

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

Call to Order: Chair Llew Jones-R, on March 20, 2023 at 2:31 PM, in Room 102

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Llew Jones, Chair (R)
Rep. Bob Keenan, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)
Rep. John Fitzpatrick (R)
Rep. Jane Gillette (R)
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)
Rep. Naarah Hastings (R)
Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R)
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)
Rep. Joe Read (R)
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)
Rep. Paul Tuss (D)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused: Rep. David Bedey (R)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Terry Falk (R)
Rep. Mike Hopkins (R)
Rep. Bill Mercer (R)
Rep. Terry Moore (R)
Rep. Matt Regier (R)
Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R)

Staff Present: Quinn Holzer, Fiscal Analyst
Julie Johnson, Research Analyst
Kathlyn Walker, 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 521 03/14/2023

HB 542 03/14/2023

HB 822 03/13/2023

Executive Action:

HB 403 DO PASS

HB 9 DO PASS

HB 521 DO PASS

HB 542 TO TABLE

HEARING ON HB 521 - Revising laws related to conservation licenses on state lands

Opening Statement:

14:31:38 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, opened the hearing on HB 521, Revising laws related to conservation licenses on state lands.

Proponent Testimony:

14:34:04 Collin Koony, Trout Unlimited

14:35:26 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation

14:36:20 Noah Marion, Wild Montana

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

14:37:02 Lena Havron, Chief Financial Officer, Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

14:37:23 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, closed the hearing on HB 521.

HEARING ON HB 822 - Generally revise school-based mental health services

Opening Statement:

14:40:11 Vice Chair Bob Keenan (R), HD 5, opened the hearing on HB 822, Generally revise school-based mental health services.

Discussion:

14:59:09 Vice Chair Caferro joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

15:00:29 Megan Peel, Chief, Children's Mental Health Bureau, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

- 15:06:53 Jeff Folsom, Center for Children Families and Workforce Development, University of Montana
- 15:11:42 Rob Watson, Executive Director, School Administrators of Montana (SAM), Coalition of Advocates for Montana Public Schools (CAMPS)
- 15:13:18 Tal Goldin, Supervising Attorney, Education Employment and Benefits
- 15:15:31 Pat Noonan, Behavioral Health Alliance of Montana (BHAM)
- 15:16:00 Rep. Mercer joined the meeting.
- 15:16:35 Tom Livers, Shodair Children's Hospital (SCH)
- 15:17:18 Stacie Anderson, Montana's Federally Qualified Health Centers
- 15:17:51 Bella Nyman, self
- 15:19:25 Erin McGowan, Confluence Public Health Alliance, HRDCs across the State
- 15:20:16 Jean Branscum, CEO, Montana Medical Association (MMA)
- 15:21:16 Jennie Murnan-Butcher, Deputy Director, Montanans Organized for Education (MOE)
- 15:22:17 Amanda Cahill, American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
- 15:22:29 Matt Kuntz, Executive Director, NAMI Montana
- 15:23:14 Mike Chavers, CEO, Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch, Chair, Behavioral Health Alliance of Montana (BHAM)
- 15:24:38 Angela Kimball, Senior Vice President, Advocacy and Policy, Inseparable

Opponent Testimony:

- 15:26:44 Kathleen Wedemeyer, Citizens Commission on Human Rights (CCHR)

[EXHIBIT\(230320APHb1\)](#)

Informational Witness Testimony:

- 15:29:05 Jay Phillips, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee:

- 15:29:33 Rep. Naarah Hastings

15:30:35 Rep. Bill Mercer

15:32:39 Megan Peel, DPHHS

15:40:34 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter

15:41:04 Megan Peel, DPHHS

15:46:17 Rep. Jane Gillette

15:47:30 Megan Peel, DPHHS

15:54:29 Rep. Jane Gillette

15:55:26 Rep. Keenan

15:56:35 Rep. Jane Gillette

15:57:03 Jeff Folsom, UM

15:59:50 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy

16:02:11 Rep. John Fitzpatrick

16:02:24 Rep. Bob Keenan-R

16:06:29 Rep. Fiona Nave

[EXHIBIT\(230320APHb2\)](#)

16:07:00 Megan Peel, DPHHS

16:08:29 Rep. Nave

16:08:42 Rob Watson, SAM, CAMPS

16:10:48 Rep. Fiona Nave

16:11:16 Megan Peel, DPHHS

16:15:01 Rep. Connie Keogh

16:15:19 Jeff Fulsom, UM

16:20:33 Vice Chair Mary Caferro

16:23:12 Matt Kuntz, NAMI Montana

Closing Statement:

16:23:54 Vice Chair Bob Keenan (R), HD 5, closed the hearing on HB 822.

