

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

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

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Sen. Keith Regier, 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)  
Sen. Barry Usher (R)

**Staff Present:** Grace Gibney, Secretary  
Madelyn Krezowski, Attorney

**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 218 01/27/2023

SB 224 01/27/2023

SB 230 01/27/2023

Executive Action:

10:15:09

Sen. Brown has left

**HEARING ON SB 230 - Provide that office of court administrator is under clerk of the supreme court**

**Opening Statement:**

09:03:48 Sen. John Fuller (R), SD 8, opened the hearing on SB 230, Provide that office of court administrator is under clerk of the supreme court.

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

09:05:35 Perry Miller, Montana Magistrates Association

09:10:12 Sean Slinger, State Bar of Montana

09:11:37 Bruce Spencer, Montana Judges Association

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

09:13:38 Bowen Greenwood, Clerk of Montana Supreme Court

**Questions from Committee:**

09:14:24 Sen. Theresa Manzella

09:14:49 Bowen Greenwood

09:17:44 Sen. Keith Regier

09:17:52 Bowen Greenwood

09:19:06 Sen. Chris Friedel

09:20:17 Bowen Greenwood

09:20:49 Sen. Susan Webber

09:21:28 Bowen Greenwood

09:22:46 Sen. Andrea Olsen  
09:22:56 Bruce Spencer  
09:23:59 Sen. Andrea Olsen  
09:24:26 Sen. John Fuller-R  
09:24:48 Sen. Andrea Olsen  
09:25:17 Sen. Keith Regier

**Closing Statement:**

09:26:08 Sen. John Fuller (R), SD 8, closed the hearing on SB 230.

**HEARING ON SB 218 - Revise laws pertaining to settlements**

**Opening Statement:**

09:27:23 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, opened the hearing on SB 218, Revise laws pertaining to settlements.

**Proponent Testimony:**

09:32:31 Steve Wade, Montana Chamber of Commerce

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

09:34:23 Sen. Andrea Olsen  
09:37:11 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
09:40:13 Sen. Keith Regier

**Closing Statement:**

09:40:29 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, closed the hearing on SB 218.

**HEARING ON SB 224 - Require court report on district court case numbers and substitutions**

**Opening Statement:**

09:41:07 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, opened the hearing on SB 224, Require court report on district court case numbers and substitutions.

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

09:43:18 Sen. Andrea Olsen  
09:43:29 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
09:46:02 Sen. Theresa Manzella  
09:46:44 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
09:47:49 Sen. Susan Webber  
09:48:49 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
09:48:52 Sen. Chris Friedel  
09:50:11 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
09:51:10 Sen. Keith Regier  
09:51:18 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
09:51:41 Sen. Andrea Olsen  
09:52:34 Sen. Barry Usher joined the meeting.  
09:52:40 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
09:53:11 Sen. Andrea Olsen

09:53:43 Sen. Daniel Emrich  
09:54:02 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
09:55:14 Sen. Susan Webber  
09:56:24 Sen. Greg Hertz-R

**Closing Statement:**

09:56:27 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, closed the hearing on SB 224.

**Discussion:**

10:15:09 Sen. Brown has left

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 10:15:54

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Grace Gibney, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230202JUSaad\)](#)