03:32 Kristin Page-Nei, American Cancer Society
 12:04:49 Dr. Elizabeth Beil, Montana Chapter Academy of Pediatrics
 12:07:16 Kristin Page-Nei, American Cancer Society
 12:09:24 Rikki James, self
 12:12:35 Lynda Vande-Sandt, self
 12:15:16 Lois Fitzpatrick, self

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None**HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 8, Quality Assurance Division**

12:17:48 Rep. Regier
12:18:42 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Public Comment: None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None**HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 9, Technology Services Division**

12:19:32 Rep. Regier
12:20:46 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Public Comment: None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

12:21:48 Rep. Garner

12:22:10 Recess
15:50:49 Reconvened

HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 10 Developmental Services Division

15:51:02 Rep. Jones resumed the chair
15:51:50 Rep. Regier
15:55:09 Chair Jones
15:55:18 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
15:56:13 Director Adam Meier, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Public Comment:

16:04:30 Matt Kuntz, Montana Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
16:06:45 Beth Breneman, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)
16:10:56 Skip Rosenthal, Youth Homes
16:14:32 Jackie Mohler, Family Outreach
16:18:08 Patrick Maddison, Montana Association of Community Disability Service (MACDS)
16:19:33 Kelsen Young, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV)
16:20:42 Barbara Cowan, Partnership for Children

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:23:49 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
16:24:25 Director Adam Meier, DPHHS
16:25:58 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
16:26:40 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter

16:26:43 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
16:27:16 Rep. Keane
16:28:07 Director Meier, DPHHS
16:30:43 Rep. Keane
16:31:38 Director Meier, DPHHS
16:32:55 Rep. Mercer
16:33:33 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
16:34:57 Rep. Mercer
16:35:40 Marie Matthews, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
16:36:34 Rep. Mercer
16:37:11 Marie Matthews, DPHHS
16:37:20 Rep. Mercer
16:37:34 Marie Matthews, DPHHS
16:38:31 Rep. Mercer
16:39:29 Marie Matthews, DPHHS
16:39:38 Rep. Mercer
16:39:47 Rep. Regier
16:41:21 Rep. Mercer
16:41:57 Marie Matthews, DPHHS

HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 11 Health Resources Division

16:43:40 Rep. Regier
16:44:27 Rep. Holmlund assumed role the chair
16:47:39 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
16:48:26 Director Adam Meier, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
16:49:44 Erica Johnston, DPHHS

Public Comment:

16:52:15 Matt Kuntz, Montana chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
16:54:40 Duane Preshinger, Montana Hospital Association (MHA)
16:57:11 Stacy Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA)
16:59:23 Dr. Shelly Harkins, St. Peter's Hospital
17:06:21 Heather O'Loughlin, Montana Budget and Policy Center (MBPC)
17:09:14 Kelsen Young, Montana Coalition against Domestic and Sexual Violence
17:10:00 Kristen Page-Nei, American Cancer Society
17:11:14 Cherie Taylor, Northern Rockies Medical Center

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 12 Program & Health Service Management

17:16:02 Rep. Regier
17:17:25 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
17:18:00 Director Adam Meier, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Public Comment:

17:22:09 Sam Forstag, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
17:23:34 Eamon Fahey, International Rescue Community
17:27:31 Nolasque Balitebalibuik, self
17:32:18 Casey Barrs, self
17:38:28 Mary Poole, Soft Landing Missoula
17:41:28 Kelsen Young, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
17:43:52 Shirley Lindburg, Missoula County Public Schools

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:45:54 Rep. Mercer
17:47:42 Director Meier, DPHHS
17:48:09 Marie Matthews, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
17:51:23 Rep. Mercer
17:51:52 Rep. Keogh
17:53:21 Director Meier, DPHHS
17:55:19 Rep. Keogh
17:55:47 Director Meier, DPHHS
17:56:46 Rep. Mercer
17:57:41 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
17:59:29 Rep. Mercer
17:59:56 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
18:01:31 Rep. Mercer
18:03:28 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
18:03:44 Rep. Hamilton
18:05:10 Eamon Fahey, International Rescue Community
18:06:11 Rep. Hamilton
18:07:17 Rep. Caferro
18:07:58 Rep. Regier
18:08:35 Rep. Caferro
18:09:10 Director Meier, DPHHS
18:09:22 Rep. Caferro
18:09:41 Director Meier, DPHHS
18:10:47 Rep. Caferro, DPHHS
18:12:13 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
18:12:32 Rep. Caferro
18:13:01 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
18:14:47 Rep. Caferro
18:15:50 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
18:16:30 Rep. Caferro
18:16:48 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
18:18:43 Rep. Mercer
18:20:33 Erica Johnston, DPHHS

HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 16, Operations Services Division

18:20:53 Rep. Regier
18:22:22 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
18:22:54 Director Adam Meier, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Public Comment: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

18:24:24 Rep. Garner
18:24:57 Director Meier, DPHHS
18:25:54 Rep. Tschida
18:26:40 Director Meier, DPHHS
18:26:49 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
18:27:08 Rep. Tschida
18:28:10 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
18:29:02 Rep. Tschida

HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 22, Senior & Long Term Care Development

18:29:44 Rep. Regier
18:31:16 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
18:31:56 Director Adam Meier, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Public Comment:

18:32:34 Jason Cronk, self
18:39:44 Adrien Cotton, Montana Area Agencies on Aging Association
18:41:36 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana
18:43:09 Rose Hughes, Montana Health Care Association (MHCA)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 25, Early Childhood and Family Support Divisions

18:51:55 Rep. Regier
18:53:52 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Public Comment:

18:54:52 Keith Newmeyer, self
18:56:25 Brandi Thomas, self
18:58:12 Sheryl Hutzenbiler, self
19:00:45 Sara Savage, Human Resource Development Council (HRDC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

19:03:38 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy
19:04:02 Rep. Regier
19:04:34 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy
19:04:47 Rep. Regier
19:05:13 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy
19:06:15 Director Adam Meier, DPHHS
19:06:46 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy
19:07:26 Director Meier, DPHHS
19:08:13 Rep. Windy Boy
19:08:21 Director Meier, DPHHS
19:09:33 Rep. Windy Boy
19:09:45 Director Meier, DPHHS

HB 2 Hearing on Section B, Program 33, Addictive and Mental Disorders

19:11:04 Rep. Regier
19:14:19 Erica Johnston, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
19:15:01 Director Adam Meier, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Public Comment:

19:18:56 Pat Noonan, Behavioral Health Alliance (BHA)
19:20:50 Stacy Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA)
19:23:45 Beth Brennaman, Disability Rights Montana

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

19:25:18 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
19:25:26 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
19:26:33 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
19:26:47 Erica Johnston, DPHHS
19:27:13 Rep. Garner
19:27:40 Director Meier, DPHHS
19:28:17 Rep. Windy Boy
19:29:50 Director Meier, DPHHS
19:30:10 Rep. Holmlund

19:30:16 Recessed

Jamie Bonilla, Committee Clerk

jb

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([aph49aad.pdf](#))