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State-Tribal Relations Committee

65th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

JEN GROSS
STEVE HINEBAUCH
JASON SMALL
FRANK SMITH

HOUSE MEMBERS

SHARON STEWART-PEREGOY--Chair
ALAN DOANE--Vice Chair
JAMES O'HARA
RAE PEPPERS

COMMITTEE STAFF

HOPE STOCKWELL, Lead Staff
LAURA SANKEY KEIP, Staff Attorney
LAURA SHERLEY, Secretary

MINUTES LOG

May 10, 2018
Great Falls, Montana

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides a notation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video record of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

Access to an electronic copy of these minutes and the audio or video recording is provided from the Legislative Branch home page at <http://leg.mt.gov>. On the left-side menu of the home page, select Committees, then Interim. Once on the page for Interim Committees, scroll down to the appropriate committee. The written Minutes Log, along with the audio and video recordings, is listed by meeting date on the interim committee's web page. Each of the Exhibits is linked and can be viewed by clicking on the Exhibit of interest. All Exhibits are public information and may be printed.

Please contact the Legislative Services Division at 406-444-3064 for more information.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

REP. SHARON STEWART-PEREGOY, Chair
REP. ALAN DOANE, Vice Chair

SEN. STEVE HINEBAUCH
SEN. FRANK SMITH

REP. JAMES O'HARA
REP. RAE PEPPERS

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED

SEN. JEN GROSS
SEN. JASON SMALL

STAFF PRESENT

HOPE STOCKWELL, Lead Staff
LAURA SANKEY KEIP, Staff Attorney
LAURA SHERLEY, Secretary

VISITORS' LIST ([Attachment 1](#))

AGENDA ([Attachment 2](#))

COMMITTEE ACTIONS

- The STRC voted unanimously to send a letter of support for S.1870 & S.1942 to U.S. Senators Mitch McConnell and John Hoeven.

RECONVENE

00:00:01 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy reconvened the meeting at 9:04 a.m. and gave an overview of the meeting agenda ([Attachment 3](#)).

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY MATTER NOT CONTAINED IN THIS AGENDA AND THAT IS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE STRC

None

SJ 3 FOLLOW UP REQUESTED IN MARCH

Creating an American Indian reentry program

Things to consider -- Ms. Weiss

00:02:18 Ms. Weiss spoke on options the committee could consider for creating an American Indian reentry program ([Exhibit 1](#)).

Public comment

None

Questions/discussion -- STRC

00:08:12 Rep. Doane asked what issues the current reentry program is not meeting and why there is a proposal for a new program.

00:11:45 Rep. Peppers commented on the population of Native Americans in correctional facilities.

00:12:41 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy commented on the difficulties Native American offenders face returning to society and asked Ms. Stockwell and Ms. Weiss to comment on the discussion.

Lay advocate and pro se training

Overview -- Ms. Sankey Keip

00:17:28 Ms. Sankey Keip reviewed lay advocate and pro se training in Indian Country ([Exhibit 2](#)).

Public comment

None

Potential legislative options -- Ms. Stockwell

00:35:54 Ms. Stockwell reviewed findings from the Missoula County native outreach project, a case management proposal from the CSKT Tribal Defender's Office, and potential legislation ([Exhibit 3](#)), ([Exhibit 4](#)), ([Exhibit 5](#)), and ([Exhibit 6](#)).

Public comment

None

Questions/discussion -- STRC

00:53:43 Ms. Stockwell commented on additional alternatives for cultural training.

BREAK (Reconvened at 10:26 a.m.)

Peer support specialists

History of peer support in MT -- Jim Hajny, executive director, Montana's Peer Support Network

00:56:23 Mr. Hajny gave an overview of peer support and its history in the state
([Exhibit 7](#)) ([Exhibit 8](#)).

Administrative process -- Isaac Coy, treatment program officer, Addictive and Mental Disorders Division, DPHHS

01:10:23 Mr. Coy spoke on the administrative process of peer support certification.

Questions/discussion -- STRC

01:26:38 Rep. Doane asked Mr. Hajny for clarification of the government's involvement in peer support.

01:31:03 Rep. O'Hara asked Mr. Hajny to review the qualification process.

