

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Call to Order: Chair Keith Regier, on March 9, 2021 at 9:00 AM, in Room 303 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present in the Committee Room:

Sen. Keith Regier, Chair (R)
Sen. Tom McGillvray, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Bryce Bennett (D)
Sen. Bob Brown (R)
Sen. John Esp (R)
Sen. Chris Friedel (R)
Sen. Jen Gross (D)
Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R)
Sen. Theresa Manzella (R)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. Diane Sands, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Susan Webber (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Julianne Burkhardt, Legislative Branch
Taylor Tyson, Remote Meeting Coordinator
Jacelyn Sterling, Committee Secretary

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: SB 333, 3/1/2021; HB 313, 3/1/2021, HB 325, 3/1/2021

Executive Action: HB 164 Be Concurred In; HB 200 Be Concurred In

09:01:05 Chair Regier

HEARING ON HB 325

HB 325 was rescheduled for Friday March 12. The committee accepted testimony from witnesses in the committee room.

Opponents' Testimony:

09:02:09 Ed Barlett, Montana Judges Association; State Bar of Montana

09:02:31 Sen. Gross

09:02:45 Chair Regier

09:02:52 Sen. Friedel entered the meeting.

09:03:03 Sen. Sands

09:03:14 Chair Regier

09:03:21 Sen. Sands

09:03:33 Mr. Barlett continued his testimony.

Questions from the Members and responses:

09:10:21 Sen. McGillvray

09:10:40 Mr. Bartlett

HEARING ON SB 333

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:11:27 Sen. Brad Molnar (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB333, Generally revise drug and human trafficking laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:19:39 Al Olszewski, M.D., Kalispell

[EXHIBIT\(jus47a01\)](#)

09:22:41 Dan Brooks, Billings Chamber of Commerce

[EXHIBIT\(jus47a02\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:25:06 Sen. Sands

09:27:51 Sen. Molnar

09:28:43 Sen. McGillvray

09:30:27 Sen. Molnar

09:30:34 Chair Regier

09:30:42 Sen. Molnar

09:30:56 Sen. Gross

09:32:55 Sen. Molnar
09:33:15 Sen. Regier left the meeting and gave the duties of the Chair over to Vice Chair McGillvray.
09:34:45 Sen. Friedel
09:36:44 Sen. Molnar
09:37:59 Sen. Sands
09:46:59 Sen. Molnar
09:47:25 Sen. McGillvray

Closing by Sponsor:

09:47:42 Sen. Molnar
09:48:29 Recess
10:01:45 Reconvened
10:01:47 Chair McGillvray
10:02:12 Recessed
10:13:58 Reconvened

Sen. Regier took over the duties of the Chair. Sen. Hinebauch entered the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 313**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

10:14:12 Rep. Jane Gillette (R), HD 64, opened the hearing on HB313, Generally revise medical examiner/coroner laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

10:18:11 Scott Larson, administrator, Forensic Science Division, Department of Justice (DOJ)
10:18:35 Nanette Gilbertson, Montana County Attorneys Association (MCAA) Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (MSPOA)

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

10:21:34 Sen. Gross
10:21:50 Ms. Gilbertson, MCAA, MSPOA
10:22:02 Mr. Larson, DOJ
10:22:20 Sen. Gross
10:22:28 Mr. Larson

Closing by Sponsor:

10:22:51 Rep. Gillette

Committee Business:

10:24:43 Chair Regier

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 164

10:25:03 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. McGillvray moved that **HB 164 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Sands will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 200

10:26:20 Chair Regier

10:26:30 **Motion:** Sen. McGillvray moved that **HB 200 BE CONCURRED IN**.

Discussion:

10:26:44 Sen. Sands

10:27:33 Chair Regier

10:28:07 Sen. Gross

10:29:12 Sen. Esp

10:29:48 Chair Regier

10:30:03 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Bennett, Sen. Gross, Sen. Sands and Sen. Webber voting no. Sen. Regier will carry the bill.

Committee Business:

10:30:49 Chair Regier

10:31:09 Sen. Sands

10:31:22 Chair Regier

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:31 AM

Jacelyn Sterling, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([jus47aad.pdf](#))