

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Call to Order: Chair Barry Usher, on April 26, 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. Seth Berglee (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. Dennis R. Lenz (R)
Rep. Bob Phalen (R)
Rep. Ed Stafman (D)
Rep. Mallerie Stromswold (R)
Rep. Danny Tenenbaum (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Brandon Ler (R)
Rep. Derek Skees (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Brooke Sangray, Committee Secretary
Rachel Weiss, Legislative Branch
Katherine Anderson, 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: SJ 26, 4/26/2021

08:03:32 Chair Usher

HEARING ON SJ 26

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

08:04:19 Sen. Diane Sands (D), SD 49, opened the hearing on SJ 26, Interim study of the women's prison.

08:06:46 Rep. Skees joined the meeting.

08:08:41 Chair Usher

Proponents' Testimony:

08:09:32 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana

08:12:21 Patrick Yawarie, Blackfeet Tribe

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

08:15:25 Director Brian Gootkin, Montana Department of Corrections (DOC)

08:15:43 Cynthia Wolken, Montana Department of Corrections (DOC)

08:16:06 Jennie Hansen, Montana Women's Prison

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

08:16:19 Rep. Kelker

08:16:58 Director Brian Gootkin, DOC

08:17:10 Rep. Kelker

08:17:26 Director Brian Gootkin, DOC

08:18:02 Chair Usher

08:18:06 Rep. Phalen

08:18:35 Director Brian Gootkin, DOC

08:18:44 Rep. Skees

08:19:04 Sen. Sands

08:19:12 Rep. Skees

08:19:36 Sen. Sands

08:19:50 Chair Usher

08:20:06 Cynthia Wolken, DOC

08:20:20 Chair Usher

08:20:27 Jennie Hansen, Montana Women's Prison

08:20:37 Rep. Skees

08:20:58 Jennie Hansen, Montana Women's Prison

08:21:17 Rep. Skees

08:21:32 Jennie Hansen, Montana Women's Prison

08:21:36 Rep. Skees

08:21:50 Jennie Hansen, Montana Women's Prison

08:21:57 Chair Usher

Closing by Sponsor:

08:22:12 Sen. Sands

08:23:13 Rep. Kelker

08:23:56 Chair Usher

08:24:26 Rep. Hawk

08:24:46 Chair Usher

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 26

08:24:58 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. A. Regier moved that **SJ 26 DO PASS**. Motion carried 17-2 by voice vote with Rep. Berglee and Rep. Skees voting no. Rep. Ler voted by proxy.

08:25:29 Chair Usher

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 08:25:35

Brooke Sangray, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([juh79aad.pdf](#))