

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

Call to Order: Chair Amy Regier-R, on March 30, 2023 at 8:04 AM, in 137

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Amy Regier, Chair (R)
Rep. Laurie Bishop, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Brandon Ler, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Lee Deming (R)
Rep. Neil Duram (R)
Rep. Jodee Etchart (R)
Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)
Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R)
Rep. SJ Howell (D)
Rep. Greg Kmetz (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. Tom France (D)
Rep. Caleb Hinkle (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:

HB 895 03/28/2023
HB 908 03/26/2023
HB 950 03/29/2023
HB 965 03/29/2023

HB 968 03/29/2023
Executive Action:

HB 908 TO TABLE
HB 895 TO TABLE
HB 921 TO TABLE
HB 934 TO TABLE
HB 936 DO PASS
HB 937 DO PASS
HB 950 DO PASS
HB 965 DO PASS
HB 968 DO PASS

HEARING ON HB 908 - Provide for vaccine education

Opening Statement:

08:02:34 Rep. Ed Stafman (D), HD 62, opened the hearing on HB 908, Provide for vaccine education.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

08:04:04 Rep. Ed Stafman (D), HD 62, closed the hearing on HB 908.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 908 - Provide for vaccine education

08:05:00 **Motion:** Vice Chair Brandon Ler moved that **HB 908 BE TABLED.**

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

HEARING ON HB 968 - Revise abortion laws concerning parental consultation

Opening Statement:

08:05:11 Chair Amy Regier (R), HD 6, opened the hearing on HB 968, Revise abortion laws concerning parental consultation.

Proponent Testimony:

08:06:22 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation (MFF)

08:08:54 Garrett Bacon, Self

08:09:56 Alan Doane, Montana Department of Justice

Opponent Testimony:

08:10:49 Quinn Leighton, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana
08:12:31 Shawn Reagor, Human Rights Network
08:13:51 Shani Henry, Self
08:15:31 Robin Turner, American Civil Liberties Union of Montana (ACLUM), The Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
08:18:56 Cherilyn DeVries, Self
08:19:49 Leah Shea, Susan Wicklund Fund
08:21:04 Julia Maxon, Montana Women Vote
08:22:24 Hillary-Anne Crosby, Self
08:25:39 Keegan Nashan, Self
08:28:13 Nicole Smith, Blue Mountain Clinic

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:29:36 Brent Mead, Department of Justice

Questions from Committee:

08:30:07 Rep. SJ Howell
08:31.21 Jeff Laszloffy, MFF
08:34:00 Rep. Lee Deming
08:34 Brent Mead
08:36:00 Rep. SJ Howell
08:36:30 Robin Turner, ACLUM
08:39:40 Rep. Jodee Etchart
08:40:01 Brent Mead
08:42.40 Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway
08:43:05 Brent Mead

Closing Statement:

08:44:00 Chair Amy Regier (R), HD 6, closed the hearing on HB 968.

**HEARING ON HB 895 - Constitutional amendment to require legislative approval of
redistricting plan**

Opening Statement:

08:45:32 Rep. Paul Green (R), HD 41, opened the hearing on HB 895,
Constitutional amendment to require legislative approval of redistricting
plan.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

08:46:53 Shawn Reagor, Human Rights Network
08:47:36 Noreen Appling-Forstadt, Self
08:49:55 Margret MacDonald, Big Sky 55 Plus
08:51:32 Ta'jin Perez, Western Native Voice
08:53:24 Jade Bahr, Montana Budget and Policy Center
08:55:25 Robyn Morrison, League of Women Voters

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

08:57:44 Rep. Paul Green (R), HD 41, closed the hearing on HB 895.

HEARING ON HB 950 - Establish the Student and Administration Equality Act

Opening Statement:

08:59:20 Rep. Mike Hopkins (R), HD 92, opened the hearing on HB 950, Establish the Student and Administration Equality Act.

Proponent Testimony:

09:04:17 Henry Kriegel, Association of Fundraising Professionals Montana

09:06:50 Rachael Stevenson, Young Americans for Liberty, Montana

09:08:55 Dylan Dean, Self

Opponent Testimony:

09:10:50 Ally Bovingdon, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education

09:13:47 Lorelei Michael-Owens, Associated Students of the Montana State University

09:16:12 Ethan Hanley, Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM)

09:18:41 Shawn Reagor, Human Rights Network

09:19:02 Robin Turner, Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

09:21:58 Maggie Bell, Montana Associated Students

[EXHIBIT\(230330JUH1\)](#)

09:25:16 Isabella Roccisano, Associated Students of Montana State University

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:27:01 Rep. Wayne Rusk

09:53:41 Henry Kriegle

Closing Statement:

09:53:52 Rep. Mike Hopkins (R), HD 92, closed the hearing on HB 950.

