

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

Call to Order: Chair Keith Regier-R, on March 27, 2023 at 7:59 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. 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. 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 361 03/23/2023

HB 625 03/23/2023

HB 676 03/23/2023

SB 518 03/23/2023

Executive Action:

HEARING ON HB 676 - Revise laws to clarify fundamental parental rights

Opening Statement:

08:01:55 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R), HD 43, opened the hearing on HB 676, Revise laws to clarify fundamental parental rights.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230327JUSa1\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

08:05:45 Elsie Arntzen, Montana Superintendent of Public Instruction
08:07:09 Cathy Carlson, self
08:09:10 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation
08:10:55 Terri Barney, self
08:12:41 Doug Reisig, Executive Director, Montana Quality Education Coalition
08:14:48 Tanaia Wise, self
08:15:40 Matt Sharp, Alliance Defending Freedom
08:17:39 Cheryl Tusken, self
08:19:19 Alba Pimental, Moms for Liberty
08:20:39 Jessie Browning, Moms for Liberty
08:22:03 Natalie McAfee, self

Opponent Testimony:

08:24:14 Amanda Curtis, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)
08:25:48 Jenny Murnane-Butcher, Montanans Organized for Education
08:28:00 Kathryn Lowe, Montana American Academy of Pediatrics

08:31:10 Shawn Reagor, self
08:32:04 Beth Brenneman, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual
Violence
08:34:06 Quinn Leighton, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana
08:34:59 Stephanie McDowell, Executive Director, Bridger Care

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:36:36 Vice Chair Jen Gross
08:37:48 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe-R
08:38:16 Sen. Susan Webber
08:39:26 Amanda Curtis, MFPE
08:39:47 Chair Keith Regier
08:40:05 Amanda Curtis, MFPE
08:40:16 Sen. Andrea Olsen
08:40:42 Kathryn Lowe, MAAP
08:42:03 Sen. Bob Brown
08:42:43 Amanda Curtis, MFPE
08:44:02 Vice Chair Jen Gross
08:44:49 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe-R
08:45:09 Vice Chair Barry Usher
08:45:34 Matt Sharp, Alliance Defending Freedom
08:46:45 Chair Keith Regier
08:46:58 Matt Sharp, Alliance Defending Freedom
08:48:08 Vice Chair Jen Gross

08:48:13 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe-R
08:49:17 Sen. Andrea Olsen
08:50:01 Kathryn Lowe, MAAP
08:50:49 Sen. Susan Webber
08:51:50 Matt Sharp, Alliance Defending Freedom
08:53:15 Sen. Daniel Emrich
08:53:31 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation

Closing Statement:

08:55:49 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R), HD 43, closed the hearing on HB 676.

HEARING ON HB 625 - Infant safety and care act

Opening Statement:

08:59:53 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R), HD 43, opened the hearing on HB 625, Infant safety and care act.

Proponent Testimony:

09:01:53 Tanaia Wise, Abort Ignorance Montana
09:04:25 Sharon Neason, self
09:06:38 Robin Sertell, Abortion Survivors Network
09:08:53 Gail Asbury, self
09:10:31 Sierra Clairge, self
09:12:47 Terri Barney, self
09:14:11 Cathy Carlson, self
09:15:50 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation
09:18:07 Jessie Browning, self
09:19:57 Denise Burke, Alliance Defending Freedom

09:21:22 Matthew Brower, Montana Catholic Conference

09:22:09 Elke West, self

Opponent Testimony:

09:23:35 Dr. Melody Cunningham, Montana American Academy of Pediatrics (MAAP)

09:25:41 Senator Shannon O'Brien, self

09:27:55 Jean Branscum, CEO, Montana Medical Association

09:29:03 Robin Turner, American Civil Liberties Union of Montana (ACLU MT)

09:30:33 Quinn Leighton, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana

09:32:00 Shawn Reagor, Montana Human Rights Network (MHRN)

09:32:42 Aileen Gleizer, Blue Mountain Clinic

09:34:33 Julia Maxon, Montana Women Vote

09:35:27 Sarah Wiggins, self

09:37:05 Stephanie McDowell, Bridger Care

09:38:01 Jenna Martin, Montana National Organization for Women (NOW)

09:39:30 Hillary Anne-Crosby, Montana Sexual & Reproductive Health Collective (MSRHC)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:40:53 Sen. Andrea Olsen

09:41:18 Dr. Melody Cunningham, MAAP

09:42:35 Sen. Theresa Manzella

09:43:29 Robin Sertell, Abortion Survivors Network

09:46:16 Sen. Susan Webber

09:47:40 Denise Burke, Alliance Defending Freedom

09:48:02 Sen. Daniel Emrich
09:48:27 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation
09:48:44 Denise Burke, Alliance Defending Freedom
09:49:41 Vice Chair Jen Gross
09:50:46 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe-R
09:51:26 Chair Keith Regier
09:51:56 Dr. Melody Cunningham, MAAP
09:53:22 Sen. Andrea Olsen
09:53:57 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe-R

Closing Statement:

09:54:49 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R), HD 43, closed the hearing on HB 625.

