

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

Call to Order: Chair Tom McGillvray-R, on March 22, 2023 at 3:06 PM, in 317

ROLL CALL

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

Members Excused: Sen. Carl Glimm (R)
Sen. Jen Gross (D)
Sen. Kathy Kelker (D)
Sen. Brad Molnar (R)

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:

HB 312 03/14/2023

HB 313 03/14/2023

HB 317 03/21/2023

Executive Action:

HEARING ON HB 313 - Provide for independent practice of physician assistants

Opening Statement:

15:08:27 Rep. Jodee Etchart (R), HD 48, opened the hearing on HB 313, Provide for independent practice of physician assistants.

Discussion:

15:09:03 Sen. Jen Gross joined the meeting.

15:09:06 Sen. Brad Molnar joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

15:12:13 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy, House District 32

15:12:56 Rachel Green, Governor's Office

15:14:00 Megan Zawacki, Montana Academy of Physicians Assistants (MAPA)

15:17:42 Jennifer Hensley, Montana Academy of Physicians Assistants (MAPA)

15:19:25 Sen. Carl Glimm joined the meeting.

15:21:17 Ta'jin Perez, Western Native Voice

15:21:53 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity

15:23:39 Kali Wicks, Blue Cross Blue Shield Montana

15:24:20 Bruce Spencer, Mountain Health Co-op

15:24:49 Margaret Morgan, Montana Association of Nurse Anesthetists

15:25:06 Keegan Medrano, American Civil Liberties Union- Montana

15:25:29 Scott Boulanger, Montana Medical Association

15:25:33 Lance Four Star, Montana American Indian Caucus

[EXHIBIT\(230322PHSa1\)](#)

Opponent Testimony:

15:27:16 Nathan Allen, Montana Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:27:54 Eric Strauss, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

Questions from Committee:

15:28:22 Sen. Susan Webber

15:28:50 Rep. Jodee Etchart-R

Closing Statement:

15:29:30 Rep. Jodee Etchart (R), HD 48, closed the hearing on HB 313.

HEARING ON HB 312 - Provide for rural emergency hospital designation

Opening Statement:

15:29:43 Rep. Jodee Etchart (R), HD 48, opened the hearing on HB 312, Provide for rural emergency hospital designation.

Proponent Testimony:

15:31:23 Duane Preshinger, Montana Hospital Association (MHA)

15:34:45 Ta'jin Perez, Western Native Voice

15:35:18 Jasmine Krotkov, Montana Farmers Union

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:36:34 Leslie Howe, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) and the Office of the Inspector General

15:36:59 Jack King, Montana Health Research and Education Foundation of the Montana Hospital Association (MHA)

Questions from Committee:

15:37:45 Sen. Susan Webber

15:38:50 Jack King, MHA

15:40:12 Sen. Becky Beard

15:41:40 Duane Preshinger, MHA

15:42:00 Vice Chair Dennis Lenz
15:45:23 Duane Preshinger, MHA
15:45:54 Chair Tom McGillvray
15:45:59 Duane Preshinger, MHA
15:46:30 Vice Chair Dennis Lenz
15:47:06 Duane Preshinger, MHA
15:47:27 Sen. Carl Glimm
15:48:34 Duane Preshinger, MHA
15:49:06 Sen. Carl Glimm
15:51:27 Duane Preshinger, MHA
15:52:36 Vice Chair Dennis Lenz
15:53:11 Duane Preshinger, MHA
15:53:37 Sen. Becky Beard
15:54:09 Duane Preshinger, MHA
15:54:52 Chair Tom McGillvray
15:55:37 Duane Preshinger, MHA

Closing Statement:

15:56:13 Rep. Jodee Etchart (R), HD 48, closed the hearing on HB 312.

HEARING ON HB 317 - Provide for the Montana Indian Child Welfare Act

Opening Statement:

15:56:56 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D), HD 32, opened the hearing on HB 317,
Provide for the Montana Indian Child Welfare Act.

Proponent Testimony:

16:00:05 Bryce Kirk, Fort Peck Tribal Council

16:01:56 Sen. Jen Gross left the meeting.

- 16:03:38 Lance Four Star, Montana American Indian Caucus
[EXHIBIT\(230322PHSa2\)](#)
- 16:05:16 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe
[EXHIBIT\(230322PHSa3\)](#)
- 16:07:09 Sean Conroe, Ability Montana and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Lewis and Clark and Broadwater Counties
- 16:07:40 Kelly Driscoll, self
- 16:11:24 Brooke Baracker-Taylor, self
[EXHIBIT\(230322PHSa4\)](#)
- 16:15:05 Aubrey Henderson, self
- 16:16:28 Joan Sure Chief, Indian People's Action
[EXHIBIT\(230322PHSa5\)](#)
- 16:19:41 Quincy Bjornberg, self
- 16:21:21 Sharen Kicking Woman, American Civil Liberties Union- Montana
- 16:24:37 Keegan Medrano, American Civil Liberties Union- Montana
- 16:27:55 Alyssa Kelly, American Civil Liberties Union- Montana
- 16:30:44 Ta' jin Perez, Western Native Voice
- 16:32:03 Jana Peterson, self
- 16:33:58 Fred Fisher, self
[EXHIBIT\(230322PHSa6\)](#)
- 16:37:21 Kathy Deserly, self
- 16:41:31 Danielle Vazquez, Montana Women Vote
- 16:42:27 Leo Thompson, self
- 16:44:07 Jade Bahr, Montana Budget and Policy Center
[EXHIBIT\(230322PHSa7\)](#)

16:45:27 Roberta Duckhead Kittson Nyomo, self

16:51:26 Robin Turner, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and The Womens Foundation of Montana

16:52:15 Shawn Reagor, Montana Human Rights Network

16:53:27 Jessica Crist, self

16:54:13 Brooke Swaney, self

16:55:20 Hillary-Anne Crosby, self

16:55:44 Heidi He Does It, self

16:56:54 Lilian Alvernaz, Indian Law Section

16:57:58 Yolanda Page, Confederated Salish Kootenai Tribes

16:58:45 Carrie Spotted Bear, Zero to Five Montana

16:59:52 Lisa Woodward, self

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

17:02:16 Nikki Grossberg, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

17:02:42 Eldena Bear Don't Walk, Office of the Public Defender

Questions from Committee:

17:04:00 Sen. Susan Webber

17:10:03 Brooke Baracker-Taylor

17:11:12 Sen. Susan Webber

17:11:28 Kelly Driscoll

17:13:20 Sen. Becky Beard

17:13:52 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy-D

17:16:44 Vice Chair Dennis Lenz

17:21:44 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy-D
17:23:01 Vice Chair Dennis Lenz
17:29:04 Kelly Driscoll
17:29:33 Vice Chair Dennis Lenz
17:30:32 Chair Tom McGillvray
17:35:46 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy-D
17:36:06 Kathy Deserly
17:37:37 Chair Tom McGillvray
17:38:17 Kathy Deserly
17:38:37 Kelly Driscoll
17:39:52 Chair Tom McGillvray
17:40:02 Kelly Driscoll
17:40:22 Vice Chair Dennis Lenz
17:40:42 Kelly Driscoll

Closing Statement:

17:41:39 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D), HD 32, closed the hearing on HB 317.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:49:21

Trudy Burke, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230322PHSaad\)](#)