HEARING ON HB 965 - Constitutional amendment to remove supreme court rulemaking authority

Opening Statement:

09:56:49 Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R), HD 37, opened the hearing on HB 965, Constitutional amendment to remove supreme court rulemaking authority.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

09:59:16 Bruce Spencer, State Bar of Montana

10:02:07 Shawn Slinger, Montana Defense Trial Lawyers Association

10:03:00 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

10:04:57 Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway

10:16:03 Rep. Wayne Rusk

10:16:25 Rep. Jennifer Carlson

Closing Statement:

10:16:41 Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R), HD 37, closed the hearing on HB 965.

10:19:05 **Recessed**

11:03:05 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 895 - Constitutional amendment to require legislative approval of redistricting plan

11:27:48 **Motion:** Vice Chair Brandon Ler moved that **HB 895 BE TABLED.**

Vote: Motion carried 17 - 2 by roll call vote with Rep. Hinkle, Rep. Sheldon-Galloway, voting no.
Rep. Hinkle, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 921 - Revise laws related to state settlement money

- 11:32:38 **Motion:** Vice Chair Brandon Ler moved that **HB 921 DO PASS.**
- 11:33:01 **Motion:** Vice Chair Brandon Ler moved that **HB 921 BE AMENDED.**
Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 11:35:03 **Motion:** Vice Chair Brandon Ler moved that **HB 921 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

- 11:35:14 Vice Chair Laurie Bishop
Vote: Motion failed 16 - 3 by roll call vote with Rep. Duram, Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Sheldon-Galloway, voting yes.
- 11:36:36 **Motion:** Vice Chair Brandon Ler moved that **HB 921 BE TABLED.**
Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 934 - Constitutional amendment relating to structure of redistricting commission

- 11:36:48 **Motion:** Vice Chair Brandon Ler moved that **HB 934 DO PASS.**
- 11:37:14 **Motion:** Rep. Braxton Mitchell moved that **HB 934 BE TABLED.**
Vote: Motion carried 17 - 2 by roll call vote with Rep. Duram, Rep. Sheldon-Galloway, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 936 - Fund father-education programs in state prisons

- 11:38:25 **Motion:** Vice Chair Brandon Ler moved that **HB 936 DO PASS.**
- Discussion:**
- 11:38:36 Rep. Zoey Zephyr
- 11:39:33 Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway
- 11:39:57 Rep. Zoey Zephyr
Vote: Motion carried 18 - 1 by roll call vote with Rep. Hawk, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 937 - Provide for licensure of abortion clinics

- 11:41:34 **Motion:** Vice Chair Brandon Ler moved that **HB 937 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

11:41:38 Vice Chair Laurie Bishop

11:42:21 Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway

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. Smith, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 950 - Establish the Student and Administration Equality Act

11:43:59 **Motion:** Vice Chair Brandon Ler moved that **HB 950 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

11:44:10 Rep. Neil Duram

11:44:44 Rep. SJ Howell

11:45:26 Rep. Tom France

11:47:05 Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway

11:47:50 Rep. Zooey Zephyr

11:49:03 Rep. Jennifer Carlson

11:49:28 Rep. Wayne Rusk

Vote: Motion carried 11 - 8 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Duram, Rep. France, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Howell, Rep. Rusk, Rep. Smith, Rep. Zephyr, voting no.
Rep. Smith, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 965 - Constitutional amendment to remove supreme court rulemaking authority

11:50:41 **Motion:** Vice Chair Brandon Ler moved that **HB 965 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

11:51:16 Vice Chair Laurie Bishop

11:51:37 Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway

Vote: Motion carried 12 - 7 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. France, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Howell, Rep. Rusk, Rep. Smith, Rep. Zephyr, voting no.
Rep. Smith, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 968 - Revise abortion laws concerning parental consultation

11:54:22 **Motion:** Vice Chair Brandon Ler moved that **HB 968 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

11:54:41 Rep. SJ Howell

11:55:57 Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway

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. Smith, By Proxy

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:58:47

Jamie Van Valkenburg, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230330JUHaad\)](#)