

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

**Call to Order:** Chair Ryan Osmundson, on April 14, 2021 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 317 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present in the Committee Room:**

Sen. Ryan Osmundson, Chair (R)  
Sen. Mike Cuffe, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Janet Ellis, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)  
Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)  
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)  
Sen. Carl Glimm (R)  
Sen. David Howard (R)  
Sen. Tom Jacobson (D)  
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)  
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)  
Sen. Mike Lang (R)  
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)  
Sen. Mary McNally (D)  
Sen. Shane A. Morigeau (D)  
Sen. Daniel R. Salomon (R)  
Sen. Cary Smith (R)  
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn (R)

**Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:**

Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary  
Julie Johnson, Legislative Branch  
Heather Vande Sandt, Remote Meeting Coordinator  
Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Branch

**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 671, 4/9/2021; HB 678, 4/9/2021; HB 686, 4/9/2021; HB 693, 4/9/2021

09:01:36 Chair Osmundson

09:02:49 John MacDonald, Alliance for Automotive Innovation, corrected his testimony on HB 188 from April 13, 2021.

**HEARING ON HB 671**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:03:45 Rep. David Bedey (R), HD 86, opened the hearing on HB671, Implement provisions of HB2 - Section E - education.

**EXHIBIT(fcs71a01)**

Sen. Welborn joined the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

09:07:02 Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

09:07:46 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

09:08:11 Sen. Ellis

09:08:55 Rep. Bedey

09:09:25 Sen. Lynch joined the meeting.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

09:09:51 Rep. Bedey

**HEARING ON HB 678**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:10:29 Rep. Dan Bartel (R), HD 29, opened the hearing on HB678, Authorize transfers and other necessary measures to implement HB2 -section A.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

09:11:57 Dustin Temple, deputy director, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

09:12:18 Sen. Ellis

09:12:51 Mr. Temple, FWP

09:14:28 Sen. Cuffe

09:14:48 Rep. Bartel

09:15:08 Chair Osmundson

09:15:16 Sen. Cuffe

**Closing by Sponsor:**

09:15:29 Rep. Bartel

**HEARING ON HB 686**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:15:46 Rep. Matt Regier (R), HD 4, opened the hearing on HB686, Implement provisions of HB2, Section B - HHS.

Sen. Jacobson joined the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

09:17:38 Beth Breneman, Disability Rights Montana

09:19:24 Drew Dawson, president, Boulder City Council

[EXHIBIT\(fcs71a02\)](#)

09:21:17 Eric Seidensticker, economic coordinator, Jefferson County

09:22:10 Cory Kirsch, commissioner, Jefferson County

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

09:23:06 Erica Johnston, Department of Public Health and Human Services

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

**Closing by Sponsor:**

09:23:40 Rep. Regier

**HEARING ON HB 693**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:23:50 Rep. Bill Mercer (R), HD 46, opened the hearing on HB693, Implement provisions of HB2 - Section D- Judiciary, Law Enforcement and Justice.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

09:41:46 Brian Gootkin, director, Department of Corrections (DOC)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

09:42:06 Sen. Flowers

09:42:58 Rep. Mercer

09:45:31 Sen. Lynch

09:45:56 Rep. Mercer

09:48:34 Sen. Lynch

09:49:46 Mr. Gootkin, DOC  
09:51:34 Sen. Lynch  
09:51:48 Mr. Gootkin  
09:52:43 Sen. Howard  
09:53:02 Mr. Gootkin  
09:53:12 Sen. Howard  
09:53:46 Mr. Gootkin  
09:54:05 Sen. Howard  
09:54:26 Rep. Mercer  
09:57:09 Chair Osmundson  
09:57:34 Rep. Mercer  
09:58:12 Chair Osmundson  
09:59:02 Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)  
09:59:40 Rep. Mercer  
09:59:44 Chair Osmundson

**Closing by Sponsor:**

10:00:08 Rep. Mercer  
  
10:02:37 Chair Osmundson  
10:02:53 Ms. Wilkinson, LFD  
10:03:02 Chair Osmundson

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 10:03 A.M.

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Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([fcs71aad.pdf](#))**