

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY

Call to Order: Chair David Howard, on March 10, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present in the Committee Room:

Sen. David Howard, Chair (R)
Sen. Carl Glimm, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R)
Sen. Tom McGillvray (R)
Sen. Brad Molnar (R)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. Mary McNally (D)
Sen. Diane Sands (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Jen Gross, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Corina Hach, Legislative Branch
Gwyn Schooler, Committee Secretary
Hallie Swain, 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: SB 312, 3/8/2021; SJ 14, 3/8/2021; HB 208, 3/8/2021; HB 37, 3/8/2021

HEARING ON SJ 14

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:02:49 Sen. Walt Sales (R), SD 35, opened the hearing on SJ14, Interim study of the Montana mental health system.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:05:41 Mutt Kuntz, National Alliance on Mental Illness Montana

EXHIBIT(phs48a01)

15:08:35 Brian Thompson, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association; Montana County Attorneys Association

15:09:47 Dan Smith, executive director, Montana Police Protective Association

15:10:44 Stacey Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA)

15:11:40 Sen. McNally entered the meeting.

15:12:12 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)

15:12:58 John Doran, Blue Cross Blue Shield Montana

15:13:56 Joel Peden, executive director, Montana Association of Centers for Independent Living (MTCIL)

15:15:50 Duane Preshinger, Montana Hospital Association

15:16:47 Jack Rinck, Associated Students of the University of Montana

15:17:20 Jean Branscum, CEO, Montana Medical Association

15:19:38 Jennifer Preble, East Helena

EXHIBIT(phs48a02)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:20:26 Laurie Little Dog, citizen

EXHIBIT(phs48a03)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:22:31 Sen. McGillvray

15:22:48 Sen. Sales

15:23:01 Sen. McGillvray

15:23:21 Sen. Molnar entered the meeting.

15:24:11 Mr. Peden, MTCIL

15:24:30 Ms. Brenneman, DRM

15:24:51 Sen. McGillvray

15:25:00 Ms. Brenneman

15:25:42 Sen. Glimm

15:26:12 Ms. Anderson, MPCA

15:26:51 Sen. McGillvray

15:26:54 Ms. Anderson

15:27:27 Sen. McGillvray

15:27:47 Ms. Anderson
15:28:01 Sen. Sands
15:29:10 Sen. Sales

Closing by Sponsor:

15:29:56 Sen. Sales

HEARING ON SB 312

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:31:07 Sen. Diane Sands (D), SD 49, opened the hearing on SB312, Revise licensing and regulation of residential youth treatment facilities.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:35:28 Jennifer Shaw, Breaking Code Silence

[**EXHIBIT\(phs48a04\)**](#)

15:43:58 Emily Carter, citizen
15:45:34 Melissa Dillon, citizen
15:53:39 Sen. Hinebauch
15:53:45 Sen. Howard
15:53:50 Ms. Dillon
15:54:07 Beth Breneman, Disability Rights Montana
15:56:22 Chelsea Filer, Breaking Code Silence
15:58:32 Lauren Wilson, vice president, Montana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

[**EXHIBIT\(phs48a05\)**](#)

Additional Testimony Received:

[**EXHIBIT\(phs48a06\)**](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

16:01:26 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation (MFF)

[**EXHIBIT\(phs48a07\)**](#)

16:10:59 Robert Larsson, director, Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch
16:14:25 Kyle Hinebauch, citizen
16:15:13 Charles Houk, Crossroads Christian Church

Proponent Testimony:

16:16:30 Melissa Leventhal, former program attendee

16:18:59 Sen. Howard

16:19:12 Megan Matters, former program attendee

[**EXHIBIT\(phs48a08\)**](#)

16:20:28 Deirdre Sugiuchi, former program attendee

[**EXHIBIT\(phs48a09\)**](#)

16:21:25 Daniel Stearns, former program attendee

[**EXHIBIT\(phs48a10\)**](#)

Informational Testimony:

16:22:03 Carter Anderson, administrator, Department of Public Health and Human Services

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:22:29 Sen. McGillvray
16:23:02 Mr. Larsson, Pinehaven
16:23:10 Sen. McGillvray
16:23:30 Mr. Larsson
16:24:08 Sen. McNally
16:25:19 Mr. Anderson, DPHHS
16:25:27 Sen. McNally
16:25:38 Mr. Anderson
16:26:42 Sen. McNally
16:27:20 Mr. Anderson
16:27:46 Sen. McNally
16:28:18 Mr. Lazloffy, MFF
16:29:02 Sen. McNally
16:29:30 Mr. Lazloffy
16:30:04 Sen. McNally
16:30:24 Sen. Sands
16:30:55 Sen. McNally

Closing by Sponsor:

16:31:08 Sen. Sands

[EXHIBIT\(phs48a11\)](#)

HEARING ON HB 37

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:35:07 Rep. Tom Welch (R), HD 72, opened the hearing on HB37, Clarify requirements for the Medicaid medically needy program.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:37:53 Joel Peden, executive director, Montana Association of Centers for Independent Living
16:41:27 Adrienne Cotton, director, Montana Area Agency on Aging Associations
16:42:15 Rose Hughes, executive director, Montana Health Care Association
16:43:31 Beth Breneman, Disability Rights Montana
16:44:34 Travis Hoffman, advocacy coordinator, Summit Independent Living

[EXHIBIT\(phs48a12\)](#)

16:46:10 Shyla Patera, North Central Independent Living Services

[EXHIBIT\(phs48a13\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

16:47:33 Marie Matthews, medicaid director, Department of Public Health and Human Services

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

16:48:03 Rep. Welch

HEARING ON HB 208

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:48:44 Rep. Jane Gillette (R), opened the hearing on HB208, Establishing requirements related to mental health services for birth mothers.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:52:15 Beth Brennehan, Disability Rights Montana

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:53:19 Sen. McGillvray
16:53:43 Rep. Gillette
16:55:55 Sen. McGillvray
16:56:05 Rep. Gillette
16:56:30 Sen. Glimm
16:56:47 Rep. Gillette
16:56:53 Sen. Sands
16:57:48 Rep. Gillette
16:58:45 Sen. Sands
16:58:58 Sen. McGillvray
16:59:05 Rep. Gillette

Closing by Sponsor:

16:59:21 Rep. Gillette

17:00:00 Chair Howard
17:00:40 Sen. Sands
17:01:40 Chair Howard

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:02 PM

Gwyn Schooler, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([phs48aad.pdf](#))