



## CHILDREN, FAMILIES, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INTERIM COMMITTEE

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### 68th Montana Legislature

#### SENATE MEMBERS

Daniel Emrich  
Chris Friedel  
Jen Gross  
Dennis Lenz

#### HOUSE MEMBERS

Jennifer Carlson  
SJ Howell  
Ron Marshall  
Michael Yakawich

#### COMMITTEE STAFF

Milly Allen - Research Analyst  
Maddie Krezowski - Attorney  
Jolanda Songer - Secretary

# MINUTES LOG

July 17, 2024  
Room 102  
Helena, Montana

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides annotation 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 recording 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 the meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

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#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Dennis Lenz, Presiding Officer (R)  
Rep. SJ Howell, Vice Presiding Officer (D)  
Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R)  
Sen. Chris Friedel (R)  
Rep. Ron Marshall (R)  
Rep. Michael Yakawich (R)  
Sen. Jen Gross (D)

#### MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Sen. Daniel Emrich (R)

#### MEMBERS ABSENT:

#### STAFF PRESENT:

Milly Allen, Research Analyst  
Jolanda Songer, Secretary  
Maddelyn Black, Secretary

## **AGENDA ([Attachment 1](#))**

### **VISITORS' LIST**

#### **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

08:31:21 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz called the meeting to order at 8:31 AM. The committee secretary took roll.

#### **DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

08:32:19 Charlie Brereton, Director, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

[EXHIBIT 1](#) (Pages 2 - 5)

[EXHIBIT 2](#)

[EXHIBIT 3](#)

[EXHIBIT 4](#)

#### **Committee Questions and Discussion**

08:36:15 Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell

08:36:20 Sen. Jen Gross joined the meeting.

08:38:08 Jessie Counts, Administrator, Human & Community Services Division, DPHHS

08:42:37 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

08:44:03 Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell

08:44:35 Jessie Counts

08:44:45 Rep. Mike Yakawich

08:46:47 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

08:47:18 Director Charlie Brereton

#### **DEPARTMENT UPDATES Continued**

08:48:14 Director Charlie Brereton (See Exhibit 1, Page 7)

#### **Committee Questions and Discussion**

08:49:28 Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell

#### **DEPARTMENT UPDATES Continued**

08:50:10 Director Charlie Brereton (See Exhibit 1, Page 9)

08:51:08 Carrie Albro, Chief Information Officer, DPHHS

#### **Committee Questions and Discussion**

08:56:37 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

08:57:31 Director Charlie Brereton

08:58:02 Nikki Grossberg

08:58:39 Rep. Jennifer Carlson

08:58:53 Carrie Albro

**DEPARTMENT UPDATES Continued**

09:02:27 Director Charlie Brereton (See Exhibit 1, Page 11)

**Committee Questions and Discussion**

09:03:44 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

09:05:33 Sen. Jen Gross

09:08:08 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

09:08:40 Rep. Jennifer Carlson

**DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

09:09:46 Director Charlie Brereton

09:10:15 Paula Stannard, Chief Legal Counsel, DPHHS (See Exhibit 1, Page 13)

**DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

09:13:31 Director Charlie Brereton (See Exhibit 1, Pages 15-18)

**Committee Questions and Discussion**

09:16:02 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

09:17:17 Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell

09:18:22 Rep. Mike Yakawich

**Public Comment**

09:22:40 Rose Hughes, Executive Director, Montana Health Care Association (MHCA)  
[EXHIBIT 5](#)

09:31:47 Mary Windecker, Executive Director, Behavioral Health Alliance of Montana

**Committee Questions and Discussion**

09:33:32 Sen. Jen Gross

09:34:14 Rose Hughes

09:36:08 Director Charlie Brereton

09:39:32 Jessie Counts

09:42:05 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

09:42:30 Jessie Counts

09:45:47 Director Charlie Brereton

09:46:38 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

09:47:16 Jessie Counts

09:47:57 Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell

09:49:14 Jessie Counts

09:51:07 Rep. Jennifer Carson requested information from the Department.

09:55:37 Director Charlie Brereton

09:55:49 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

09:58:43 Rep. Ron Marshall requested information from the Department.

09:59:23 Director Charlie Brereton

10:00:59     **Recessed**  
10:52:08     **Reconvened**

**ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW**

10:52:54     Milly Allen  
  
10:53:17     **Recessed** due to technical issues.  
10:58:41     **Reconvened**

**LEGISLATION: FAMILY PEER SUPPORT LICENSURE**

10:59:02     Milly Allen  
              [EXHIBIT 6](#)

**Committee Questions and Discussion**

11:01:20     Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell  
11:03:28     Quinlan O'Connor, Chief Legal Counsel, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)  
11:04:26     Rep. Jennifer Carlson

**Public Comment**

11:07:49     Beth Ayers, Montana's Peer Network  
              [EXHIBIT 7](#)  
11:10:22     Kayla Myers, Montana's Peer Network

**Committee Questions and Discussion**

11:12:49     Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
11:13:08     Quinlan O'Connor  
11:13:50     Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell  
11:15:38     Beth Ayers  
11:17:53     Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
11:18:01     Milly Allen (See Exhibit 6)  
11:18:58     Rep. Jennifer Carlson  
11:19:08     Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
11:19:25     Rep. Jennifer Carlson (See Exhibit 6, Page 6)  
11:20:08     Sen. Jen Gross  
11:21:16     Milly Allen  
11:22:17     Rep. Jennifer Carlson  
11:22:38     Milly Allen  
11:23:36     Beth Ayers  
11:23:45     Rep. Jennifer Carlson  
11:24:11     Beth Ayers  
11:25:20     Sen. Jen Gross  
11:26:13     Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell  
11:28:53     Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

