

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY

Call to Order: Chair Sen. Tom McGillvray-R, on February 22, 2023 at 3:03 PM, in 317

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Tom McGillvray, Chair (R)
Sen. Dennis Lenz, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Becky Beard (R)
Sen. Jen Gross (D)
Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Carl Glimm (R)
Sen. Kathy Kelker (D)
Sen. Brad Molnar (R)
Sen. Susan Webber (D)

Staff Present: Trudy Burke, 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 308 02/17/2023
SB 345 02/17/2023
SB 352 02/17/2023
SB 364 02/17/2023
SB 369 02/17/2023

Executive Action:

SB 180 DO PASS AS AMENDED
SB 266 TO TABLE
SB 282 DO PASS AS AMENDED
SB 339 DO PASS

HEARING ON SB 308 - Establish patient visitation rights

Opening Statement:

15:04:37 Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SB 308,
Establish patient visitation rights.

Proponent Testimony:

15:07:10 Al Olszewski, Montana Veteran's Association

15:08:08 Sen. Carl Glimm joined the meeting.

15:08:40 Phyllis Lamping, self

15:11:04 Nicole Giacomini, self

[EXHIBIT\(230222PHSa1\)](#)

15:20:39 Susan Williams, self

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:28:50 Sen. Jen Gross

15:28:52 Sponsor

Closing Statement:

15:28:56 Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R), SD 19, closed the hearing on SB 308.

**HEARING ON SB 352 - Create task force to modify and improve the child protective
services system**

Opening Statement:

15:29:55 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, opened the hearing on SB 352, Create task force to modify and improve the child protective services system.

Proponent Testimony:

15:31:32 Nannette Gilbertson, Montana County Attorneys Association (MCAA)

Opponent Testimony:

15:32:50 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:34:23 Nikki Grossberg, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Questions from Committee:

15:34:56 Sen. Jen Gross

15:36:26 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R

15:36:28 Sen. Jen Gross

15:37:18 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe

Closing Statement:

15:37:46 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, closed the hearing on SB 352.

HEARING ON SB 345 - Revise sex offender laws

Opening Statement:

15:38:23 Sen. Mark Noland (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 345, Revise sex offender laws.

Proponent Testimony:

15:40:35 Alan Doane, Montana Department of Justice (DOJ)

15:42:45 Suzanne Anders, Department of Criminal Investigation, Department of Justice (DCI,DOJ)

15:43:22 Nannette Gilbertson, Montana County Attorneys Association (MCAA),
Montana Sheriff and Peace Officers Association, and on behalf of Shelby
DeMars, Police Protective Association (PPA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:44:41 Leta Womack, Department of Justice (DOJ)

Questions from Committee:

15:45:57 Sen. Jen Gross

15:47:58 Alan Doane, DOJ

15:48:24 Sen. Jen Gross

15:50:42 Leta Womack, DOJ

15:50:57 Sen. Tom McGillvray

15:51:34 Alan Doane, DOJ

Closing Statement:

15:52:50 Sen. Mark Noland (R), SD 10, closed the hearing on SB 345.

HEARING ON SB 364 - Establish limits on hospital-related charges

Opening Statement:

15:53:45 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, opened the hearing on SB 364, Establish
limits on hospital-related charges.

Proponent Testimony:

16:02:05 Rhonda Wiggers, National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB)

Opponent Testimony:

16:03:28 Duane Preschinger, Montana Hospital Association (MHA)

16:07:13 Sean Slinger, Montana Nurse Anesthetists

16:08:03 Bob Olsen, Montana Hospital Association (MHA)

[EXHIBIT\(230222PHSa2\)](#)

16:12:03 Aimee Grmoljez, Billings Clinic

[EXHIBIT\(230222PHSa3\)](#)

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:17:16 Additional Proponent Testimony: Maureen Hensley-Quinn, National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP)

[EXHIBIT\(230222PHSa4\)](#)

16:23:32 Michelle Truax, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

16:24:05 Mary LeMieux, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

16:24:13 Don Homlund, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Questions from Committee:

16:25:45 Sen. Becky Beard

16:27:13 Maureen Hensley-Quinn, NASHP

16:29:03 Sen. Carl Glimm

16:31:37 Duane Preschinger, MHA

16:32:24 Sen. Jen Gross

16:33:26 Duane Preschinger, MHA

16:34:08 Sen. Tom McGillvray

16:37:49 Aimee Grmoljez, Billings Clinic

16:38:10 Sen. Tom McGillvray

16:40:06 Maureen Hensley-Quinn, NASHP

16:40:53 Sen. Carl Glimm

16:42:45 Bob Olsen, MHA

16:43:34 Sen. Tom McGillvray

16:44:19 Bob Olsen, MHA

Closing Statement:

16:46:02 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, closed the hearing on SB 364.

