



SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

69th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

Mary Ann Dunwell
Janet Ellis
Jason Ellsworth
Daniel Emrich
Chris Friedel
Carl Glimm
Jen Gross
Steve Hinebauch
Tom McGillvray
Wendy McKamey
Shane Morigeau
Mark Noland
Andrea Olsen
Barry Usher

HOUSE MEMBERS

Steve Fitzpatrick
Lyn Hellegaard
Fiona Nave
Sue Vinton

PUBLIC MEMBERS

Joan Mell
Andrew Billstein
Jim Ramlow

COMMITTEE Staff

Jameson Walker - Attorney
Maddelyn Black – Secretary
Jaret Coles – Deputy Director of
Legal Services
Rachel Weiss – Research
Director

MINUTES LOG

December 04, 2024

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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. Jason Ellsworth, Presiding Officer (R)
Sen. Barry Usher, Vice Presiding Officer (R)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)
Sen. Daniel Emrich (R)
Sen. Chris Friedel (R)
Sen. Carl Glimm (R)
Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R)
Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R)
Sen. Tom McGillvray (R)
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)
Sen. Mark Noland (R)
Jim Ramlow, Public Member
Andrew Billstein, Public Member

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Rep. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)
Sen. Wendy McKamey (R)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sen. Jen Gross (D)
Sen. Shane Morigeau (D)
Sen. Andrea Olsen (D)
Sen. Janet Ellis (D)
Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell (D)

STAFF PRESENT:

Jameson Walker, Attorney
Maddelyn Black, Secretary
Jaret Coles, Deputy Director of Legal Services
Rachel Weiss, Research Director

AGENDA ([Attachment 1](#))

VISITORS' LIST ([Attachment 2](#))

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

13:03:32 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM. The committee secretary took roll.

REVIEW AND DISCUSS LIST OF CURRENT COMMITTEE BILL DRAFT PROPOSALS AND DRAFT LANGUAGE

13:05:13 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher
13:05:43 Rachel Weiss, Research Director, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
13:06:18 Presiding Officer Jason Ellsworth
13:06:51 Julianne Burkhardt, Attorney, LSD
13:07:17 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher
[EXHIBIT 1](#)
[EXHIBIT 2](#)
13:08:58 Sen. Tom McGillvray
13:09:14 Jameson Walker, Attorney, LSD
13:09:52 Jaret Coles, Deputy Director of Legal Services, LSD
13:10:28 Presiding Officer Jason Ellsworth
13:10:49 Jameson Walker
13:11:01 Rachel Weiss, LSD
13:11:10 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher
13:11:30 Julianne Burkhardt, LSD
13:13:02 Sen. Mark Noland
13:13:20 Sen. Daniel Emrich
13:14:26 Rep. Fiona Nave

13:15:06 Jameson Walker
13:15:30 Sen. Tom McGillvray
13:16:50 Sen. Daniel Emrich
13:17:30 Rep. Fiona Nave
13:17:37 Jameson Walker
13:17:53 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher
13:18:49 Daniel Emrich
13:20:04 Sen. Tom McGillvray
13:21:49 Rachel Weiss
13:21:57 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher
13:23:51 Rachel Weiss
13:24:35 Presiding Officer Jason Ellsworth
13:25:23 Rep. Sue Vinton
13:25:46 Rep. Fiona Nave
13:27:05 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher
[EXHIBIT 3](#)
13:27:16 Jaret Coles, LSD
13:34:01 Sen. Daniel Emrich
13:36:08 Rep. Lyn Hellegaard
13:36:58 Jim Ramlow
13:38:33 Jaret Coles
13:40:02 Sen. Tom McGillvray
13:41:03 Jaret Coles
13:42:51 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher
13:43:22 Rep. Lyn Hellegaard
13:43:31 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher
[EXHIBIT 4](#)
13:43:55 Sen. Tom McGillvray
13:44:13 Julianne Burkhardt
13:44:26 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher
13:44:41 Sen. Daniel Emrich
[EXHIBIT 5](#)
13:44:53 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher
13:49:02 Andrew Billstein
13:49:14 Joan Mell
13:49:20 Jim Ramlow
13:52:14 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher
13:53:28 Presiding Officer Jason Ellsworth
13:54:37 Jim Ramlow
13:55:52 Sen. Daniel Emrich

13:58:05 Presiding Officer Jason Ellsworth
13:59:52 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher
14:00:22 Sen. Tom McGillvray and Sen. Carl Glimm left the meeting.
14:01:08 Sen. Daniel Emrich

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY TOPIC UNDER THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION BUT NOT ON THIS AGENDA

14:01:50 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher
14:02:49 Rolf Johnson, Remote Meeting Coordinator, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
14:02:22 None in room.

COMMITTEE WORK SESSION

14:03:49 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher
See Exhibit 5
14:04:14 Rachel Weiss
14:04:45 Sen. Daniel Emrich
14:04:52 Rep. Fiona Nave
14:05:38 Sen. Tom McGillvray joined the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY TOPIC UNDER THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION BUT NOT ON THIS AGENDA - Continued

14:06:03 Christine Seibert
14:12:40 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher

14:13:58 **Recessed**
14:21:52 **Reconvened**

COMMITTEE WORK SESSION – Continued

14:21:53 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher

Motion

14:22:24 Sen. Mark Noland moved for PD0109 to be passed as a committee bill.

Calls the Question

14:22:37 Sen. Tom McGillvray

Discussion on the Motion

14:22:39 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher restated the motion.

Vote

14:22:46 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

Motion

14:23:19 Sen. Mark Noland moved for PD0031 to be passed as a committee bill.

Calls the Question

14:23:42 Sen. Daniel Emrich

Vote

14:23:47 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

Motion

14:24:19 Sen. Mark Noland moved for PD0048 to be passed as a committee bill.

Calls the Question

14:24:42 Sen. Mark Noland

Vote

14:24:45 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

Discussion on the Vote

14:25:09 Carrier PD0048: Sen. Daniel Emrich

Directions to Staff

14:25:17 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher

14:26:57 Jaret Coles, Deputy Director of Legal Services, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

14:27:48 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher

14:28:30 Rachel Weiss, Research Director, LSD

14:29:36 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher

14:29:52 Presiding Officer Jason Ellsworth

14:30:33 Sen. Mark Noland

14:31:01 Presiding Officer Jason Ellsworth

14:31:05 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher

14:32:06 Rachel Weiss, LSD

14:32:35 Sen. Tom McGillvray

14:33:10 Presiding Officer Jason Ellsworth

14:33:55 Vice Presiding Officer Barry Usher

14:35:58 Rep. Sue Vinton

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 14:36:41