

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY

Call to Order: Chair David Howard, on March 15, 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. Mary McNally (D)
Sen. Brad Molnar (R)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. Jen Gross, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Diane Sands (D)

Members Excused:

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: HB 57, 3/11/2021; HB 90, 3/11/2021; HB 503, 3/11/2021; HB 574,
3/11/2021
Executive Action: SJ 14, HB 39, HB 275, HB 295

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 14

14:44:32 Cori Hach, Legislative Services Division

14:44:39 Chair Howard

14:45:00 **Motion:** Sen. Glimm moved that **SJ 14 DO PASS.**

14:45:18 **Motion:** Sen. Glimm moved that **SJ 14 BE AMENDED.**

EXHIBIT(phs51a01)

Discussion:

14:45:38 Ms. Hach, LSD

14:46:59 Sen. Gross

14:47:45 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Keenan voted by proxy.

14:48:10 **Motion:** Sen. Glimm moved that **SJ 14 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

14:48:16 Sen. Gross

14:48:59 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Keenan voted by proxy.

14:49:19 Chair Howard

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 39

14:49:34 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Glimm moved that **HB 39 BE CONCURRED IN.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Keenan voted by proxy. Sen. Sands will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 275

14:50:17 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Glimm moved that **HB 275 BE CONCURRED IN.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Keenan voted by proxy. Sen. Gross will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 295

14:51:04 **Motion:** Sen. Glimm moved that **HB 295 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

14:51:30 Sen. Gross

14:52:07 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Keenan voted by proxy. Sen. McGillvray will carry the bill.

14:52:31 Sen. McGillvray

14:53:50 Chair Howard

HEARING ON HB 57

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

14:54:23 Rep. Dennis Lenz (R), HD 53, opened the hearing on HB57, Revise requirements related to CPS placements in congregate care.

Proponents' Testimony:

14:56:41 Beth Brennehan, Disability Rights Montana
14:57:44 Denise Johnson, Montana Child Protection Alliance (MCPA)
15:01:38 Cathy Eakin, citizen
15:02:01 Matt Kuntz, executive director, National Alliance on Mental Illness
15:02:38 Matt Furlong, president, MCPA
15:04:05 Nikki Grossberg, Child Protective Services Division deputy administrator, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(phs51a02\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:06:24 Sen. McGillvray
15:06:53 Rep. Lenz
15:07:10 Sen. McGillvray
15:07:32 Rep. Lenz
15:07:44 Ms. Grossberg, DPHHS
15:08:19 Sen. Gross
15:08:40 Rep. Lenz
15:08:54 Chair Howard
15:09:07 Ms. Grossberg

Closing by Sponsor:

15:09:28 Rep. Lenz

HEARING ON HB 90

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:09:59 Rep. Dennis Lenz (R), HD 53, opened the hearing on HB90, Create an emergency protective services hearing in CPS removals.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:14:52 Denise Johnson, Montana Child Protection Alliance (MCPA)
[EXHIBIT\(phs51a03\)](#)
15:18:00 Matt Furlong, president, MCPA
15:18:48 Bob Leach, citizen
15:19:54 Cathy Eakin, citizen

15:21:39 Patrick Webb, Americans for Prosperity Montana
15:23:00 Matt Kuntz, executive director, National Alliance on Mental Illness
15:23:51 Dave Kesler, Philipsburg

EXHIBIT(phs51a04)

15:28:33 Blaine Bradshaw, citizen
15:30:10 Kelly Santiago, board member, MCPA
15:32:05 Marti Vining, Child and Family Services Division administrator, Department of Public Health and Human Services

Additional Testimony Received:

EXHIBIT(phs51a05)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:36:11 Sen. Gross
15:37:39 Rep. Lenz
15:39:27 Sen. Gross
15:39:52 Rep. Lenz
15:39:59 Sen. Gross
15:41:24 Rep. Lenz

Closing by Sponsor:

15:42:09 Rep. Lenz

HEARING ON HB 503

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:45:22 Rep. Dennis Lenz (R), HD 53, opened the hearing on HB503, Revise laws relating to child protective services hearings.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:48:27 Denise Johnson, Montana Child Protection Alliance (MCPA)
15:50:58 Matt Kuntz, executive director, National Alliance on Mental Illness
15:51:15 Matt Furlong, president, MCPA
15:51:34 Dave Kesler, Philipsburg
15:53:48 Cathy Eakin, citizen
15:53:57 Bob Leach, citizen
15:54:18 Blaine Bradshaw, Montana County Attorneys Association
15:55:09 Kelly Santiago, board member, MCPA
15:55:31 Lacey Berg, Miles City

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:57:18 Marti Vining, Child and Family Services Division administrator, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:57:53 Sen. Molnar
15:58:34 Rep. Lenz
15:59:19 Sen. Molnar
15:59:30 Rep. Lenz
15:59:49 Sen. McGillvray
16:00:20 Ms. Johnson, MCPA
16:00:54 Sen. McGillvray
16:00:58 Ms. Johnson
16:01:32 Sen. McGillvray
16:02:00 Rep. Lenz
16:02:11 Sen. McGillvray
16:02:21 Rep. Lenz
16:03:15 Sen. McGillvray
16:03:32 Rep. Lenz
16:04:15 Sen. Glimm
16:04:25 Rep. Lenz
16:05:25 Chair Howard
16:06:23 Rep. Lenz
16:06:58 Sen. Sands
16:08:20 Ms. Vining, DPHHS
16:10:46 Sen. Sands
16:10:55 Ms. Vining
16:11:18 Sen. Sands
16:11:45 Ms. Vining
16:13:18 Sen. Sands
16:13:41 Ms. Vining
16:14:26 Sen. Glimm
16:15:48 Ms. Vining
16:17:36 Sen. Glimm

Closing by Sponsor:

16:18:47 Rep. Lenz

HEARING ON HB 574

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:22:10 Rep. Dennis Lenz (R), HD 53, opened the hearing on HB574, Revise laws related to reporting on out-of-state placement of certain children.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:23:42 Cathy Eakin, citizen
16:24:25 Matt Furlong, president, Montana Child Protection Alliance
16:27:21 Matt Kuntz, executive director, National Alliance on Mental Illness
16:28:41 Keith Newmeyer, citizen
16:29:48 Bob Leach, citizen
16:30:50 Dave Kesler, Philipsburg

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

16:33:23 Meghan Peel, Children's Mental Health Bureau Chief, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:33:54 Sen. Sands
16:34:09 Ms. Peel, DPHHS
16:34:40 Sen. Sands
16:34:48 Ms. Peel
16:35:48 Sen. Sands
16:36:11 Ms. Peel
16:37:44 Sen. Sands
16:38:26 Sen. Glimm
16:38:38 Rep. Lenz
16:38:48 Sen. Sands
16:39:07 Rep. Lenz
16:39:52 Sen. Glimm
16:40:14 Ms. Peel
16:40:24 Sen. Glimm
16:40:29 Ms. Peel
16:41:16 Sen. Molnar
16:41:45 Ms. Peel
16:42:35 Sen. Molnar
16:42:49 Ms. Peel
16:43:06 Sen. Molnar
16:43:40 Ms. Peel
16:43:52 Sen. Molnar
16:44:02 Sen. Glimm
16:44:22 Ms. Peel
16:45:11 Sen. Gross
16:45:39 Cori Hach, Legislative Services Division

Closing by Sponsor:

16:45:52 Rep. Lenz

16:46:41 Sen. Sands
16:47:51 Sen. Gross
16:48:51 Chair Howard

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:49 PM

Gwyn Schooler, Secretary

gs

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([phs51aad.pdf](#))