

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Rep. Amy Regier-R, on February 08, 2023 at 8:01 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. Kim Abbott (D)  
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. 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. Jennifer Carlson (R)  
Rep. Caleb Hinkle (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 361 01/31/2023  
HB 356 01/31/2023

Executive Action:

**HEARING ON HB 356 - Establish firearms industry nondiscrimination**

**Opening Statement:**

08:02:45 Rep. Brandon Ler (R), HD 35, opened the hearing on HB 356, Establish firearms industry nondiscrimination.

**Proponent Testimony:**

08:03:50 Nephi Cole, National Shooting Sports Foundation

08:06:18 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

**Opponent Testimony:**

08:08:41 Shani Henry, Moms Demand Gun Sense in America

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

08:10:52 Misty Ann Giles, Department of Administration (DOA)

**Questions from Committee:**

08:11:11 Rep. Tom France

08:11:32 Rep. Brandon Ler-R

08:11:52 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

08:13:47 Rep. Tom France

08:14:00 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

08:15:42 Rep. Laurie Bishop

08:18:28 Misty Giles (DOA)

**Closing Statement:**

08:18:55 Rep. Brandon Ler (R), HD 35, closed the hearing on HB 356.

**HEARING ON HB 361 - Provide that use of a name and sex at birth by a student is not discrimination**

**Opening Statement:**

08:19:37 Rep. Brandon Ler (R), HD 35, opened the hearing on HB 361, Provide that use of a name and sex at birth by a student is not discrimination.

**Proponent Testimony:**

08:20:49 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation

**Opponent Testimony:**

08:23:31 SK Rossi, Human Rights Campaign  
08:28:38 Shawn Reagor, Montana Human Rights Network  
08:31:15 Emily Dean, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)  
08:34:07 Sarah Piper, Montana Federation of Public Employees  
08:35:03 Richard Shade, Self  
08:37:03 Jenny Murnane-Butcher, Montanans Organized For Education  
08:39:25 Cassia Finn, Self  
08:42:30 Max Finn, Self  
08:43:25 Z Moahler, Self  
08:46:20 Layla Riggs, Self  
08:48:45 Nora Finn, Self  
08:49:50 Quinn Leighten, Child Advocates of Montana  
08:51:37 Shani Henry, Self  
08:53:09 Katherine Lowe, American Academy of Pediatrics  
08:55:28 Cat Porko, Self  
08:58:32 Kevin Hamm, Montana Pride  
09:00:57 Stephanie McDowell, Bridger Care  
09:02:17 Adrian Jawort, Self  
09:06:08 Grace Decker, Self  
09:08:56 Anna Wiseman, Self  
09:10:51 Rabbi Laurie Franklin, Montana Association of Rabbis  
09:14:14 Chloe Runs Behind, Forward Montana, Montana Women Vote

09:16:32 Allison Goodnight, Self  
09:18:11 Cherilyn DeVries, Self  
09:20:25 Robyn Morrison, The League of Women Voters of Montana  
09:21:59 Sem Jumper, Self  
09:23:43 Robin Turner, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence  
09:26:10 David Chadwick, Self  
09:28:35 Heru Spencer, Djedi Order  
09:32:31 Kelli Twoteth, Self

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

09:34:57 Rep. Laurie Bishop  
09:35:26 Emily Dean (MTSBA)  
09:37:32 Emily Dean (MTSBA)  
09:37:48 Rep. SJ Howell  
09:38:59 SK Rossi, HRC  
09:40:52 Rep. Braxton Mitchell  
09:41:01 Shawn Reagor, MHRN  
09:42:54 Rep. Braxton Mitchell  
09:43:33 SK Rossi, HRC  
09:44:47 Rep. Laura Smith  
09:45:43 Emily Dean (MTSBA)  
09:47:00 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle  
09:49:01 Emily Dean (MTSBA)  
09:53:20 Rep. Donavon Hawk

09:53:44 Kevin Hamm, Montana Pride  
09:54:15 Rep. Zooey Zephyr  
09:55:31 Rep. Brandon Ler-R  
09:55:40 Rep. Amy Regier  
09:55:50 Rep. Zooey Zephyr  
09:56:00 Rep. Brandon Ler-R

**Closing Statement:**

09:56:15 Rep. Brandon Ler (R), HD 35, closed the hearing on HB 361.

**Committee Discussion:**

09:57:47 Rep. Amy Regier  
09:58:39 Rep. Laurie Bishop  
09:58:53 Rep. Amy Regier  
09:59:11 Rep. Donavon Hawk

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 09:59:31

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Jamie Van Valkenburg, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230208JUHaad\)](#)