

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Call to Order: Chair Keith Regier, on March 18, 2021 at 8:00 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)
Sen. Susan Webber (D)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. Diane Sands, Vice Chair (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: HB 211, 3/12/2021; HB 229, 3/12/2021; HB 230, 3/12/2021; HB 243, 3/12/2021
Executive Action on: HB 430 - Be Concurred in as Amended; HB 112 - Be Concurred in; HB 427 - Be Concurred in; HB 218 - Be Concurred in; HB 349 - Be Concurred in; HB 243 - Be Concurred in

Committee Business:

08:01:10 Sen. Sands
08:01:18 Chair Regier

HEARING ON HB 230

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

08:01:59 Rep. Matt Regier (R), HD 4, opened the hearing on HB230, Generally revise emergency and disaster laws.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

08:06:34 Tim Burton, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)
[EXHIBIT\(jus54a01\)](#)

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(jus54a02\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

08:08:08 Sen. Gross
08:09:11 Mr. Burton, MLCT
08:09:44 Sen. Webber
08:11:14 Rep. Regier
08:11:42 Chair Regier
08:11:51 Rep. Regier
08:12:21 Sen. Webber
08:13:05 Rep. Regier
08:13:44 Sen. Brown
08:14:31 Rep. Regier
08:15:20 Sen. Gross
08:17:10 Rep. Regier
08:17:19 Sen. McGillvray
08:17:44 Rep. Regier

Closing by Sponsor:

08:18:03 Rep. Regier

HEARING ON HB 229

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

08:18:35 Rep. Jane Gillette (R), HD 64, opened the hearing on HB229, Generally revise insurance laws.

[EXHIBIT\(jus54a03\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

08:21:31 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation

08:22:56 Matthew Brower, Montana Catholic Conference
[EXHIBIT\(jus54a04\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

08:24:13 Tom Roberts, Blue Mountain Clinic; Montana Reproductive Rights Coalition
08:27:47 Laurel Hesse, American Civil Liberties Union
08:30:08 SJ Howell, Montana Women Vote

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(jus54a05\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

08:32:08 Rep. Gillette

HEARING ON HB 211

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

08:35:41 Rep. Gregory Frazer (R), HD 78, opened the hearing on HB211, Provide compensation and assistance for secondary victims.

Proponents' Testimony:

08:38:11 Kelsen Young, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

08:39:57 Sen. McGillvray
08:40:11 Ms. Young, MCADSV
08:40:55 Sen. Gross
08:42:13 Rep. Frazer
08:42:27 Sen. Gross
08:42:58 Chair Regier
08:43:15 Rep. Frazer
08:43:37 Chair Regier
08:43:42 Ms. Young
08:44:30 Sen. Brown
08:45:14 Ms. Young
08:45:59 Sen. Sands
08:46:43 Rep. Frazer
08:47:26 Sen. Sands
08:48:43 Ms. Young
08:48:48 Chair Regier
08:49:01 Ms. Young

08:49:57 Sen. Esp
08:50:10 Sen. Bennett
08:50:44 Ms. Young

Closing by Sponsor:

08:51:57 Rep. Frazer

HEARING ON HB 358

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

08:52:40 Rep. Bill Mercer (R), HD 46, opened the hearing on HB358, Generally revising privacy of settlements and public right to know laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:03:50 Ronda Wiggers, Montana Broadcasters Association; Montana Newspaper Association

09:05:42 Sen. John Esp, SD 30

09:05:55 Sen. McGillvray entered the meeting.

09:06:41 Mayson Simmons, Polson

[EXHIBIT\(jus54a06\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

09:07:50 Mike Manion, Department of Administration

09:08:15 Jeremy Verhasselt, auditor, Legislative Audit Division (LAD)

[EXHIBIT\(jus54a07\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:08:46 Chair Regier

09:11:27 Rep. Mercer

09:11:39 Sen. Sands

09:15:54 Rep. Mercer

09:16:50 Mr. Verhasselt, LAD

09:17:33 Sen. Sands

09:19:20 Rep. Mercer

09:20:55 Sen. Brown

09:21:44 Rep. Mercer

09:24:19 Sen. McGillvray

09:24:52 Rep. Mercer

09:27:53 Sen. McGillvray

Closing by Sponsor:

09:28:04 Rep. Mercer

HEARING ON HB 243**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:28:38 Rep. Mike Hopkins (R), HD 92, opened the hearing on HB243, Generally revise laws related to law enforcement officers.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:30:23 John MacDonald, speaking on behalf of Jason White, police chief, City of Missoula

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:32:48 Sen. Friedel
09:34:09 Rep. Hopkins
09:34:30 Sen. Friedel
09:36:08 Mr. MacDonald, City of Missoula

Closing by Sponsor:

09:36:37 Rep. Hopkins

09:37:20 Recess

10:02:07 Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 430

10:02:21 **Motion:** Sen. McGillvray moved that **HB 430 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:02:45 **Motion:** Sen. McGillvray moved that **HB 430 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(jus54a08\)](#)

Discussion:

10:03:02 Julianne Burkhardt, Legislative Services Division
10:05:04 Chair Regier

10:05:28 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Bennett, Sen. Gross, Sen. Sands and Sen. Webber voting no.

10:05:56 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. McGillvray moved that **HB 430 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.** Motion carried 7-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Bennett, Sen. Gross, Sen. Sands and Sen. Webber voting no. Sen. Blasdel will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 112

10:07:03 **Motion:** Sen. McGillvray moved that **HB 112 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

10:07:39 Sen. Gross
10:08:49 Sen. Sands
10:10:17 Sen. Bennett
10:12:26 Sen. Webber

10:13:21 **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.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 427

10:14:15 **Motion:** Sen. McGillvray moved that **HB 427 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

10:14:32 Sen. Webber
10:15:26 Sen. Sands
10:18:18 Sen. Gross
10:19:12 Sen. Bennett

10:20:05 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Bennett, Sen. Gross, Sen. Sands and Sen. Webber voting no. Sen. Manzella will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 218

10:21:03 **Motion:** Sen. McGillvray moved that **HB 218 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

10:21:26 Sen. Gross

10:22:38 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Sen. Friedel will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 349

10:23:28 **Motion:** Sen. McGillvray moved that **HB 349 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

10:23:47 Sen. Bennett
10:25:08 Chair Regier
10:25:17 Sen. Bennett
10:26:50 Chair Regier
10:27:05 Sen. Esp
10:27:29 Chair Regier
10:27:33 Sen. Bennett
10:28:35 Sen. McGillvray
10:28:50 Sen. Bennett
10:29:20 Chair Regier

10:29:28 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Bennett, Sen. Gross, Sen. Sands and Sen. Webber voting no. Sen. Friedel will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 243

10:30:51 **Motion:** Sen. McGillvray moved that **HB 243 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

10:31:02 Chair Regier

10:31:08 Sen. Friedel

10:31:32 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Friedel will carry the bill.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:32 AM

Jacelyn Sterling, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([jus54aad.pdf](#))