

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

Call to Order: Chair Lola Sheldon-Galloway-R, on March 24, 2023 at 3:01 PM, in 152

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Alice Buckley, Vice Chair (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 (R)
Rep. George Nikolakakos (R)
Rep. Wayne Rusk (R)
Rep. Laura Smith (D)
Rep. Ed Stafman (D)
Rep. Tom Welch (R)
Rep. Michael Yakawich (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Kim Abbott (D)
Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R)
Rep. Greg Oblander (R)
Rep. Amy Regier (R)
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway (R)
Rep. Zooley 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:

HB 850 03/20/2023

HB 858 03/22/2023

HB 869 03/22/2023

HB 877 03/22/2023
Executive Action:

HEARING ON HB 877 - Revise reporting requirements for vaccinations and exemptions

Opening Statement:

15:04:22 Rep. Ed Stafman (D), HD 62, opened the hearing on HB 877, Revise reporting requirements for vaccinations and exemptions.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230324HUUHa1\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230324HUUHa2\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230324HUUHa3\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230324HUUHa4\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

15:08:23 Jean Branscum, CEO, Montana Medical Association

15:10:18 Greg Holtzman, Family Physician

15:11:36 Eric Anderson, Montana Nurses Association

15:12:23 Lisa Dworak, Executive Director, Confluence Health Alliance

15:13:17 Atty Moriarty, MTAAP

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:14:07 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Construction

Questions from Committee:

15:14:42 Rep. Michael Yakawich

15:14:59 Eric Taylor

15:15:58 Lisa Dworak

15:16:23 Jean Branscum

Closing Statement:

15:17:17 Rep. Ed Stafman (D), HD 62, closed the hearing on HB 877.

HEARING ON HB 858 - Provide for the Montana Volunteer Health Care Services Act

Opening Statement:

15:21:11 Rep. Jim Hamilton (D), HD 61, opened the hearing on HB 858, Provide for the Montana Volunteer Health Care Services Act.

Proponent Testimony:

15:25:21 Jean Branscum`, CEO, Montana Medical Association

15:27:12 Stacey Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association

Opponent Testimony:

15:29:15 Quinlan O'Connor, Chief Legal Counsel, Dept. of Labor & Industry

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:33:46 Jeffrey Eastman, CEO, Remote Area Medical

Questions from Committee:

15:36:14 Rep. Michael Yakawich

15:36:25 Rep. Jim Hamilton-D

15:37:14 Vice Chair Alice Buckley

15:37:32 Rep. Jim Hamilton-D

15:38:37 Rep. Edward Buttrey

15:38:55 Jeffrey Eastman

Closing Statement:

15:39:53 Rep. Jim Hamilton (D), HD 61, closed the hearing on HB 858.

HEARING ON HB 850 - Provide continuous eligibility for certain children covered by CHIP and Medicaid

Opening Statement:

15:42:04 Rep. Ed Stafman (D), HD 62, opened the hearing on HB 850, Provide continuous eligibility for certain children covered by CHIP and Medicaid.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230324HUh5\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230324HUh6\)](#)

15:52:24 Chair Jennifer Carlson joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

15:52:56 Hannah Pate, Montana Women Vote

15:53:39 Stephanie Jarem, Director, Oregon Health Authority

15:57:52 Jamie Colvard, Zero to Three

16:01:47 Atty Moriarty, Montana Academy Association of Pediatrics

16:02:52 Elisabeth Burak, Center for Children and Families

16:06:53 Kaitlyn Jensen, Executive Director, Zero to Five Montana

16:08:29 Jean Branscum, CEO, Montana Medical Association

16:08:52 Stacey Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association

16:10:07 Megan Zawacki, President, Montana American Academy of PA

16:10:27 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfoot Tribe

16:11:29 Lance Fourstar, Montana American Indian Caucus

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:12:27 Jessie Counts, Division Administrator, DPHHS

16:12:46 Mary Lemieux, DPHHS

Questions from Committee:

16:13:36 Chair Jennifer Carlson joined the meeting.
16:13:41 Chair Jennifer Carlson
16:14:24 Rep. Ed Stafman-D
16:15:07 Rep. SJ Howell
16:15:45 Elisabeth Burak
16:18:50 Jessie Counts
16:21:36 Rep. Michael Yakawich
16:22:06 Jessie Counts
16:22:38 Chair Jennifer Carlson
16:23:21 Jessie Counts
16:23:47 Mary Lemiux

Closing Statement:

16:25:26 Rep. Ed Stafman (D), HD 62, closed the hearing on HB 850.