HEARING ON SB 518 - Revise parental rights laws to increase parental involvement in education

Opening Statement:

09:58:04 Sen. Theresa Manzella (R), SD 85, opened the hearing on SB 518, Revise parental rights laws to increase parental involvement in education.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230327JUSa2\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230327JUSa3\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

10:06:58 Elsie Arntzen, Montana State Superintendent of Instruction
10:09:07 Rob Watson, School Administrators of Montana
[EXHIBIT\(230327JUSa4\)](#)
10:12:28 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation
10:14:43 Terri Barney, self

10:16:30 Donna Elford, self
10:18:31 Cathy Carlson, self
10:20:30 Cheryl Tusken, self
10:22:33 Anna Shchemlinin, self

Opponent Testimony:

10:24:43 Amanda Curtis, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)
10:26:48 Jenny Murnane-Butcher, Montanans Organized for Education
10:29:07 Kathryn Lowe, Montana American Academy of Pediatrics
10:31:02 Robin Turner, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV)
10:33:21 Shawn Reagor, Montana Human Rights Network
10:35:08 Quinn Leighton, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana
10:36:10 Jean Branscum, Montana Medical Association
10:36:54 Aileen Gleizer, self

Informational Witness Testimony:

10:37:47 Nikki Grossberg, Child and Family Services, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Questions from Committee:

10:38:34 Sen. Andrea Olsen
10:38:41 Sen. Theresa Manzella
10:39:04 Vice Chair Jen Gross
10:39:30 Nikki Grossberg, DPHHS
10:40:07 Sen. Daniel Emrich
10:40:37 Nikki Grossberg, DPHHS
10:41:22 Sen. Chris Friedel
10:44:27 Sen. Theresa Manzella

10:44:35 Vice Chair Jen Gross
10:45:24 Robin Turner, MCADSV
10:48:59 Sen. Daniel Emrich
10:50:08 Robin Turner, MCADSV
10:51:23 Vice Chair Barry Usher
10:51:37 Amanda Curtis, MFPE
10:53:01 Vice Chair Jen Gross
10:53:49 Robin Turner, MCADSV

Closing Statement:

10:56:05 Sen. Theresa Manzella (R), SD 85, closed the hearing on SB 518.

Discussion:

11:03:05 Vice Chair Jen Gross

HEARING ON HB 361 - Provide that use of a name and sex at birth by a student is not discrimination

Opening Statement:

11:03:52 Rep. Brandon Ler (R), HD 35, opened the hearing on HB 361, Provide that use of a name and sex at birth by a student is not discrimination.

Proponent Testimony:

11:05:05 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation
11:07:13 Terri Barney, self
11:08:48 Donna Elford, self
[EXHIBIT\(230327JUSa5\)](#)
11:10:24 Phyllis Lamping, self
11:11:27 Jessie Browning, Moms for Liberty Yellowstone County
11:12:53 Alba Pimentel, Moms for Liberty Yellowstone County

Opponent Testimony:

11:14:38 Emmerson Poole, self

11:16:45 Robin Turner, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV)

[EXHIBIT\(230327JUSa6\)](#)

11:19:19 Amanda Curtis, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

11:19:52 Ollie Gotzke, self

11:21:29 Shawn Reagor, Montana Human Rights Network (MHRN)

11:23:47 Keegan Medrano, American Civil Liberties Union of Montana (ACLUMT)

11:25:58 Kathryn Lowe, Montana American Academy of Pediatrics (MAAP)

11:27:48 Cal Poole, self

11:29:55 Jenny Murnane-Butcher, Montanans Organized for Education

11:32:02 Quinn Leighton, Planned Parenthood Advocates for Montana

11:34:12 Aileen Gleizer, Blue Mountain Clinic

11:35:19 Chloe Runs Behind, Forward Montana

11:37:09 Dave Chadwick, self

11:38:17 Julia Maxon, Montana Women Vote

11:39:12 Stephanie McDowell, Bridger Care

11:40:53 Caitlin Piserchia, Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club (MCSC)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

11:42:25 Chair Keith Regier

11:42:39 Kathryn Lowe, MAAP

11:43:21 Sen. Daniel Emrich

11:44:49 Vice Chair Jen Gross
11:45:32 Shawn Reagor, MHRN
11:47:11 Vice Chair Barry Usher
11:47:35 Rep. Brandon Ler-R
11:48:09 Sen. Andrea Olsen
11:48:52 Robin Turner, MCADSV
11:50:23 Sen. Susan Webber
11:50:44 Robin Turner, MCADSV
11:51:14 Vice Chair Jen Gross
11:51:44 Kathryn Lowe, MAAP
11:53:28 Vice Chair Barry Usher
11:54:08 Rep. Brandon Ler-R
11:54:11 Sen. Daniel Emrich
11:54:54 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation
11:55:58 Vice Chair Jen Gross
11:56:51 Amanda Curtis, MFPE

Closing Statement:

11:58:30 Rep. Brandon Ler (R), HD 35, closed the hearing on HB 361.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:00:27

Grace Gibney, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230327JUSaad\)](#)