HEARING ON HB 542 - Establish a volunteer firefighter and EMT tax credit

Opening Statement:

16:24:49 Rep. Ron Marshall (R), HD 87, opened the hearing on HB 542, Establish a volunteer firefighter and EMT tax credit.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

16:25:59 John Iverson, Montana Society of CPAs

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:26:52 Jake Ford, Income and Withholding Tax Bureau, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

16:27:23 Rep. Ron Marshall (R), HD 87, closed the hearing on HB 542.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 403 - Generally revise laws concerning fees for teacher and specialist certificates

16:29:41 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Keenan moved that **HB 403 DO PASS.**

11:43:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 9 - Cultural and aesthetic grants

16:31:53 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Keenan moved that **HB 9 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:29:30 Rep. Falk, Rep. Bedey, Rep. Moore, Rep. Mercer, Rep. Gillette, Rep. Hamilton joined the meeting.

16:32:25 Rep. Falk and Rep. Bedey left the meeting.

16:32:26 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Keenan moved that **HB 9 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

16:33:04 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter

16:34:04 Rep. Mike Hopkins

16:34:30 Rep. Jim Hamilton

16:35:37 Rep. Schillinger joined the meeting.

16:36:24 Vice Chair Mary Caferro

16:36:39 Rep. Jim Hamilton

16:36:49 Rep. Mike Hopkins

16:37:46 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter

16:38:46 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy

16:39:23 Vice Chair Mary Caferro

16:39:38 Rep. Jim Hamilton

16:41:01 Rep. Mike Hopkins

16:42:13 Vice Chair Mary Caferro

16:43:49 Rep. Jane Gillette

16:45:01 Rep. Paul Tuss

16:46:38 Rep. Mike Hopkins

11:43:29 **Vote:** Motion failed 12 - 11 by roll call vote with Rep. Bedey, Rep. Binkley, Rep. Falk, Rep. Hellegaard, Rep. Hopkins, Rep. Keenan, Rep. Mercer, Rep. Moore, Rep. Read, Rep. Regier, Rep. Schillinger, voting yes.
Rep. Bedey, Rep. Falk, Rep. Regier, By Proxy

16:52:45 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Keenan moved that **HB 9 DO PASS.**

11:43:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 521 - Revising laws related to conservation licenses on state lands

16:52:32 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Keenan moved that **HB 521 DO PASS.**

11:43:29 **Vote:** Motion carried 12 - 11 by roll call vote with Rep. Falk, Rep. Gillette, Rep. Hastings, Rep. Hellegaard, Rep. Keenan, Rep. Mercer, Rep. Moore, Rep. Nave, Rep. Read, Rep. Regier, Rep. Schillinger, voting no. Rep. Falk, Rep. Regier, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 542 - Establish a volunteer firefighter and EMT tax credit

16:54:24 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Keenan moved that **HB 542 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:54:30 Rep. Gillette left the meeting.

16:54:35 Rep. John Fitzpatrick

16:54:54 Rep. Jim Hamilton

16:55:45 Rep. Bill Mercer

11:43:29 **Vote:** Motion failed 14 - 9 by roll call vote with Rep. Binkley, Rep. Caferro, Rep. Hamilton, Rep. Hopkins, Rep. Keogh, Rep. Kerr-Carpenter, Rep. Nave, Rep. Tuss, Rep. Windy Boy, voting yes.

16:57:29 **Motion:** Chair Llew Jones moved that **HB 542 TO TABLE.**

11:43:29 **Vote:** Motion carried 14 - 9 by voice vote with Rep. Binkley, Rep. Caferro, Rep. Hamilton, Rep. Hopkins, Rep. Keogh, Rep. Kerr-Carpenter, Rep. Nave, Rep. Tuss, Rep. Windy Boy, voting no.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:01:39

Kathlyn Walker, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230320APHbad\)](#)