HEARING ON SB 369 - Provide worker's comp coverage of injury caused by employer-mandated vaccine

Opening Statement:

16:56:07 Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB 369, Provide worker's comp coverage of injury caused by employer-mandated vaccine.

Proponent Testimony:

16:57:02 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers

Opponent Testimony:

16:58:17 Ethan Heverly, Montana State Fund

16:58:44 Peter Strauss, Montana Self Insured Association

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:59:44 Eric Strauss, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

17:00:10 Grace Lieberherr, self

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

17:06:15 Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R), SD 26, closed the hearing on SB 369.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 180 - Generally revise court-appointed special advocate and guardian ad litem laws

17:09:11 **Motion:** Sen. Dennis Lenz moved that **SB 180 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:50:07 Recessed

16:55:47 Reconvened

17:09:30 Sen. Dennis Lenz

17:10:05 **Motion:** Sen. Dennis Lenz moved that **SB 180 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:10:21 Sen. Dennis Lenz

17:13:58 Sen. Carl Glimm

17:14:11 Sen. Dennis Lenz

17:14:39 Sen. Jen Gross

17:16:38 Sen. Dennis Lenz

17:17:31 Sen. Steve Hinebauch

17:19:01 Sen. Carl Glimm

17:21:09 Sen. Dennis Lenz

17:21:36 Sen. Jen Gross

17:10:05 **Vote:** Motion carried 5 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Glimm, Sen. Gross, Sen. Kelker, Sen. Webber, voting no.
Sen. Kelker, Sen. Webber, By Proxy

17:22:59 **Motion:** Sen. Dennis Lenz moved that **SB 180 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

17:22:59 **Vote:** Motion carried 5 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Glimm, Sen. Gross, Sen. Kelker, Sen. Webber, voting no.
Sen. Kelker, Sen. Webber, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 266 - Generally revise child abuse and neglect laws

17:23:56 **Motion:** Sen. Dennis Lenz moved that **SB 266 DO PASS.**

17:24:18 **Motion:** Sen. Dennis Lenz moved that **SB 266 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:24:32 Madelyn Krezowski

17:24:18 **Vote:** Motion carried 6 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Gross, Sen. Kelker, Sen. Webber, voting no.
Sen. Kelker, Sen. Webber, By Proxy

17:26:12 **Motion:** Sen. Dennis Lenz moved that **SB 266 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

17:26:12 **Vote:** Motion failed 6 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Beard, Sen. Glimm, Sen. Hinebauch, voting yes.

17:26:17 **Motion:** Sen. Jen Gross moved that **SB 266 TO TABLE.**

Discussion:

17:26:25 Sen. Jen Gross

17:27:01 Sen. Dennis Lenz

17:26:17 **Vote:** Motion carried 6 - 3 by voice vote with Sen. Beard, Sen. Glimm, Sen. Hinebauch, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 282 - Revise laws related to area agencies on aging

17:29:26 **Motion:** Sen. Dennis Lenz moved that **SB 282 DO PASS.**

17:30:10 **Motion:** Sen. Dennis Lenz moved that **SB 282 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:30:19 Sen. Dennis Lenz

17:30:52 Sen. Brad Molnar joined the meeting.

17:30:10 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

17:31:30 **Motion:** Sen. Dennis Lenz moved that **SB 282 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

17:31:30 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 339 - Establish reasonable childhood independence laws

17:39:34 **Motion:** Sen. Dennis Lenz moved that **SB 339 DO PASS.**

17:39:34 **Vote:** Motion carried 6 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Gross, Sen. Kelker, Sen. Webber, voting no.
Sen. Kelker, Sen. Webber, By Proxy

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:41:46

Trudy Burke, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230222PHSaad\)](#)