

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

Call to Order: Chair Sen. Keith Regier-R, on February 07, 2023 at 9:00 AM, in 303

ROLL CALL

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

Members Excused: Sen. Bob Brown (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 247 02/01/2023

SB 249 02/01/2023

SB 250 02/01/2023

SB 265 02/03/2023

Executive Action:

09:02:46

Committee Discussion:

09:02:54 Madelyn Krezowski

09:04:01 Sen. Andrea Olsen

09:04:59 Sen. Keith Regier

09:05:13 Sen. Barry Usher

09:05:34 Sen. Theresa Manzella

09:06:05 Sen. Jen Gross

09:06:43 Sen. Andrea Olsen

09:07:21 Sen. Keith Regier

HEARING ON SB 265 - Increase penalty for conviction of criminal activity of human trafficking

Opening Statement:

09:07:55 Sen. Mark Noland (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 265, Increase penalty for conviction of criminal activity of human trafficking.

Proponent Testimony:

09:11:40 Alex Sterhan, Montana Department of Justice (DOJ)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:12:55 Sen. Susan Webber

09:13:20 Sen. Mark Noland-R
09:13:42 Sen. Jen Gross
09:14:15 Sen. Mark Noland-R
09:15:28 Sen. Keith Regier
09:15:30 Sen. Jen Gross
09:15:40 Madelyn Krezowski

Closing Statement:

09:16:01 Sen. Mark Noland (R), SD 10, closed the hearing on SB 265.

HEARING ON SB 247 - Revise covenant laws

Opening Statement:

09:17:04 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 247, Revise covenant laws.

Proponent Testimony:

09:18:38 Stephanie Baucus, self

Questions from Committee:

09:21:28 Sen. Jen Gross
09:23:45 Stephanie Baucus
09:25:19 Sen. Andrea Olsen
09:29:55 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick-R
10:43:27 Recessed
10:47:06 Reconvened

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Closing Statement:

09:30:28 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, closed the hearing on SB 247.

HEARING ON SB 249 - Generally revise youth treatment plan laws

Opening Statement:

09:31:37 Sen. Theresa Manzella (R), SD 85, opened the hearing on SB 249, Generally revise youth treatment plan laws.

Proponent Testimony:

09:38:15 Denise Johnson, Montana Child Protection Alliance (MCPA)

09:41:48 Matt Furlong, Montana Child Protection Alliance (MCPA)

09:44:27 Jacob Handy, self

09:47:18 Dave Kesler, self

09:51:58 Bob Leach, self

Opponent Testimony:

09:53:35 Aimee Grmoljez, Billings Clinic

09:57:05 Amanda O'Shay- Tiernan, Yellowstone County Attorney's Office

[EXHIBIT\(230207JUSa1\)](#)

10:11:24 Lauren Wilson, American Academy of Pediatrics

10:13:32 Robin Turner, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV)

Informational Witness Testimony:

10:16:05 Nikki Grossberg, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Questions from Committee:

10:16:24 Sen. Kathy Kelker

10:19:39 Amanda O'Shay-Tiernan, Yellowstone County Attorney's Office
10:20:17 Sen. Barry Usher
10:23:43 Amanda O'Shay-Tiernan, Yellowstone County Attorney's Office
10:23:48 Sen. Jen Gross
10:26:57 Nikki Grossberg, DPHHS
10:27:27 Sen. Jen Gross
10:29:40 Sen. Theresa Manzella-R
10:30:47 Sen. Kathy Kelker
10:32:03 Sen. Theresa Manzella-R
10:32:41 Sen. Chris Friedel
10:35:09 Nikki Grossberg, DPHHS
10:35:17 Sen. Susan Webber
10:35:57 Sen. Theresa Manzella-R
10:36:41 Sen. Daniel Emrich
10:39:34 Nikki Grossberg, DPHHS

Closing Statement:

10:39:54 Sen. Theresa Manzella (R), SD 85, closed the hearing on SB 249.

HEARING ON SB 250 - Adopt Safety of the Child First Act

Opening Statement:

10:47:10 Sen. Theresa Manzella (R), SD 85, opened the hearing on SB 250, Adopt Safety of the Child First Act.

Proponent Testimony:

10:51:30 Matt Furlong, Montana Child Protection Alliance (MCPA)
10:52:06 Kyla Hailstone, Montana Child Protection Alliance (MCPA)

10:52:28 Pahl Johnson, self
10:57:07 Elizabeth Peterson, self
11:01:33 Michelle Rebecca, self
11:04:19 Zilah Handy, self
11:05:03 Jacob Handy, self
11:07:09 Dave Kesler, self
[EXHIBIT\(230207JUSa2\)](#)
11:10:10 Jennifer Brick, self
11:12:49 Laura Renyolds, self
11:15:36 Denise Johnson, Montana Child Protection Alliance (MCPA)
11:18:36 Lindsay Hill-Williams, self
11:20:33 Danielle Pollack, National Family Violence Law Center
11:22:22 Amanda Licka, self
11:23:45 Scott Aspenlieder, self
11:25:17 Tina Swithen, National Safe Parents Organization
11:26:53 Jody Willson Palmer, self

Opponent Testimony:

11:29:03 Lauren Wilson, American Academy of Pediatrics
11:31:25 Bruce Spencer, Montana Judges Association
11:33:35 Aimee Grmoljez, Billings Clinic
11:36:17 Robin Turner, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

Informational Witness Testimony:

11:38:18 Brooke Moore, Additional Proponent Witness

Questions from Committee:

11:40:50 Sen. Daniel Emrich

11:42:30 Sen. Theresa Manzella-R
11:42:50 Sen. Keith Regier
11:45:00 Jody Willson Palmer
11:46:09 Sen. Andrea Olsen
11:50:45 Sen. Theresa Manzella-R
11:51:19 Sen. Barry Usher
11:52:28 Sen. Theresa Manzella-R
11:52:43 Sen. Daniel Emrich
11:56:02 Sen. Andrea Olsen
11:56:17 Robin Turner, (MCADSV)

Closing Statement:

11:57:11 Sen. Theresa Manzella (R), SD 85, closed the hearing on SB 250.

Discussion:

09:02:46

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:02:54

Grace Gibney, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230207JUSaad\)](#)