

MINUTES
MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (H) JUDICIARY

Call to Order: Chair Rep. Amy Regier-R, on January 24, 2023 at 8:00 AM, in 137

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Amy Regier, Chair (R)
Rep. Laurie Bishop, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Brandon Ler, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R)
Rep. Lee Deming (R)
Rep. Jodee Etchart (R)
Rep. Tom France (D)
Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)
Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R)
Rep. Caleb Hinkle (R)
Rep. SJ Howell (D)
Rep. Greg Kmetz (R)
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)
Rep. Wayne Rusk (R)
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway (R)
Rep. Laura Smith (D)
Rep. Zoey Zephyr (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Neil Duram (R)

Staff Present: Jamie Van Valkenburg, Secretary
Rachel Weiss, Research Analyst

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 272 01/23/2023
HB 282 01/23/2023
HB 283 01/23/2023

Executive Action:

HB 174 DO PASS AS AMENDED

HB 228 DO PASS
HB 236 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 237 TO TABLE
HB 255 DO PASS
HB 256 TO TABLE
HB 266 DO PASS

HEARING ON HB 272 - Revise alcohol laws relating to contrived events and employees of licensees

Opening Statement:

08:02:06 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, opened the hearing on HB 272, Revise alcohol laws relating to contrived events and employees of licensees.

Proponent Testimony:

08:04:06 John Hayes, Self

08:05:18 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)

08:09:35 Shauna Halvert, Gaming Industry (GI)

08:11:08 Jessie Luther, Hospitality and Development Association of Montana, (HDAM)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:12:34 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle

08:12:41 John Iverson (MTA)

08:14:56 Rep. Laura Smith

08:15:54 John Iverson (MTA)

08:17:40 Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway

08:19:47 Rep. Neil Duram

08:20:08 John Iverson (MTA)

08:20:15 Rep. Tom France

08:20:43 John Iverson (MTA)

08:21:46 Rep. Zoey Zephyr

08:22:24 John Iverson (MTA)

Closing Statement:

08:23:11 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, closed the hearing on HB 272.

HEARING ON HB 282 - Generally revise rental laws

Opening Statement:

08:24:55 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, opened the hearing on HB 282, Generally revise rental laws.

Proponent Testimony:

08:27:35 John Sinrud, Montana Landlord Association (MLA)

08:38:36 Robert Smaus, Montana Landlord Association (MLA)

08:39:39 Gary Whitney, Montana Landlord Association (MLA)

Opponent Testimony:

08:41:25 Sam Forstag, City of Missoula

[EXHIBIT\(230124JUH1\)](#)

08:44:58 Jake Brown, Shelter Whitefish (SW)

08:46:39 Ethan Hanley, Associated of Students of University of Montana (ASUM)

08:47:46 Maggie Bell, Montana Associated Students (MAS)

08:49:32 Margaret MacDonald, Big Sky 55 Plus (BS55P)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:53:27 Rep. Neil Duram

08:53:56 Gary Whitney (MLA)

08:55:15 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle

08:56:31 Rep. Steven Galloway-R
09:00:21 Rep. Laurie Bishop
09:01:50 Rep. Steven Galloway-R
09:05:16 Rep. Neil Duram
09:07:19 Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway
09:09:02 Sam Forstag, City of Missoula
09:10:57 Rep. Zooey Zephyr
09:11:41 Sam Forstag, City of Missoula

Closing Statement:

09:12:25 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, closed the hearing on HB 282.

HEARING ON HB 283 - Generally revise rental laws

Opening Statement:

09:15:55 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, opened the hearing on HB 283,
Generally revise rental laws.

Proponent Testimony:

09:17:07 John Sinrud, Montana Landlord Association (MLA)
[EXHIBIT\(230124JUH2\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(230124JUH3\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(230124JUH4\)](#)
09:21:12 Robert Smaus, Montana Landlord Association (MLA)
09:22:39 Gary Whitney, Montana Landlord Association (MLA)

Opponent Testimony:

09:25:10 Sam Forstag, City of Missoula
09:27:43 Ethan Hanley, Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM)
09:28:23 Maggie Bell, Montana Associated Students (MAS)

09:29:18 Jake Brown, Shelter Whitefish (SW)

Questions from Committee:

