

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Lola Sheldon-Galloway-R, on February 27, 2023 at 3:27 PM, in 152

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Rep. Alice Buckley, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Kim Abbott (D)  
Rep. Edward Buttrey (R)  
Rep. Jodee Etchart (R)  
Rep. Gregory Frazer (R)  
Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)  
Rep. Caleb Hinkle (R)  
Rep. SJ Howell (D)  
Rep. Ron Marshall (R)  
Rep. Nelly Nicol (D)  
Rep. George Nikolakakos (R)  
Rep. Greg Oblander (R)  
Rep. Amy Regier (R)  
Rep. Wayne Rusk (R)  
Rep. Laura Smith (D)  
Rep. Ed Stafman (D)  
Rep. Tom Welch (R)  
Rep. Michael Yakawich (R)  
Rep. Zooey Zephyr (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R)

**Staff Present:** Milly Allen, Research Analyst  
Katie Reeves, 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:

HB 619 02/21/2023

HB 706 02/22/2023

HB 715 02/22/2023

Executive Action:

HB 507 TO TABLE  
HB 623 TO TABLE  
HB 632 TO TABLE  
HB 645 TO TABLE  
HB 657 DO PASS  
HB 720 TO TABLE  
HB 734 TO TABLE  
HB 736 TO TABLE

**HEARING ON HB 619 - Generally language assessment laws for deaf and hard of hearing children**

**Opening Statement:**

15:30:00 Rep. Connie Keogh (D), HD 91, opened the hearing on HB 619, Generally language assessment laws for deaf and hard of hearing children.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:44:10 Katie James, Self

[EXHIBIT\(230227HUH1\)](#)

15:50:33 Shawn Tulloch, Self

15:55:46 Vena Dagnall, Self

15:58:03 Cam Tulloch, Montana Association for the Deaf

16:00:40 Kayla Lee, Self

16:03:10 Bobi Courtney, Self

16:04:22 Brandy Reinhardt, Self

16:08:11 Rita Brandborg, Self

16:12:50 Marian Kummer, Montana Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics (MCAAP)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

16:14:32 Tracy Moseman, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

16:14:58 Ken Bailey, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

16:15:22 Danni McCarthy, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

16:16:10 Carol Clayton-Bye, Montana Schools for the Deaf and Blind (MSDB)

**Questions from Committee:**

16:16:55 Rep. Michael Yakawich  
16:17:45 Carol Clayton-Bye, MSDB  
16:19:04 Vice Chair Lola Sheldon-Galloway  
16:20:27 Brandy Reinhardt

**Closing Statement:**

16:22:51 Rep. Connie Keogh (D), HD 91, closed the hearing on HB 619.

**HEARING ON HB 706 - Generally revise laws related to protection of medical speech and practice**

**Opening Statement:**

16:24:25 Rep. Naarah Hastings (R), HD 50, opened the hearing on HB 706,  
Generally revise laws related to protection of medical speech and practice.

**Proponent Testimony:**

16:28:39 Henry Krigel, Americans for Prosperity  
16:30:38 Bethany Eisenger, Self

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

16:31:35 Rep. Laura Smith  
16:32:00 Rep. Naarah Hastings-R  
16:32:10 Rep. Ed Stafman  
16:33:00 Vice Chair Alice Buckley  
16:33:18 Rep. Naarah Hastings-R

**Closing Statement:**

16:33:48 Rep. Naarah Hastings (R), HD 50, closed the hearing on HB 706.  
17:39:09 Rep. Ed Buttrey assumed the gavel

**HEARING ON HB 715 - Revise school immunization laws**

**Opening Statement:**

16:35:06 Chair Jennifer Carlson (R), HD 69, opened the hearing on HB 715,  
Revise school immunization laws.

[EXHIBIT\(230227HUHa2\)](#)

**Proponent Testimony:**

16:42:02 Bethany Eisenger, Self  
16:44:20 Jenna McKinney, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)  
16:45:15 Rebecca Schwartz, Self  
16:46:44 Robyn Mohs, Self  
16:49:38 Susy Benjamin, Self  
16:50:01 Melissa Gaspar, Self  
16:52:02 Jessie Browning, Self  
16:54:08 Chelsea Culpon, Self  
16:55:45 Jessica Kirkendall, Self

**Opponent Testimony:**

16:57:07 Jean Branscum, Montana Medical Association (MMA)  
17:01:24 Kylee Bodley, Montana Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics  
(MCAAP)  
17:03:44 Kiley Lammers, Montana Families for Vaccines  
17:06:02 Helen Thigpen, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (CHE)  
17:07:48 Maggie Bell, Montana Associated Students

17:09:04 Ethan Hanley, Associated Students of the University of Montana

17:09:55 Marian Kummer, Montana Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics (MCAAP)

