

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

Call to Order: Chair Amy Regier-R, on May 01, 2023 at 11:00 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. Jennifer Carlson (R)
Rep. Lee Deming (R)
Rep. Neil Duram (R)
Rep. Jodee Etchart (R)
Rep. Tom France (D)
Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)
Rep. Caleb Hinkle (R)
Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R)
Rep. SJ Howell (D)
Rep. Greg Kmetz (R)
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)
Rep. Wayne Rusk (R)
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway (R)
Rep. Laura Smith (D)
Rep. Zooley Zephyr (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Kim Abbott (D)

Staff Present: Brigitte Bellefleur, 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:

SJ 31 04/28/2023

Executive Action:

SJ 31 RESOLUTION ADOPTED

HEARING ON SJ 31 - Study of attorney regulation and the state bar

Opening Statement:

11:01:49 Sen. Barry Usher (R), SD 40, opened the hearing on SJ 31, Study of attorney regulation and the state bar.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

11:03:00 Bruce Spencer, MT State Bar

Questions from Committee:

11:03:33 Rep. Zooey Zephyr
11:03:53 Bruce Spencer MJA
11:04:13 Rep. SJ Howell
11:04:40 Bruce Spencer MJA
11:05:13 Rep. SJ Howell
11:05:36 Bruce Spencer MJA
11:05:49 Rep. SJ Howell
11:06:00 Bruce Spencer MJA
11:06:18 Rep. Greg Kmetz
11:07:01 Bruce Spencer MJA
11:07:36 Rep. Casey Knudsen
11:08:01 Bruce Spencer MJA

11:09:03 Rep. Tom France

11:09:09 Sen. Barry Usher-R

Closing Statement:

11:10:02 Sen. Barry Usher (R), SD 40, closed the hearing on SJ 31.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 31 - Study of attorney regulation and the state bar

11:10:58 **Motion:** Vice Chair Brandon Ler moved that **SJ 31 BE CONCURRED IN.**

11:10:58 **Vote:** Motion carried 14 - 5 by voice vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. France, Rep. Howell, Rep. Smith, Rep. Zephyr, voting no.

11:10:58 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Greg Kmetz

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:13:14

Brigitte Bellefleur, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230501JUHaad\)](#)