

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 Rep. Bill Mercer-R, on January 26, 2023 at 8:08 AM, in 317A

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Bill Mercer, Chair (R)
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)
Sen. Tom McGillvray (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:

08:08:00 Reconvened

08:10:57

Committee Discussion:

08:11:11 Cathy Duncan, LFD

08:13:09 Rep. Fiona Nave

08:13:13 Rep. Nave takes over as Chair.

08:13:30

Committee Discussion:

08:13:34 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief

08:18:53 Sen. Tom McGillvray joined the meeting.

08:25:49 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter joined the meeting.

08:34:26 Sen. Shelley Vance

08:36:02 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief

08:36:13 Sen. Ryan Lynch

08:36:35 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief

08:36:54 Sen. Ryan Lynch

08:37:31 Rep. Fiona Nave

08:37:52 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief

08:39:38 Sen. Ryan Lynch

08:39:50 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief

08:40:01 Sen. Ryan Lynch

08:41:31 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief
08:43:52 Sen. Ryan Lynch
08:44:03 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief
08:49:16 Sen. Ryan Lynch
08:49:19 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief
08:51:17 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
08:51:57 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief
08:57:00 Brian Gootkin Director, Department of Corrections
08:58:35 Sen. Tom McGillvray
08:59:02 Sen. Ryan Lynch
08:59:21 Brian Gootkin Director, Department of Corrections
08:59:47 Sen. Ryan Lynch
08:59:59 Sen. Tom McGillvray
09:00:32 Brian Gootkin Director, Department of Corrections
09:00:40 Natalie Smitham ,(DOC)
09:01:11 Sen. Tom McGillvray
09:01:38 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief
09:01:45 Natalie Smitham ,(DOC)
09:02:29 Sen. Tom McGillvray
09:03:01 Natalie Smitham ,(DOC)
09:03:47 Sen. Tom McGillvray
09:04:01 Natalie Smitham ,(DOC)
09:04:06 Sen. Tom McGillvray
09:04:38 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief

09:04:54 Sen. Tom McGillvray
09:05:13 Rep. Fiona Nave
09:05:45 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief
09:06:06 Rep. Fiona Nave
09:06:49 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief
09:09:49 Recessed
09:26:43 Reconvened
09:26:47

Committee Discussion:

09:26:53 Cathy Duncan, LFD
09:28:01 Sen. Shelley Vance left the meeting.
09:28:15 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter left the meeting.
09:28:19 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief
09:30:55 Sen. Tom McGillvray
09:31:54 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter joined the meeting.
09:35:11 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief
09:35:35 Sen. Ryan Lynch
09:36:15 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief
09:38:38 Rep. Fiona Nave
09:38:46 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief
09:39:25 Rep. Fiona Nave
09:40:56 Sen. Shelley Vance joined the meeting.
09:41:47 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief
09:43:37 Rep. Fiona Nave

09:44:26 Rep. Bill Mercer

09:45:53 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief

09:46:36 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter left the meeting.

09:47:14 Rep. Bill Mercer

09:48:16 Cynthia Wolken ,(DOC)

09:50:19 Sen. Tom McGillvray

09:50:51 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief

09:51:29 Sen. Tom McGillvray

09:51:58 Natalie Smitham ,(DOC)

09:52:00 Sen. Tom McGillvray

09:52:30 Natalie Smitham ,(DOC)

09:52:30 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter joined the meeting.

09:53:23 Rep. Fiona Nave

09:55:09 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief

09:55:31 Rep. Fiona Nave

09:55:33 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief

09:57:51 Sen. Ryan Lynch

09:58:23 Rep. Bill Mercer

09:59:57 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief

10:00:19 Rep. Fiona Nave

10:02:39 Scott Eychner Rehab and Programs Chief

09:26:55 Sen. McGillvray takes over as Chair.

