

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Jennifer Carlson-R, on April 04, 2023 at 4:16 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. Edward Buttrey (R)  
Rep. Jodee Etchart (R)  
Rep. Gregory Frazer (R)  
Rep. SJ Howell (D)  
Rep. Nelly Nicol (R)  
Rep. George Nikolakakos (R)  
Rep. Greg Oblander (R)  
Rep. Ed Stafman (D)  
Rep. Tom Welch (R)  
Rep. Michael Yakawich (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Kim Abbott (D)  
Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)  
Rep. Caleb Hinkle (R)  
Rep. Ron Marshall (R)  
Rep. Amy Regier (R)  
Rep. Wayne Rusk (R)  
Rep. Laura Smith (D)  
Rep. Zooey 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 328 03/25/2023

SB 422 03/25/2023

SB 198 03/28/2023

Executive Action:

**HEARING ON SB 422 - Expand eligibility for the Right to Try Act**

**Opening Statement:**

16:17:43 Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SB 422, Expand eligibility for the Right to Try Act.

**Proponent Testimony:**

16:21:35 Stuart McKee, Optispan

16:23:36 Matt Kaeberlein, Optispan

16:24:44 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

16:24:57 Rep. Greg Oblander

16:25:32 Sen. Kenneth Bogner-R

16:26:04 Rep. Edward Buttrey

16:26:15 Sen. Kenneth Bogner-R

16:27:42 Rep. Donavon Hawk joined the meeting.

16:28:22 Rep. Laura Smith joined the meeting.

16:28:31 Rep. Edward Buttrey

16:28:40 Stuart McKee

16:30:04 Rep. Ed Stafman

16:30:23 Sen. Kenneth Bogner-R

16:30:47 Chair Jennifer Carlson

16:31:00 Sen. Kenneth Bogner-R

16:31:54 Vice Chair Alice Buckley  
16:32:08 Stuart McKee  
16:33:00 Vice Chair Lola Sheldon-Galloway  
16:33:14 Rep. Kim Abbott joined the meeting.  
16:33:31 Sen. Kenneth Bogner-R  
16:35:23 Rep. Greg Oblander  
16:35:34 Sen. Kenneth Bogner-R  
16:36:05 Vice Chair Lola Sheldon-Galloway  
16:36:33 Sen. Kenneth Bogner-R  
16:36:48 Matt Kaeberlein  
16:37:20 Rep. George Nikolakakos  
16:37:32 Sen. Kenneth Bogner-R  
16:37:55 Matt Kaeberlein  
16:39:48 Sen. Kenneth Bogner-R  
16:40:13 Rep. Ed Stafman  
16:40:34 Matt Kaeberlein  
16:41:40 Rep. Ed Stafman  
16:41:50 Sen. Kenneth Bogner-R  
16:42:14 Rep. Nelly Nicol  
16:42:37 Sen. Kenneth Bogner-R  
16:42:45 Matt Kaeberlein  
16:43:26 Rep. Edward Buttrey

**Closing Statement:**

16:44:34 Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R), SD 19, closed the hearing on SB 422.

**HEARING ON SB 328 - Apply ICWA concepts to all child protective services cases**

**Opening Statement:**

16:45:37 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, opened the hearing on SB 328, Apply ICWA concepts to all child protective services cases.

**Proponent Testimony:**

16:51:29 Nikki Grossberg, DPHHS  
16:52:41 Keegan Medrano, ACLU Montana  
16:53:53 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe  
16:54:55 Chadwick Myers, Self

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

16:58:10 Brian Smith, Public Defender Division

**Questions from Committee:**

16:58:45 Rep. Michael Yakawich  
16:58:57 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R  
17:02:34 Rep. Donavon Hawk  
17:03:08 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R  
17:05:47 Rep. Ed Stafman  
17:06:53 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R  
17:07:58 Rep. Michael Yakawich  
17:08:32 Patrick Yawakie  
17:09:10 Rep. Edward Buttrey  
17:10:21 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R  
17:11:17 Nikki Grossberg Department of Public Health and Human Services

17:12:54 Chair Jennifer Carlson

17:13:41 Nikki Grossberg Department of Public Health and Human Services

**Closing Statement:**

17:14:03 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, closed the hearing on SB 328.

**HEARING ON SB 198 - Revise laws related to behavioral health peer support specialists**

**Opening Statement:**

17:16:33 Sen. Jen Gross (D), SD 25, opened the hearing on SB 198, Revise laws related to behavioral health peer support specialists.

**Proponent Testimony:**

17:24:52 Zachary Cannada, Peer Specialists

17:27:35 Rep. Caleb Hinkle joined the meeting.

17:32:59 Bill Deavel, Self

17:34:38 Samantha Martin, Self

17:36:13 Nikki Russell, Self

17:37:59 April Seat, Hope Rescue Mission

17:40:08 Guy Johnson, Hope Rescue Mission

17:40:53 Daniel Woodward, Hope Rescue Mission

17:42:29 Jim Hajny, Montana Peer Network

17:43:52 Erica Durham, Self

17:47:02 Blayne Metz, Missoula County

**Opponent Testimony:**

17:49:08 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

17:54:00 Eric Strauss, Dept. of Labor and Industry

**Questions from Committee:**

17:55:06 Rep. Donavon Hawk  
17:55:32 Sen. Jen Gross-D  
18:02:05 Rep. Greg Oblander  
18:02:23 Sen. Jen Gross-D  
18:03:02 Zachary Cannada  
18:04:58 Rep. Greg Oblander  
18:05:17 Eric Strauss  
18:06:52 Rep. Edward Buttrey  
18:07:24 Eric Strauss  
18:09:53 Chair Jennifer Carlson  
18:10:07 Eric Strauss  
18:10:41 Chair Jennifer Carlson  
18:11:42 Sen. Jen Gross-D  
18:16:19 Vice Chair Lola Sheldon-Galloway

**Closing Statement:**

18:17:33 Sen. Jen Gross (D), SD 25, closed the hearing on SB 198.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 18:20:58

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Katie Reeves, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230404HUHaad\)](#)