

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Jennifer Carlson-R, on March 15, 2023 at 3:00 PM, in 152

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Rep. Jennifer Carlson, Chair (R)  
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. Caleb Hinkle (R)  
Rep. SJ Howell (D)  
Rep. Ron Marshall (R)  
Rep. Nelly Nicol (R)  
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)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)  
Rep. Zooney Zephyr (D)

**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:

SB 4 03/11/2023  
SB 36 03/11/2023  
SB 151 03/11/2023

Executive Action:  
SB 67

15:06:51 Chair Carlson has left

**HEARING ON SB 36 - Eliminate certain DPHHS statutorily required reports**

**Opening Statement:**

15:06:04 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, opened the hearing on SB 36, Eliminate certain DPHHS statutorily required reports.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:08:24 Erica Johnston, Executive Director, DPHHS

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:11:51 Rep. Greg Oblander

15:12:13 Erica Johnston Office of Public Health and Human Services

15:12:37 Rep. Nelly Nicol

15:14:11 Rep. Edward Buttrey

15:14:33 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R

15:14:54 Rep. Kim Abbott

15:15:11 Erica Johnston Office of Public Health and Human Services

**Closing Statement:**

15:15:31 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, closed the hearing on SB 36.

**HEARING ON SB 151 - Revise laws related to parental financial responsibility in CPS cases**

**Opening Statement:**

15:16:05 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, opened the hearing on SB 151, Revise laws related to parental financial responsibility in CPS cases.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:18:33 Denise Johnson, Communications Director, Montana Child Protection Alliance

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

15:22:08 Erica Johnston, Executive Director, DPHHS

**Questions from Committee:**

15:22:45 Rep. Ed Stafman

15:23:04 Erica Johnston Office of Public Health and Human Services

15:24:37 Rep. SJ Howell

15:25:26 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R

15:26:26 Rep. Michael Yakawich

15:26:57 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R

15:28:52 Rep. Edward Buttrey

15:29:14 Erica Johnston Office of Public Health and Human Services

15:31:06 Rep. Tom Welch

15:31:27 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R

15:33:10 Vice Chair Lola Sheldon-Galloway

15:33:39 Erica Johnston Office of Public Health and Human Services

15:34:23 Rep. Nelly Nicol

15:35:14 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R

**Closing Statement:**

15:36:03 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, closed the hearing on SB 151.

**HEARING ON SB 4 - Require sharing of reports of abuse and neglect at Montana State Hospital**

**Opening Statement:**

15:37:38 Sen. Jen Gross (D), SD 25, opened the hearing on SB 4, Require sharing of reports of abuse and neglect at Montana State Hospital.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:41:43 Mike Lahr, Attorney, Disability Rights Montana

15:45:43 Maggie Bornstein, ACLU Montana

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

15:47:16 Chad Parker, Deputy Chief Counsel, DPHHS

**Questions from Committee:**

15:06:27 Vice Chair Sheldon-Galloway assumed the gavel

15:37:05 Chair Carlson assumed the gavel

15:47:53 Rep. Greg Oblander

15:48:32 Sen. Jen Gross-D

15:50:50 Mike Lahr

15:54:51 Chad Parker

**Closing Statement:**

15:58:20 Sen. Jen Gross (D), SD 25, closed the hearing on SB 4.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 67 - Generally revise scheduling of dangerous drugs**

16:02:41 **Motion:** Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway moved that **SB 67 BE CONCURRED IN.**

16:02:41 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:02:41 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Ron Marshall

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 16:04:36

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Katie Reeves, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230315HUhHaad\)](#)