01:35:41 Sen. Hinebauch asked Mr. Hajny to discuss the success rate of peer support.

01:40:58 Rep. Peppers asked Mr. Hajny how the program handles cultural sensitivity.

01:44:10 Rep. Peppers commented on the need of mentors for Native American offenders in peer support programs.

01:44:56 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy asked Mr. Hajny what the program's training model is for trainers and if there is a certification process for trainers.

01:50:18 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy asked Mr. Coy to speak on how DPHHS works directly with reservations.

02:00:58 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy commented on the recommendations made by the presenters and spoke to the importance of offender recovery.

Public comment

None

SJ 3 Committee action

02:04:14 Ms. Stockwell reviewed potential committee action options for SJ 3.

02:05:16 Committee discussion on SJ 3 options.

02:15:12 Sen. Smith asked Ms. Weiss to review when and how the Board of Crime Control was placed under the Department of Correction's oversight.

02:20:03 Sen. Smith asked staff for an information inquiry on the status of the Board of Crime Control and its grant programs.

UPDATE ON LEGISLATION PROPOSED BY NORTH DAKOTA U.S. SENATORS RELATED TO MISSING PERSONS -- Ms. Stockwell

02:22:44 Ms. Stockwell updated the committee on the legislation proposed by North Dakota U.S. senators related to missing persons ([Exhibit 9](#)) and ([Exhibit 10](#)).

Review of draft STRC letter of support

02:25:31 Ms. Stockwell reviewed the draft support letter from the committee to Sen. Mitch McConnell and Sen. John Hoeven ([Exhibit 11](#)).

Questions/discussion -- STRC

02:27:21 Rep. Doane commented on a letter sent by Senator Steve Daines to the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Federal Bureau of Investigation asking to increase their efforts on handling criminal investigations in Indian Country.

02:29:51 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy asked if the committee wished to send an additional letter to federal law enforcement entities urging increased efforts in Indian Country.
02:30:51 Committee discussion on a potential letter to federal law enforcement entities.
02:39:48 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy asked if the committee wished to take action to accept the draft letter to Sen. Mitch McConnell and Sen. John Hoeven.

Motion

02:40:15 Rep. Peppers moved to accept the draft letter to Sen. Mitch McConnell and Sen. John Hoeven.

Vote

02:40:54 The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

02:41:38 Ms. Stockwell reviewed the committee's work plan and planned discussion at the next two committee meetings, reviewed the committee's discussion of HB 562, reviewed the committee's information requests to staff and changes to bill drafts LCdoj1, LCdoj2, LCdoj3, LCdoj4, and LCFOTO, and reviewed the committee's discussion on SJ 3.

INSTRUCTIONS TO STAFF

02:45:56 Ms. Stockwell asked the committee for direction on SJ 3.
02:46:29 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy commented on the LCsj31 draft bill and recommendations to change the draft language.
02:47:53 Sen. Smith asked Ms. Sankey Keip if the Office of Public Instruction's (OPI) legal department had been included in the discussion and drafting of LCFOTO and asked for a report from the OPI legal department regarding LCFOTO.
02:50:29 Sen. Smith asked for OPI to be invited to the July committee meeting for committee questions and discussion of LCFOTO.
02:51:21 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy asked Ms. Stockwell for clarification of LCsj32's intent.
02:52:46 Rep. Peppers requested that the bill draft LCdoj1 be renamed "Hanna's Law."
02:54:31 Committee discussion on LCdoj1.
02:56:38 Ms. Stockwell asked if the committee wants to review LCsj32 at the July meeting.
02:58:11 Ms. Stockwell asked the committee which bill drafts they would like to send out for public comment.
02:58:38 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy asked the committee to review its recommended changes to the bill drafts and information requests to staff.
02:59:21 Ms. Stockwell asked for clarification on the information request on potential peer support specialist legislation and asked for committee discussion on the July meeting date.
03:01:35 Committee discussion on the July meeting.
03:13:32 Rep. Doane asked Ms. Stockwell to review the committee's FTE allocation for staff research.
03:16:28 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy commented on the committee's discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY MATTER WITHIN THE COMMITTEES JURISDICTION

None

ADJOURNMENT

03:17:07 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy adjourned the meeting 12:48 p.m.

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