

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

Call to Order: Chair Keith Regier-R, on April 18, 2023 at 8:59 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. Steve Hinebauch (R)
Sen. Andrea Olsen (D)
Sen. Susan Webber (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Chris Friedel (R)
Sen. Kathy Kelker (D)
Sen. Theresa Manzella (R)

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:

SR 71 04/14/2023

Executive Action:

SR 71 DO PASS
HB 735 TO TAKE FROM THE
TABLE
HB 785 TO TAKE FROM THE
TABLE

HEARING ON SR 71 - Confirm governor's appointee for district court judge - district 9

Opening Statement:

09:00:17 Chair Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SR 71, Confirm governor's appointee for district court judge - district 9.

Proponent Testimony:

09:01:06 Gregory Bonilla, Governor's Appointee, Ninth Judicial District Court Judge

09:04:41 Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras, Governor's Office

09:06:03 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties

09:08:04 Sean Slanger, Montana State Bar

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:09:16 Vice Chair Jen Gross

09:09:45 Gregory Bonilla, Governor's Appointee

09:14:00 Sen. Andrea Olsen

09:15:05 Gregory Bonilla, Governor's Appointee

09:20:28 Sen. Susan Webber

09:21:14 Gregory Bonilla, Governor's Appointee

09:26:04 Sen. Bob Brown

09:26:39 Gregory Bonilla, Governor's Appointee

09:27:23 Sen. Steve Hinebauch

09:28:04 Gregory Bonilla, Governor's Appointee

09:29:53 Sen. Daniel Emrich

09:31:30	Gregory Bonilla, Governor's Appointee
09:34:48	Vice Chair Jen Gross
09:37:07	Gregory Bonilla, Governor's Appointee
09:39:49	Sen. Andrea Olsen
09:40:30	Gregory Bonilla, Governor's Appointee
09:45:49	Sen. Susan Webber
09:47:14	Vice Chair Barry Usher
09:48:02	Vice Chair Jen Gross
09:48:31	Sen. Steve Hinebauch
09:48:52	Sen. Andrea Olsen
09:49:45	Vice Chair Barry Usher
09:50:27	Sen. Susan Webber
09:51:50	Sen. Andrea Olsen
09:52:39	Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras, Governor's Office
09:56:32	Vice Chair Barry Usher
09:57:25	Sen. Andrea Olsen
09:57:41	Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras, Governor's Office
09:58:35	Sen. Andrea Olsen
09:58:52	Gregory Bonilla, Governor's Appointee
10:00:35	Sen. Steve Hinebauch
10:00:42	Sen. Daniel Emrich
10:00:50	Vice Chair Barry Usher
10:01:04	Vice Chair Jen Gross
10:02:21	Sen. Andrea Olsen

10:02:45 Gregory Bonilla, Governor's Appointee

10:07:44 Sen. Daniel Emrich

10:09:19 Gregory Bonilla, Governor's Appointee

Closing Statement:

10:09:53 Chair Keith Regier (R), SD 3, closed the hearing on SR 71.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 71 - Confirm governor's appointee for district court judge -
district 9**

10:43:52 **Motion:** Vice Chair Barry Usher moved that **SR 71 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

10:44:44 Sen. Susan Webber

10:45:20 Sen. Andrea Olsen

10:47:07 Sen. Daniel Emrich

10:47:22 Sen. Bob Brown

10:48:04 Sen. Steve Hinebauch

10:48:28 Vice Chair Jen Gross

10:43:52 **Vote:** Motion carried 7 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Gross, Sen. Kelker, Sen. Olsen, Sen. Webber, voting no.
Sen. Kelker, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 735 - Generally revise DNA collection and testing laws

10:50:03 **Motion:** Vice Chair Jen Gross moved that **HB 735 TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE.**

Discussion:

10:50:57 Vice Chair Jen Gross

10:50:03 **Vote:** Motion carried 5 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Brown, Sen. Emrich, Sen. Olsen, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 785 - Revise landlord-tenant laws

10:54:12 **Motion:** Vice Chair Jen Gross moved that **HB 785 TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE.**

Discussion:

10:56:35 Sen. Andrea Olsen
10:57:09 Chair Keith Regier
10:57:26 Vice Chair Barry Usher
10:57:38 Chair Keith Regier
10:54:12 **Vote:** Motion failed 5 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Gross, Sen. Olsen, Sen. Webber, voting yes.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:57:45

Grace Gibney, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230418JUSaad\)](#)