11:30:47 Rep. Jennifer Carlson  
11:33:19 Sen. Jen Gross  
11:34:10 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
11:34:34 Beth Ayers  
11:36:03 Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell  
11:38:54 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
11:41:32 Rep. Jennifer Carlson  
11:44:07 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
11:44:41 Rep. Mike Yakawich  
11:45:47 Milly Allen (See Exhibit 6, Page 4)  
11:46:41 Sen. Daniel Emrich  
11:47:03 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
11:47:56 Sen. Daniel Emrich  
11:48:57 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
11:50:24 Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell  
11:51:46 Rep. Jennifer Carlson  
11:52:09 Rep. Mike Yakawich  
11:52:17 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

**Motion**

11:53:52 Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell moved CFHHS 1.4 as provisionally amended do pass.  
11:54:13 Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell moved to amend CFHHS 1.4, page 4, line 1, to change healthcare provider to mental health professional and to add family peer support to page 4, line 6.

**Discussion on the Motion**

11:55:00 Sen. Daniel Emrich  
11:55:23 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
11:56:00 **Vote:** Carried unanimously by voice vote.

**Motion**

11:56:17 Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell moved CFHHS 1.4 do pass as amended.

**Discussion on the Motion**

11:56:44 Sen. Chris Friedel  
11:57:14 **Vote:** Carried 7 - 1 by roll call vote with Sen. Lenz voting no.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW Continued**

11:59:01 Alexis Sandru, Legislative Attorney

**Committee Questions and Discussion**

12:00:18 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

**Public Comment**

12:01:08 None.

**Committee Questions and Discussion**

12:02:44 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

12:03:11 Alexis Sandru

12:03:37 Rep. Jennifer Carlson

12:04:07 Alexis Sandru

12:05:35 **Recessed**

13:32:35 **Reconvened**

**ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW Continued**

13:33:02 Alexis Sandru, Legislative Attorney

13:34:49 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

13:35:00 Rep. Jennifer Carlson

13:35:21 Alexis Sandru

13:36:09 Rep. Jennifer Carlson

13:37:10 Alexis Sandru

13:37:30 Rep. Jennifer Carlson

**LEGISLATION: SENIOR AND LONG-TERM CARE, PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY**

13:41:05 Milly Allen

[EXHIBIT 8](#)

13:44:57 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

13:45:20 Rep. Mike Yakawich

**Committee Questions and Discussion**

13:52:51 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

13:54:54 Rep. Mike Yakawich

13:56:03 Rep. Jennifer Carlson

13:56:29 Rep. Mike Yakawich

13:57:34 Rep. Jennifer Carlson

13:57:46 Milly Allen

**Public Comment**

13:58:47 Tyler Amundson, Big Sky Senior Services

[EXHIBIT 9](#)

14:03:59 Stacey Anderson (See Exhibit 8)

**Committee Questions and Discussion**

14:06:16 Rep. Jennifer Carlson  
14:10:04 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

**Public Comment**

14:10:25 Margaret MacDonald, Big Sky 55+

**Committee Questions and Discussion**

14:13:26 Rep. Mike Yakawich  
14:16:11 Sen. Jen Gross  
14:16:53 Rep. Mike Yakawich  
14:17:21 Tyler Amundson  
14:18:06 Sen. Jen Gross  
14:19:39 Rep. Ron Marshall  
14:20:26 Rep. Mike Yakawich  
14:22:32 Milly Allen  
14:22:47 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
14:23:18 Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell  
14:26:13 Rep. Jennifer Carlson  
14:29:49 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
14:34:36 Rep. Mike Yakawich  
14:37:00 Sen. Jen Gross  
14:37:30 Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell  
14:39:54 Rep. Jennifer Carlson  
14:42:35 Rep. Mike Yakawich  
14:44:17 Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell  
14:46:52 Milly Allen  
14:47:08 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

**LEGISLATION: SENIOR AND LONG-TERM CARE, PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY**

14:49:31 Milly Allen  
14:56:00 Rep. Mike Yakawich

**Public Comment**

15:00:53 Tyler Amundson, Big Sky Senior Services  
15:03:02 Stacey Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association & Rocky Boy Health Center  
15:04:16 Margaret MacDonald, Big Sky 55+

**Committee Questions and Discussion**

15:06:30 Rep. Mike Yakawich  
15:07:02 Milly Allen

15:07:40 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
15:08:03 Rep. Jennifer Carlson  
15:09:07 Margaret MacDonald  
15:11:31 Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell  
15:13:28 Rep. Mike Yakawich  
15:14:42 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
15:15:13 Milly Allen  
15:16:38 Vice Presiding Officer SJ Howell  
15:20:34 Rep. Jennifer Carlson  
15:23:13 Stacey Anderson  
  
15:25:31 **Recessed**  
15:40:51 **Reconvened**

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY TOPIC WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE COMMITTEE NOT ON THIS AGENDA**

15:41:22 Stacey Anderson

**LEGISLATION: SENIOR AND LONG-TERM CARE, PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY**

15:43:14 Rep. Michael Yakawich moved CFHHS 3.2 to do pass.

**Discussion on the Motion**

15:43:38 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
15:44:57 Rep. Jennifer Carlson  
15:45:56 Rep. Mike Marshall  
15:46:24 Tyler Amundson  
15:47:38 Sen. Jen Gross  
15:48:20 Milly Allen  
15:48:39 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
15:49:02 **Vote:** Carried 7 - 1 by roll call vote with Sen. Emrich voting no.

**LEGISLATION WORKSHOP**

15:50:05 Milly Allen  
15:51:33 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz  
15:52:22 Rep. Mike Yakawich  
15:52:37 Presiding Officer Dennis Lenz

**IN RECESS UNTIL JULY 18 AT 9:00 A.M.**

Recessed: 15:53:57