09:29:58 Rep. Jennifer Carlson
09:31:44 Rep. Steven Galloway-R
09:33:43 Rep. Brandon Ler
09:33:48 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle
09:35:00 Rep. Steven Galloway-R
09:35:58 Rep. SJ Howell
09:37:53 Sam Forstag, City of Missoula
09:38:45 Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway
09:39:19 John Sinrud (MLA)

Closing Statement:

09:42:21 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, closed the hearing on HB 283.
09:44:06 **Recessed**
10:23:54 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 174 - Requiring certain costs paid to detention centers to be based on actual costs

10:25:06 **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 174 DO PASS.**
10:25:16 **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 174 BE AMENDED.**
Discussion:
10:26:09 Rachel Weiss
Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
10:26:38 **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 174 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
Discussion:
10:26:49 Rep. Donavon Hawk
Vote: Motion carried 18 - 1 by roll call vote with Rep. Howell, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 228 - Generally revise public investment laws

10:28:24 **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 228 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

10:28:34 Rachel Weiss

10:28:51 Rep. SJ Howell

10:29:39 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle

10:29:59 Rep. Zoey Zephyr

10:30:44 Rep. Neil Duram

Vote: Motion carried 13 - 6 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. France, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Howell, Rep. Smith, Rep. Zephyr, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 236 - Generally revise public safety agency and public safety answering point laws

10:33:17 **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 236 DO PASS.**

10:33:42 **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 236 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:34:14 Rachel Weiss

10:34:35 Rep. Laurie Bishop

10:35:34 Rep. Jennifer Carlson

Vote: Motion carried 12 - 7 by roll call vote with Rep. Duram, Rep. Etchart, Rep. Hinkle, Rep. Kmetz, Rep. Ler, Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Sheldon-Galloway, voting no.

10:39:40 **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 236 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 237 - Generally revise dissolution law in cases of adultery and physical abuse

10:39:13 **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 237 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

10:38:35 Rachel Weiss

10:40:19 **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 237 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:40:45 Rachel Weiss

10:40:55 Rep. Laurie Bishop

10:41:02 Rep. Neil Duram

10:41:31 Rep. Laura Smith

Vote: Motion failed 11 - 8 by roll call vote with Rep. Duram, Rep. Hinkle, Rep. Hinkle, Rep. Kmetz, Rep. Ler, Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Regier, Rep. Sheldon-Galloway, voting yes.

10:45:26 **Motion:** Rep. Donavon Hawk moved that **HB 237 TO TABLE.**

Vote: Motion failed 10 - 9 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Carlson, Rep. France, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Howell, Rep. Knudsen, Rep. Rusk, Rep. Smith, Rep. Zephyr, voting yes.

10:47:01 **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 237 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

10:45:31 Rep. Neil Duram

10:47:19 Rep. Laura Smith

10:48:10 Rep. Casey Knudsen

10:48:43 Rep. Tom France

Vote: Motion failed 11 - 8 by roll call vote with Rep. Duram, Rep. Hinkle, Rep. Hinkle, Rep. Kmetz, Rep. Ler, Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Regier, Rep. Sheldon-Galloway, voting yes.

10:51:47 **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 237 TO TABLE.**

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 255 - Generally revise catalytic converter sale laws

10:51:50 **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 255 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

10:51:55 Rachel Weiss

10:52:18 Rep. Casey Knudsen

10:52:33 Rep. Donavon Hawk

Vote: Motion carried 15 - 4 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Howell, Rep. Smith, Rep. Zephyr, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 256 - Expand when auxiliary officers may carry weapons

10:54:36 **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 256 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

10:54:43 Rachel Weiss

10:54:58 Rep. Casey Knudsen

10:55:42 Rep. Zooey Zephyr

10:56:39 Rep. Jennifer Carlson

10:57:28 Rep. Neil Duram

10:58:30 Rep. Greg Kmetz

10:58:42 Rep. Braxton Mitchell

10:59:19 Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway

Vote: Motion failed 11 - 8 by roll call vote with Rep. Carlson, Rep. Deming, Rep. Duram, Rep. Etchart, Rep. Kmetz, Rep. Ler, Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Sheldon-Galloway, voting yes.

11:01:31 **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 256 TO TABLE.**

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 266 - Eliminate the advisory council on concealed weapon permits

11:01:25 **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 266 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

11:01:30 Rachel Weiss

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:02:55

Jamie Van Valkenburg, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230124JUHaad\)](#)