17:12:50 Lisa Dworak, Confluence Public Health Alliance

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

17:15:31 Rep. Laura Smith

17:16:08 Jean Branscum, MMA

17:16:32 Rep. Greg Oblander

17:17:02 Marian Kummer, MCAAP

17:18:22 Kylee Bodley, MCAAP

17:18:46 Rep. Ed Stafman

17:19:26 Helen Thigpen, CHE

17:20:32 Rep. Edward Buttrey

17:21:13 Rep. Michael Yakawich

17:23:16 Rep. Jennifer Carlson-R

17:27:08 Rep. Wayne Rusk

17:27:39 Rep. Jennifer Carlson-R

17:28:40 Rep. Greg Oblander

17:29:14 Rep. Jennifer Carlson-R

17:32:14 Vice Chair Alice Buckley

17:32:26 Helen Thigpen, CHE

**Closing Statement:**

17:33:45 Chair Jennifer Carlson (R), HD 69, closed the hearing on HB 715.

17:39:09 Chair Carlson assumed the gavel

17:40:06 **Recessed**

18:09:26 **Reconvened**

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 507 - Establish medicaid medical respite care program for homeless individuals**

18:11:28 **Motion:** Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway moved that **HB 507 DO PASS.**

18:11:39 **Motion:** Rep. Ed Stafman moved that **HB 507 BE AMENDED.**

**Vote:** Motion failed 11 - 10 by roll call vote with Rep. Abbott, Rep. Buckley, Rep. Frazer, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Howell, Rep. Nikolakakos, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, Rep. Yakawich, Rep. Zephyr, voting yes.

18:15:10 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Ron Marshall moved that **HB 507 BE TABLED.**

**Vote:** Substitute Motion carried 11 - 10 by roll call vote with Rep. Abbott, Rep. Buckley, Rep. Frazer, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Howell, Rep. Nikolakakos, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, Rep. Yakawich, Rep. Zephyr, voting no.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 623 - Establish penalties for negligent injury or death of service animals**

18:16:49 **Motion:** Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway moved that **HB 623 DO PASS.**

**Vote:** Motion failed 12 - 9 by roll call vote with Rep. Buckley, Rep. Frazer, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Howell, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, Rep. Welch, Rep. Yakawich, Rep. Zephyr, voting yes.

18:18:32 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Jennifer Carlson moved that **HB 623 BE TABLED.**

**Vote:** Substitute Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 632 - Generally revise laws related to CPS investigations**

18:18:51 **Motion:** Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway moved that **HB 632 DO PASS.**

**Vote:** Motion failed unanimously by voice vote.

18:20:14 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Laura Smith moved that **HB 632 BE TABLED.**

**Vote:** Substitute Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 645 - Prohibit donations of certain blood and blood products**

18:20:56 **Motion:** Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway moved that **HB 645 DO PASS.**

18:21:03 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. George Nikolakakos moved that **HB 645 BE TABLED.**

**Vote:** Substitute Motion carried 19 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Sheldon-Galloway, voting no.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 657 - Generally revise laws related to child and family ombudsman**

18:22:30 **Motion:** Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway moved that **HB 657 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

18:22:48 Rep. Laura Smith

18:23:24 Rep. Edward Buttrey

**Vote:** Motion carried 14 - 7 by roll call vote with Rep. Abbott, Rep. Buckley, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Howell, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, Rep. Zephyr, voting no.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 720 - Revise laws to define life**

18:25:34 **Motion:** Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway moved that **HB 720 DO PASS.**

18:25:52 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Alice Buckley moved that **HB 720 BE TABLED.**

**Vote:** Substitute Motion failed 11 - 10 by roll call vote with Rep. Abbott, Rep. Buckley, Rep. Buttrey, Rep. Frazer, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Howell, Rep. Rusk, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, Rep. Zephyr, voting yes.  
Rep. Zephyr, By Proxy

18:28:02 **Motion:** Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway moved that **HB 720 DO PASS.**

**Vote:** Motion failed 12 - 9 by roll call vote with Rep. Etchart, Rep. Hinkle, Rep. Marshall, Rep. Nicol, Rep. Nikolakakos, Rep. Regier, Rep. Sheldon-Galloway, Rep. Welch, Rep. Yakawich, voting yes.  
Rep. Hinkle, By Proxy

18:32:15 **Motion:** Rep. Jennifer Carlson moved that **HB 720 BE TABLED.**

**Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 734 - Revise child protection laws**

18:32:27 **Motion:** Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway moved that **HB 734 DO PASS.**

**Vote:** Motion failed 18 - 3 by roll call vote with Rep. Hinkle, Rep. Oblander, Rep. Sheldon-Galloway, voting yes.  
Rep. Hinkle, By Proxy

18:35:17 **Motion:** Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway moved that **HB 734 BE TABLED.**

**Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 736 - Establish requirements for setting medicaid rates for certain therapy services**

18:35:48 **Motion:** Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway moved that **HB 736 DO PASS.**

18:35:59 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Ron Marshall moved that **HB 736 BE TABLED.**

**Vote:** Substitute Motion carried 19 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Oblander, voting no.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 18:38:27

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Katie Reeves, Secretary

Additional Documents:[EXHIBIT\(230227HUHaad\)](#)