10:02:50

Committee Discussion:

10:03:02 Amy Tenney, Community Corrections
10:04:17 [EXHIBIT\(230126JCHa1\)](#)
10:09:12 Allan Scanlon, Great Falls Prerelease Center
10:16:45 Dave Armstrong, CEO Alternative INC.
10:18:58 [EXHIBIT\(230126JCHa2\)](#)
10:20:40 Mike Thatcher, CEO Community Corrections
10:29:02 Sen. Tom McGillvray
10:29:09 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
10:30:51 Amy Tenney, Community Corrections
10:33:57 Sen. Ryan Lynch
10:36:05 Amy Tenney, Community Corrections
10:37:27 Sen. Ryan Lynch
10:37:29 Brian Gootkin Director, Department of Corrections
10:38:29 Rep. Bill Mercer
10:39:19 Rep. Fiona Nave
10:42:12 Allan Scanlon, Great Falls Prerelease Center
10:42:35 Recessed
10:55:44

Committee Discussion:

10:55:50 Natalie Smitham ,(DOC)
10:56:40 Rep. Fiona Nave left the meeting.
10:57:22 Cathy Duncan, LFD
10:57:53 Natalie Smitham ,(DOC)
11:00:29 Rep. Fiona Nave joined the meeting.

11:01:57	Sen. Ryan Lynch
11:02:23	Natalie Smitham ,(DOC)
11:02:57	Sen. Ryan Lynch
11:03:02	Natalie Smitham ,(DOC)
11:03:07	Cynthia Wolken ,(DOC)
11:04:19	Sen. Ryan Lynch
11:04:51	Cynthia Wolken ,(DOC)
11:05:49	Sen. Ryan Lynch
11:06:08	Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
11:07:19	Cynthia Wolken ,(DOC)
11:08:15	Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
11:08:24	Natalie Smitham ,(DOC)
11:08:55	Sen. Tom McGillvray
11:08:58	Natalie Smitham ,(DOC)
11:09:02	Cynthia Wolken ,(DOC)
11:09:52	Sen. Tom McGillvray
11:11:21	Cynthia Wolken ,(DOC)
11:11:22	Sen. Ryan Lynch
11:14:37	Rep. Bill Mercer
11:16:27	Cynthia Wolken ,(DOC)
11:17:28	Rep. Bill Mercer
11:18:55	Rep. Fiona Nave
11:20:12	Natalie Smitham ,(DOC)
11:21:20	Sen. Tom McGillvray

11:21:24 Brent Doig, OBPP
11:22:21 Natalie Smitham ,(DOC)
11:23:22 Sen. Tom McGillvray
11:24:08 Brian Gootkin Director, Department of Corrections
11:24:58 Natalie Smitham ,(DOC)
11:25:06 Sen. Ryan Lynch
11:25:58 Cathy Duncan, LFD
11:27:39 Brian Gootkin Director, Department of Corrections
11:30:21 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
11:31:35 Brian Gootkin Director, Department of Corrections
11:32:00 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
11:32:31

Committee Discussion:

11:33:31 Mark Baker, CoreCivic
11:33:46 [EXHIBIT\(230126JCHa3\)](#)
11:34:17 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
11:34:41 Mark Baker, CoreCivic
11:35:03 Sen. Ryan Lynch
11:36:00 Mark Baker, CoreCivic
11:37:00 Sen. Ryan Lynch
11:37:07 Mark Baker, CoreCivic
11:37:22 Sen. Ryan Lynch
11:38:53 Mark Baker, CoreCivic
11:39:12 Sen. Ryan Lynch

11:40:12 Mark Baker, CoreCivic
11:40:18 Rep. Fiona Nave
11:41:00 Mark Baker, CoreCivic
11:41:55 Rep. Fiona Nave
11:42:03 Mark Baker, CoreCivic
11:42:29 Sen. Ryan Lynch
11:44:52 Sen. Tom McGillvray
11:44:56 Mark Baker, CoreCivic
11:45:06 May Simmons, Prison Reform Advocate
11:52:15

Committee Discussion:

11:52:19 Rep. Bill Mercer
11:52:51 Cathy Duncan, LFD

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:54:12

Macy McCauley, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230126JCHaad\)](#)

