

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

Call to Order: Chair Lola Sheldon-Galloway-R, on March 20, 2023 at 3:01 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. Gregory Frazer (R)
Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)
Rep. Caleb Hinkle (R)
Rep. SJ Howell (D)
Rep. Ron Marshall (R)
Rep. Nelly Nicol (R)
Rep. Greg Oblander (R)
Rep. Amy Regier (R)
Rep. Wayne Rusk (R)
Rep. Laura Smith (D)
Rep. Tom Welch (R)
Rep. Michael Yakawich (R)
Rep. Zooey Zephyr (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R)
Rep. Jodee Etchart (R)
Rep. George Nikolakakos (R)
Rep. Ed Stafman (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 115 03/13/2023

SB 181 03/13/2023

Executive Action:

SB 151 Be Concurred In as Amended
SB 162 Be Concurred In

HEARING ON SB 115 - Revise definition of psychological abuse or neglect in CPS cases

Opening Statement:

15:03:51 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, opened the hearing on SB 115, Revise definition of psychological abuse or neglect in CPS cases.

Discussion:

15:04:44 Rep. Ed Stafman joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

15:10:10 Nikki Grossberg, Division Administration, DPHHS

15:18:26 Beth Brennemen, Montana Coalition Against Domestic Violence

15:19:37 Dave Kesler, Self

[EXHIBIT\(230320HUh1\)](#)

15:25:55 Kyla Hailstone, Montana Family Court Awareness Project

Opponent Testimony:

15:11:03 Denise Johnson, Montana Child Protection Alliance

15:29:56 Matt Furlong, Montana Child Protection Alliance

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:34:36 Rep. Greg Oblander

15:35:47 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R

15:40:04 Nikki Grossberg

15:40:50 Rep. Edward Buttrey

15:41:41 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R

15:44:36 Nikki Grossberg

15:44:45 Rep. SJ Howell

15:45:55 Nikki Grossberg
15:46:35 Rep. Nelly Nicol
15:48:19 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R
15:50:35 Rep. Caleb Hinkle
15:50:58 Nikki Grossberg
15:52:01 Rep. Michael Yakawich
15:52:17 Rep. Kim Abbott left the meeting.
15:53:47 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R

Closing Statement:

15:57:42 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, closed the hearing on SB 115.

HEARING ON SB 181 - Require notice of parent legal rights in child protective services cases

Opening Statement:

15:58:46 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, opened the hearing on SB 181, Require notice of parent legal rights in child protective services cases.

Discussion:

16:00:24 Rep. George Nikolakakos joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

16:02:36 Denise Johnson, Montana Child Protection Alliance

[EXHIBIT\(230320HUHa2\)](#)

16:08:01 Chair Jennifer Carlson joined the meeting.

16:10:50 Matt Furlong, Montana Child Protection Alliance

16:12:28 Dave Kesler, Self

Opponent Testimony:

16:17:25 Nikki Grossberg, Division Administrator, DPHHS

16:21:13 Brian Thompson, Montana County Attorney Association

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:22:45 Brian Smith, Public Defender Administrator

Questions from Committee:

16:23:19 Rep. Edward Buttrey
16:23:35 Nikki Grossberg
16:23:52 Rep. Edward Buttrey
16:24:29 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R
16:26:50 Rep. Edward Buttrey
16:27:06 Nikki Grossberg
16:28:22 Rep. Greg Oblander
16:28:46 Nikki Grossberg
16:32:10 Rep. Michael Yakawich
16:32:45 Brian Smith
16:33:02 Nikki Grossberg
16:36:35 Vice Chair Lola Sheldon-Galloway
16:36:40 Nikki Grossberg
16:38:00 Rep. Donavon Hawk
16:38:26 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R

Closing Statement:

16:40:58 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, closed the hearing on SB 181.

16:45:10 **Recessed**

17:06:29 **Reconvened**

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

17:07:07 **Motion:** Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway moved that **SB 151 BE CONCURRED IN.**

17:07:20 **Motion:** Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway moved that **SB 151 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

16:41:57 Chair Carlson assumed the gavel

17:08:09 Rep. Caleb Hinkle left the meeting.

17:07:20 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

17:08:43 **Motion:** Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway moved that **SB 151 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

17:08:43 **Vote:** Motion carried 18 - 3 by roll call vote with Rep. Abbott, Rep. Buckley, Rep. Stafman, voting no.
Rep. Stafman, By Proxy

17:08:43 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Michael Yakawich

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 162 - Provide notice to foster parents in CPS cases

17:11:08 **Motion:** Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway moved that **SB 162 BE CONCURRED IN.**

17:11:08 **Vote:** Motion carried 19 - 2 by voice vote with Rep. Abbott, Rep. Stafman, voting no.
Rep. Stafman, By Proxy

17:11:08 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Laura Smith

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:12:36

Katie Reeves, Secretary

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