

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) JUDICIARY

Call to Order: Chair Sen. Keith Regier-R, on January 25, 2023 at 9:02 AM, in 303

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Keith Regier, Chair (R)
Sen. Barry Usher, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Bob Brown (R)
Sen. Daniel Emrich (R)
Sen. Chris Friedel (R)
Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R)
Sen. Theresa Manzella (R)
Sen. Andrea Olsen (D)
Sen. Susan Webber (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Jen Gross (D)
Sen. Kathy Kelker (D)

Staff Present: Julianne Burkhardt, Attorney
Grace Gibney, 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 149 01/23/2023
SR 6 01/20/2023
SR 8 01/20/2023
SR 9 01/20/2023
SR 10 01/20/2023

Executive Action:

SB 47 DO PASS AS AMENDED
SB 184 DO PASS
SR 9 RESOLUTION ADOPTED

HEARING ON SR 8 - Confirm governor's appointee for district court judge - district 10

Opening Statement:

09:04:07 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SR 8, Confirm governor's appointee for district court judge - district 10.

Proponent Testimony:

09:04:43 James Bergstrom, House District 30 Representative

09:11:28 Heather Perry, Governors Appointee

[EXHIBIT\(230125JUSa1\)](#)

09:19:52 Ed Butcher, House District 29 Representative

09:21:13 Hannah Slusser, Governors Office

09:22:06 Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras, Governors Office

09:22:31 Bruce Spencer, Montana Judges Association

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:24:07 Sen. Daniel Emrich

09:32:14 Heather Perry, Governor's Appointee

09:32:22 Sen. Susan Webber

09:33:38 Heather Perry, Governor's Appointee

Closing Statement:

09:35:13 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, closed the hearing on SR 8.

HEARING ON SR 10 - Confirm governor's appointees for the board of pardons and parole

Opening Statement:

09:35:44 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SR 10, Confirm governor's appointees for the board of pardons and parole.

Proponent Testimony:

09:36:25 James Patelis, House District 52 Representative

09:43:47 Brad Newman, Montana Board of Parole

[EXHIBIT\(230125JUSa2\)](#)

09:47:39 Hannah Slusser, Governors Office

09:48:56 Randy Brodehl, Flathead County Commissioners Office

09:50:17 Dan Smith, Montana Police Protective Association

09:50:51 Brian Gootkin, Montana Department of Corrections

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:52:06 Sen. Chris Friedel

09:53:00 James Patelis, House District 52 Representative

09:59:47 Sen. Chris Friedel

09:59:49 Brad Newman, Montana Parole Board

10:05:36 Sen. Jen Gross joined the meeting.

10:05:41 Sen. Jen Gross

10:05:49 Brad Newman, Montana Parole Board

Closing Statement:

10:13:20 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, closed the hearing on SR 10.

**HEARING ON SR 6 - Confirm governor's appointees for the judicial standards
commission**

Opening Statement:

10:14:00 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SR 6, Confirm
governor's appointees for the judicial standards commission.

Proponent Testimony:

10:14:48 Seth Berglee, Governors Appointee

[EXHIBIT\(230125JUSa3\)](#)

10:15:43 Roger Webb, Governors Appointee

10:17:05 Hannah Slusser, Governors Office

10:17:46 Bruce Spencer, Montana Judges Association

10:19:23 Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras, Governors Office

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

10:20:43 Sen. Andrea Olsen

10:21:54 Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras

10:25:54 Sen. Chris Friedel

10:28:53 Seth Berglee, Governors' Appointee

10:29:42 Sen. Chris Friedel

10:29:45 Roger Webb, Governor's Appointee

10:33:08 Sen. Daniel Emrich
10:33:18 Seth Berglee, Governors Appointee
10:35:41 Sen. Daniel Emrich
10:35:44 Roger Webb, Governor's Appointee
10:39:18 Sen. Jen Gross
10:40:22 Sen. Susan Webber
10:40:25 Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras
10:42:17 Sen. Susan Webber
10:44:10 Sen. Jen Gross

Closing Statement:

10:44:15 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, closed the hearing on SR 6.

HEARING ON SR 9 - Confirm governor's appointee for the board of crime control

Opening Statement:

10:45:12 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SR 9, Confirm governor's appointee for the board of crime control.

Proponent Testimony:

10:45:48 Doug Overman, Governors Appointee
[EXHIBIT\(230125JUSa4\)](#)
10:47:13 Hannah Slusser, Governors Office
10:47:55 Dan Smith, Police Protective Association

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

10:48:54 Natalia Bowser, Montana Board of Crime Control

Questions from Committee:

10:49:32 Sen. Susan Webber
10:50:40 Natalia Bowser, Montana Board of Crime Control
10:51:15 Sen. Andrea Olsen
10:51:30 Natalia Bowser, Montana Board of Crime Control

Closing Statement:

10:51:58 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, closed the hearing on SR 9.

HEARING ON HB 149 - Generally revise laws related to 9-1-1 program

Opening Statement:

10:52:57 Rep. Michele Binkley (R), HD 85, opened the hearing on HB 149,
Generally revise laws related to 9-1-1 program.

Proponent Testimony:

10:54:03 Kevin Gilbertson, Chief Information Officer of Montana
[EXHIBIT\(230125JUSa5\)](#)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

10:56:12 Sen. Chris Friedel
10:57:03 Kevin Gilbertson, Chief Information Officer of Montana
10:57:10 Sen. Andrea Olsen
10:57:40 Kevin Gilbertson, Chief Information Officer of Montana

Closing Statement:

10:57:53 Rep. Michele Binkley (R), HD 85, closed the hearing on HB 149.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 47 - Revise commercial drivers license laws to comply with federal requirements

- 11:26:17 **Motion:** Sen. Theresa Manzella moved that **SB 47 DO PASS.**
- 11:26:17 **Vote:** Motion failed unanimously by voice vote.
- 11:28:20 **Motion:** Sen. Theresa Manzella moved that **SB 47 BE AMENDED.**
- 11:28:20 **Vote:** Motion carried 10 - 1 by voice vote with Sen. Emrich, voting no.
- 11:30:05 **Motion:** Sen. Theresa Manzella moved that **SB 47 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
- 11:30:05 **Vote:** Motion carried 6 - 5 by voice vote with Sen. Brown, Sen. Emrich, Sen. Friedel, Sen. Hinebauch, Sen. Usher, voting no.
Sen. Hinebauch, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 184 - Revise procedural requirements in child abuse and neglect proceedings

- 11:47:10 **Motion:** Sen. Barry Usher moved that **SB 184 DO PASS.**
- 11:47:10 **Vote:** Motion carried 6 - 5 by roll call vote with Sen. Friedel, Sen. Gross, Sen. Kelker, Sen. Olsen, Sen. Webber, voting no.
Sen. Gross, Sen. Kelker, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 9 - Confirm governor's appointee for the board of crime control

- 11:48:30 **Motion:** Sen. Barry Usher moved that **SR 9 RESOLUTION ADOPTED.**
- 11:48:30 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 07:21:13

Grace Gibney, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230125JUSaad\)](#)