

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Amy Regier-R, on February 28, 2023 at 5:08 PM, in 455

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Rep. Amy Regier, Chair (R)  
Rep. Laurie Bishop, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Brandon Ler, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Neil Duram (R)  
Rep. Jodee Etchart (R)  
Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)  
Rep. Caleb Hinkle (R)  
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)  
Rep. Wayne Rusk (R)  
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway (R)  
Rep. Zooley Zephyr (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Kim Abbott (D)  
Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R)  
Rep. Lee Deming (R)  
Rep. Tom France (D)  
Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R)  
Rep. SJ Howell (D)  
Rep. Greg Kmetz (R)  
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)  
Rep. Laura Smith (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:

Executive Action:

HB 772 TO TABLE  
HB 780 DO PASS AS AMENDED

HB 785 DO PASS  
HB 786 DO PASS  
HB 790 DO PASS  
HB 791 DO PASS  
HB 793 DO PASS  
HB 800 DO PASS AS AMENDED  
HB 802 DO PASS AS AMENDED  
HB 815 TO TABLE

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 772 - Revising laws related to judicial disqualification and  
recusal**

- 17:09:37       **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 772 DO PASS.**
- 17:09:37       **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.
- 17:10:12       **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 772 BE AMENDED.**
- 17:10:12       **Vote:** Motion carried 17 - 2 by voice vote with Rep. Carlson, Rep. Howell,  
voting no.  
Rep. Carlson, Rep. Howell, By Proxy
- 17:11:28       **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 772 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
- 17:11:28       **Vote:** Motion failed 16 - 3 by roll call vote with Rep. Hinkle, Rep. Hinkle, Rep.  
Sheldon-Galloway, voting yes.  
Rep. Hinkle, By Proxy
- 17:12:59       **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 772 TO TABLE.**
- 17:12:59       **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 780 - Provide for a law enforcement officer bill of rights**

- 17:13:26       **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 780 DO PASS.**
- 17:13:29       **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 780 BE AMENDED.**
- 17:13:29       **Vote:** Motion carried 18 - 1 by roll call vote with Rep. Howell, voting no.  
Rep. Howell, By Proxy
- 17:15:26       **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 780 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
- 17:15:26       **Vote:** Motion carried 17 - 2 by roll call vote with Rep. Howell, Rep. Zephyr,  
voting no.  
Rep. Howell, By Proxy

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 785 - Revise landlord-tenant laws**

- 17:19:48       **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 785 DO PASS.**
- 17:19:48       **Vote:** Motion carried 14 - 5 by roll call vote with Rep. Carlson, Rep. Hinkle,  
Rep. Ler, Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Regier, voting no.  
Rep. Carlson, Rep. Hinkle, Rep. Mitchell, By Proxy

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 786 - Revise laws to require reporting of individuals harmed by abortion pills**

- 17:29:40       **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 786 DO PASS.**
- 17:29:40       **Vote:** Motion carried 13 - 6 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. France, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Howell, Rep. Smith, Rep. Zephyr, voting no.  
Rep. France, Rep. Howell, Rep. Smith, By Proxy

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 790 - Generally revise electronic monitoring and victim notification laws**

- 17:32:56       **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 790 DO PASS.**
- 17:32:56       **Vote:** Motion carried 18 - 1 by roll call vote with Rep. Hinkle, voting no.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 791 - Generally revise drug crime sentences**

- 17:34:29       **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 791 DO PASS.**
- 17:34:29       **Vote:** Motion carried 14 - 5 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. France, Rep. Hinkle, Rep. Howell, Rep. Zephyr, voting no.  
Rep. France, Rep. Howell, By Proxy

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 793 - Revise laws related to strip searches of youth offenders**

- 17:37:44       **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 793 DO PASS.**
- 17:37:44       **Vote:** Motion carried 15 - 4 by roll call vote with Rep. Ler, Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Regier, Rep. Sheldon-Galloway, voting no.  
Rep. Mitchell, By Proxy

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 800 - Provide limited criminal history of criminally charged mental health patient**

- 17:39:16       **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 800 DO PASS.**
- 17:42:06       **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 800 BE AMENDED.**
- 17:42:06       **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 17:43:54       **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 800 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
- 17:43:54       **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 802 - Revise laws related to POST officer certification**

- 17:45:02        **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 802 DO PASS.**
- 17:45:14        **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 802 BE AMENDED.**
- 17:45:14        **Vote:** Motion carried 14 - 5 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. France, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Howell, Rep. Smith, voting no.  
Rep. France, Rep. Howell, Rep. Smith, By Proxy
- 17:48:22        **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 802 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
- 17:48:22        **Vote:** Motion carried 16 - 3 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Hinkle, Rep. Howell, voting no.  
Rep. Howell, By Proxy

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 815 - Generally revise evidence laws**

- 17:51:48        **Motion:** Rep. Brandon Ler moved that **HB 815 DO PASS.**
- 17:51:52        **Motion:** Rep. Donavon Hawk moved that **HB 815 TO TABLE.**
- 17:51:52        **Vote:** Motion carried 17 - 2 by roll call vote with Rep. Hinkle, Rep. Sheldon-Galloway, voting no.
- 17:53:29        **Committee Discussion:**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 17:55:56

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Jamie Van Valkenburg, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230228JUHbad\)](#)