HEARING ON HB 869 - Revise tobacco laws

Opening Statement:

16:37:11 Rep. Ron Marshall (R), HD 87, opened the hearing on HB 869, Revise tobacco laws.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230324HUh7\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

16:43:05 Alan Doane, Dept. of Justice
16:43:38 Jane Gillette, HD – 64

Opponent Testimony:

16:48:46 Todd Harwell, Dept. of Public Health & Safety

16:51:44 Lance Fourstar, American Indian Caucus
[EXHIBIT\(230324HUUHa8\)](#)

16:54:11 Natalie Bohrer, React Teens Against Tobacco
[EXHIBIT\(230324HUUHa9\)](#)

16:55:15 W. Matthew Waite, Palo County React Coalition

16:56:32 Fay Machler, Deer Lodge React Coalition

16:58:18 Kane Kilgore, Palo County React Coalition

16:59:35 Joette Woods, County Commisioner

17:00:16 Stacey Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association

17:03:11 Kristen Page-Nei, American Cancer Society
[EXHIBIT\(230324HUUHa10\)](#)

17:06:13 Liz Albers, American Heart Association
[EXHIBIT\(230324HUUHa11\)](#)

17:08:11 Desiree Baker, Self

17:09:21 Brie Binton, Teens of Montana

17:10:21 Annika Bennion, Self

17:11:11 Lisa Dworak, Confluence Health Alliance
[EXHIBIT\(230324HUUHa12\)](#)

17:13:35 Drenda Niemman?, Health Officer Lewis & Clarke Public Health

17:15:31 Lauren Bolton, Anaconda-Deer Lodge Public Health Dept.

17:17:32 Colleen Smith, Youth Connections

17:19:57 Robert Corvette, Self

17:22:01 Megan Zack
17:22:15 Patrick Yawakie, Tribal States Program
17:22:32 Zoey Osborne, Self
17:22:43 Becky Franks, Cancer Support Montana
17:23:08 David Smith, Montana Contractors Association
17:23:33 Carrie Yoder, American Cancer Society
[EXHIBIT\(230324HUh13\)](#)
17:24:07 Jean Branscum, CEO, Montana Medical Association
17:24:36 Kris Minard, Office of Public Instruction
17:25:15 Bobbie Will, Susan G. Komen
17:25:36 Emilie Sayler, Director, Public Health Madison County
17:26:12 Paul Smith, Self
17:26:56 Charlie Moses, Parents Against Vaping
17:27:32 C.B. Pearson, Self
17:28:08 Molly Blair, Missoula City County Health Department

Questions from Committee:

16:29:05 Chair Carlson assumed the gavel
17:01:08 Rep. Nelly Nicol
17:01:10 Stacey Anderson
17:01:54 Vice Chair Alice Buckley
17:02:13 Stacey Anderson
17:02:50 Rep. Nelly Nicol
17:02:55 Stacey Anderson

Informational Witness Testimony:

17:28:47 Mary Lemiux

17:29:05 Jason Lay, Montana Dept. of Revenue

Questions from Committee:

17:29:42 Rep. Ed Stafman
17:30:03 Vice Chair Alice Buckley
17:30:28 Mary LeMieux
17:31:01 Rep. Edward Buttrey
17:31:38 Todd Harwell
17:33:31 Rep. SJ Howell
17:33:59 Lauren Bolton
17:34:58 Rep. Nelly Nicol
17:35:34 Rep. Ron Marshall-R
17:36:16 Todd Harwell
17:38:21 Chair Jennifer Carlson
17:38:27 Todd Harwell
17:38:38 Rep. Edward Buttrey
17:39:18 Jane Gillette
17:40:32 Rep. Michael Yakawich
17:41:01 Todd Harwell
17:44:09 Chair Jennifer Carlson
17:44:28 Todd Harwell

Closing Statement:

17:47:49 Rep. Ron Marshall (R), HD 87, closed the hearing on HB 869.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:51:20

Katie Reeves, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230324HUUaad\)](#)