

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON (H) JOINT APPROPS SUBCOM ON JUDICIAL BRANCH, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND JUSTICE

Call to Order: Chair Bill Mercer-R, on January 19, 2023 at 8:31 AM, in 317A

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Bill Mercer, Chair (R)
Sen. Tom McGillvray, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)

Staff Present: Macy McCauley, 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:

Executive Action:

08:32:38 Chair Mercer has left

08:32:48 Sen. Lynch has left

08:33:12 **Committee Discussion:** Judicial Branch

08:33:17 Vice Chair Tom McGillvray

08:33:31 Walker Hopkins LFD

08:33:50 Cathy Duncan, LFD

08:36:04 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter

08:36:38 Cathy Duncan, LFD

08:38:12 Walker Hopkins LFD

08:43:00 **Committee Discussion:** Water Court Budget

08:43:17 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator

08:45:41 Russ McElyae, Chief Water Judge

08:47:27 [EXHIBIT\(230119JCHa1\)](#)

08:57:53 Vice Chair Tom McGillvray

08:58:46 Russ McElyae, Chief Water Judge

09:04:49 Vice Chair Tom McGillvray

09:05:24 Russ McElyae, Chief Water Judge

09:06:01 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter left the meeting.

09:08:00 Vice Chair Tom McGillvray

09:09:01 Russ McElyae, Chief Water Judge

09:09:49 Rep. Fiona Nave

09:10:26 Russ McElyae, Chief Water Judge

09:16:55 Rep. Michele Binkley

09:18:03 Russ McElyae, Chief Water Judge

09:18:59 Vice Chair Tom McGillvray

09:19:56 Russ McElyae, Chief Water Judge

09:20:08 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator

09:20:51 Sen. Shelley Vance

09:21:29 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter joined the meeting.

09:22:52 Russ McElyae, Chief Water Judge

09:23:28 Vice Chair Tom McGillvray

09:23:48 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator

09:24:55 Walker Hopkins LFD

09:25:05 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator

09:26:24 Rep. Fiona Nave

09:39:40 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator

09:40:19 Walker Hopkins LFD

09:42:33 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator

09:42:37 Bowen Greenwood, Clerk of Montana Supreme Court

09:26:54 **Recessed**

09:39:38 **Reconvened**

09:46:10 **Committee Discussion:** Clerk Of Courts

09:46:20 Bowen Greenwood, Clerk of Montana Supreme Court

09:47:17 Rep. Fiona Nave

09:47:36 Bowen Greenwood, Clerk of Montana Supreme Court

09:47:50 Vice Chair Tom McGillvray

09:49:31 Rep. Fiona Nave

09:49:56 Sen. Ryan Lynch joined the meeting.

09:50:13 **Committee Discussion:** District Court Operations

09:50:31 Walker Hopkins LFD

09:55:23 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator

09:58:01 [EXHIBIT\(230119JCHa2\)](#)

09:58:06 [EXHIBIT\(230119JCHa3\)](#)

10:06:50 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter

10:07:49 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator

10:15:32 **Committee Discussion:** Performance Majors

10:15:56 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator

10:17:49 [EXHIBIT\(230119JCHa4\)](#)

10:20:17 Vice Chair Tom McGillvray

10:22:10 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator

10:28:42 Rep. Fiona Nave

10:29:32 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator

10:29:50 Sen. Ryan Lynch

10:32:01 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator

10:33:19 Vice Chair Tom McGillvray

10:33:49 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator

10:36:33 Sen. Shelley Vance

10:37:14 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator

10:38:24 Vice Chair Tom McGillvray

10:39:44 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator
10:40:36 Sen. Ryan Lynch
10:42:22 Beth McLaughlin, Chief Justice Administrator
10:44:30 **Committee Discussion:** Public Comment
10:44:53 **Committee Discussion:**
10:44:58 Walker Hopkins LFD
10:45:26 Vice Chair Tom McGillvray

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:51:22

Macy McCauley, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230119JCHaad\)](#)