

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY

**Call to Order:** Chair David Howard, on April 12, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. David Howard, Chair (R)  
Sen. Carl Glimm, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Jen Gross, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R)  
Sen. Tom McGillvray (R)  
Sen. Mary McNally (D)  
Sen. Brad Molnar (R)  
Sen. Diane Sands (D)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Bob Keenan (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:**

Julianne Burkhardt, 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 702, 4/9/2021; HB 703, 4/9/2021; HB 625, 4/9/2021; HB 691, 4/9/2021

**HEARING ON HB 625**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:07:29 Rep. Dennis Lenz (R), HD 53, opened the hearing on HB625, Revise laws relating to the child and family ombudsman.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:09:50 Dana Toole, Special Services Bureau chief, Department of Justice

15:11:30 Adam Meier, director, Department of Public Health and Human Services

**[EXHIBIT\(phs69a01\)](#)**

15:12:38 Beth Brenneman, attorney, Disability Rights Montana

15:13:09 Denise Johnson, communications director, Montana Child Protection Alliance

**Additional Testimony Received:**

**[EXHIBIT\(phs69a02\)](#)**

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:13:58 Rep. Lenz

15:14:40 Chair Howard

15:14:44 Rep. Lenz

**HEARING ON HB 691**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:15:10 Rep. Dennis Lenz (R), HD 53, opened the hearing on HB691, Community crisis for people who have developmental disabilities.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:17:02 Beth Brenneman, attorney, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)

15:20:12 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Academy of Physician Assistants; Montana Academy of Speech-Language-Hearing Association

15:21:35 Rebecca Meyers, Montana Association of Community Disability Services

15:23:35 Greg Dorrington, Montana Medical Association

15:24:32 Joel Peden, executive director, Montana Association of Centers for Independent Living

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

15:27:00 Lindsey Carter, bureau chief, Department of Public Health and Human Services

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:27:27 Sen. McNally  
15:28:14 Ms. Brenneman, DRM  
15:29:51 Sen. McNally  
15:30:12 Ms. Brenneman  
  
15:30:52 Sen. Glimm entered the meeting.  
  
15:31:16 Sen. McGillvray  
15:31:47 Ms. Brenneman  
  
15:32:15 Sen. Sands entered the meeting.  
  
15:33:14 Sen. McGillvray  
15:33:24 Ms. Brenneman  
15:33:35 Sen. McGillvray  
15:33:39 Ms. Brenneman  
15:34:47 Sen. McGillvray  
  
15:34:53 Chair Howard left the meeting and passed the duties of the chair to Vice Chair Glimm.  
  
15:35:00 Ms. Brenneman  
15:35:14 Sen. McGillvray  
15:35:20 Ms. Brenneman

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:35:55 Rep. Lenz

**HEARING ON HB 702**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:38:44 Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R), HD 69, opened the hearing on HB702, Prohibit discrimination based on vaccine status or possessing immunity passport.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:42:38 Susan Bodner, citizen

**[EXHIBIT\(phs69a03\)](#)**

15:46:46 Cindy Bumgarner, citizen

15:50:03 Raylene Short, Great Falls

**[EXHIBIT\(phs69a04\)](#)**

15:53:37 Heather Richards, Gallatin County

15:55:16 Garrett Bacon, East Helena

15:57:14 Dennison Rivera, chairman, Lewis and Clark County Young Republicans

16:00:25 Justin Cleveland, citizen

16:01:46 Lee Evatt, LPN, Great Falls

16:03:59 Trent Short, Great Falls

16:06:07 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation

16:07:16 Tamra Anderegg, Great Falls  
[EXHIBIT\(phs69a05\)](#)

16:11:01 Steve Cape, Coalition for Safety and Justice

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(phs69a06\)](#)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

16:14:52 Nanette Gilbertson, Montana Advocates for Children (MAC)  
16:17:24 Erin McGowan, Association of Montana Public Health Officials; Montana Primary  
Care Association  
16:20:40 Duane Preshinger, Montana Hospital Association  
16:22:06 Greg Dorrington, Montana Medical Association (MMA)  
16:25:25 Rose Hughes, executive director, Montana Health Care Association

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

16:28:09 Sen. Molnar  
16:28:56 Rep. Carlson  
16:29:52 Sen. McGillvray  
16:30:08 Rep. Carlson  
16:30:40 Sen. McGillvray  
16:31:13 Ms. Gilbertson, MAC  
16:32:13 Mr. Dorrington, MMA  
16:32:38 Sen. McNally  
16:33:20 Ms. Gilbertson  
16:33:55 Sen. McNally  
  
16:34:12 Sen. Howard entered the meeting.  
  
16:34:37 Rep. Carlson  
16:36:30 Chair Glimm  
16:37:04 Ms. Gilbertson

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:37:35 Rep. Carlson

**HEARING ON HB 703**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:47:44 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R), HD 67, opened the hearing on HB703, Prohibit the  
use of vaccination status or immunity passport for certain purposes.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

16:54:14 Heather Richards, citizen  
16:57:56 Raylene Short, Great Falls  
17:00:41 Lee Evatt, LPN, Great Falls  
17:01:56 Trent Short, Great Falls

17:03:38      Garrett Bacon, East Helena  
17:04:15      Sen. Gross entered the meeting.  
17:06:23      Steve Cape, Montana Coalition for Safety and Justice

**Opponents' Testimony:**

17:09:41      Nanette Gilbertson, Montana Advocates for Children  
17:12:54      Greg Dorrington, Montana Medical Association  
17:15:17      Duane Preshinger, Montana Hospital Association  
17:16:22      Rose Hughes, executive director, Montana Health Care Association

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

17:18:11      Rep. J. Hinkle  
17:24:41      Sen. Gross

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 5:25 PM

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Gwyn Schooler, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([phs69aad.pdf](#))**