

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

Call to Order: Chair Rep. Amy Regier-R, on January 27, 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. Lee Deming (R)
Rep. Neil Duram (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. Wayne Rusk (R)
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway (R)
Rep. Laura Smith (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R)
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)
Rep. Zooey Zephyr (D)

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 301 01/24/2023

HB 308 01/24/2023

HB 315 01/25/2023

Executive Action:

HEARING ON HB 315 - Remove minimum penalty for suspended license

Opening Statement:

08:02:38 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, opened the hearing on HB 315, Remove minimum penalty for suspended license.

Proponent Testimony:

08:04:09 Maggie Bornstein, American Civil Liberties of Montana

08:05:58 Molly Woodman, Self

08:08:09 Nicole Gomez, Montana Women Vote

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:09:40 Rep. Neil Duram

08:09:43 Molly Woodman

08:15:23 Rep. Jennifer Carlson

08:16:18 Rep. Scot Kerns-R

08:16:41 Rep. Casey Knudsen

08:17:03 Rep. Scot Kerns-R

Closing Statement:

08:17:18 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, closed the hearing on HB 315.

HEARING ON HB 308 - Establish registry of forensic state hospital patients for limited purposes

Opening Statement:

08:18:25 Rep. Michael Yakawich (R), HD 51, opened the hearing on HB 308, Establish registry of forensic state hospital patients for limited purposes.

Proponent Testimony:

08:20:50 Matt Kuntz, NAMI Montana (NAMI)

08:23:44 Terri Todd, Self

Opponent Testimony:

08:26:38 Shawn Conroe, Ability Montana

08:27:37 Bernadette Franks-Ongoy, Disability Rights Montana

08:30:03 Maggie Bornstein, American Civil Liberties of Montana

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:32:35 Chad Parker, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Questions from Committee:

08:33:26 Rep. Donavon Hawk

08:34:04 Rep. Michael Yakawich-R

08:34:08 Chad Parker (DPHHS)

08:37:03 Rep. Laura Smith

08:37:47 Matt Kuntz (NAMI)

08:40:13 Rep. Laurie Bishop

08:41:18 Chad Parker (DPHHS)

08:47:35 Rep. Laura Smith

08:48:09 Chad Parker (DPHHS)

08:50:04 Rep. Neil Duram

08:50:33 Chad Parker (DPHHS)

08:55:48 Rep. Neil Duram

08:56:06 Rep. Michael Yakawich-R

08:56:37 Matt Kuntz (NAMI)

09:00:01 Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway

09:00:36 Matt Kuntz (NAMI)
09:03:54 Rep. Greg Kmetz
09:04:17 Matt Kuntz (NAMI)
09:04:54 Chad Parker (DPHHS)
09:06:57 Rep. Greg Kmetz
09:07:22 Chad Parker (DPHHS)
09:08:12 Rep. Jennifer Carlson
09:08:46 Chad Parker (DPHHS)

Closing Statement:

09:09:47 Rep. Michael Yakawich (R), HD 51, closed the hearing on HB 308.
09:11:37 **Recessed**
09:18:08 **Reconvened**

HEARING ON HB 301 - Revise laws relating to dangerous drugs

Opening Statement:

09:18:47 Rep. Denise Baum (D), HD 47, opened the hearing on HB 301, Revise laws relating to dangerous drugs.

Proponent Testimony:

09:21:26 Steven Crawford, Narcotics Bureau (Department of Justice)
09:23:47 Nate Kamerman, Missouri River Drug Task Force and MSPOA
09:26:12 Shelby DeMars, Montana Police Protective Association
09:26:30 Jessie Luther, Association of Montana Troopers
09:27:35 Joshua Racki, Cascade County Attorney's Office and the MCAA
09:29:35 Josh Jonas, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association
09:31:14 Ed Zink, Yellowstone County Attorney's Office

Opponent Testimony:

09:35:44 Maggie Bornstein, American Civil Liberties Union
09:38:46 Molly Woodman, Self
09:40:22 Nicole Gomez, Montana Women Vote

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:42:01 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle
09:44:26 Joshua Racki, MCAA
09:48:28 Rep. Casey Knudsen
09:49:27 Rep. Denise Baum-D
09:49:41 Ed Zink, YCAO
09:51:29 Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway
09:51:51 Joshua Racki, MCAA
09:54:45 Rep. Neil Duram
09:55:36 Ed Zink, YCAO
09:58:38 Rep. Greg Kmetz
09:59:23 Rep. Denise Baum-D
09:59:42 Steven Crawford
10:00:55 Rep. Tom France
10:01:23 Steven Crawford
10:04:21 Ed Zink, YCAO
10:06:16 Rep. Caleb Hinkle
10:06:45 Steven Crawford
10:08:34 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle

10:10:39 Steven Crawford
10:12:14 Rep. Brandon Ler
10:13:02 Rep. Denise Baum-D
10:14:04 Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway
10:14:21 Rep. Denise Baum-D
10:14:41 Ed Zink, YCAO
10:15:22 Rep. Neil Duram
10:16:02 Rep. Denise Baum-D

Closing Statement:

10:16:56 Rep. Denise Baum (D), HD 47, closed the hearing on HB 301.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:18:01

Jamie Van Valkenburg, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230127JUHaad\)](#)