



CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES WORK GROUP 68th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

Dennis Lenz

HOUSE MEMBERS

Jennifer Carlson
SJ Howell

COMMITTEE STAFF

Milly Allen - Research Analyst
LaVanda Jennings - Secretary
Madelyn Krezowski - Attorney

PUBLIC MEMBERS

Kelly Driscoll
Hon. Brenda Gilbert
Nikki Grossberg
Lt. Jon Kadner
S. Chase Rosario
Heather Webster

MINUTES LOG

November 17, 2023
Room 137
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, Chair (R)
Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R)
Kelly Driscoll, Public Member
Nikki Grossberg, Public Member
Rep. SJ Howell (D)
Lt. Jon Kadner, Public Member
S. Chase Rosario, Public Member
Heather Webster, Public Member

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Hon. Brenda Gilbert, Public Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Milly Allen, Research Analyst
Madelyn Krezowski, Attorney
LaVanda Jennings, Secretary

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

VISITORS' LIST

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

08:31:26 Presiding Officer Lenz called the meeting to order at 8:31 AM. The committee secretary took roll.

Introductions

08:33:17 Presiding Officer Lenz
08:34:29 Vice Presiding Officer Howell
08:35:17 Rep. Carlson
08:36:48 Nikki Grossberg, Children and Family Services Division Administrator,
Department of Public Health and Human Services, (DPHHS)
08:37:18 Lt. Jon Kadner, Cascade County Sheriff's Office
08:37:56 Kelly Driscoll, Family Defense Bureau Chief, Office of State Public Defender
08:38:46 S. Chase Rosario, Self
08:39:25 Heather Webster, Deputy County Attorney, Yellowstone County

Committee Rules and Procedures

08:40:36 Milly Allen, LSD
[EXHIBIT 1](#)

Committee Discussion/Questions

08:49:27 NONE

Public Comment on Committee Rules and Procedures

08:49:41 NONE

MOTION

08:52:11 Presiding Officer Lenz moved without objection to adopt the committee rules.

Vote:

08:52:11 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

Work Plan Introduction

08:52:56 Milly Allen
[EXHIBIT 2](#)

SB 352 Review

08:57:25 Presiding Officer Lenz
[EXHIBIT 3](#)

Committee Discussion/Questions

09:00:23 Presiding Officer Lenz

Public comment on SB 352 and Work Plane

09:02:13 NONE

Committee Discussion/Questions

09:02:39 Kelly Driscoll
09:03:59 Presiding Officer Lenz
09:04:30 Nikki Grossberg
09:05:18 Heather Webster
09:06:16 Rep. Carlson
09:06:54 Presiding Officer Lenz

RECESS

09:09:24 Reconvened at 09:20:42

Child Protective Issues Updates

09:21:51 Nikki Grossberg
[EXHIBIT 4](#)

Committee Discussion/Questions

09:28:57 Presiding Officer Lenz
09:29:07 Rep. Carlson
09:30:18 Presiding Officer Lenz

Child Protective Issues Updates- Continued

09:32:18 Nikki Grossberg

Committee Discussion/Questions

09:37:41 Vice Presiding Officer Howell
09:38:09 Rep. Carlson
09:39:14 Presiding Officer Lenz
09:40:59 Rep. Carlson
09:41:45 Presiding Officer Lenz
09:42:58 Rep. Carlson
09:43:40 Kelly Driscoll
09:44:16 Heather Webster
09:45:33 Presiding Officer Lenz

Child Protective Issues Updates- Continued

09:46:49 Nikki Grossberg

Committee Discussion/Questions

09:55:06 Rep. Carlson
10:01:38 Kelly Driscoll
10:03:13 Presiding Officer Lenz
10:09:52 Rep. Carlson

10:11:24 Kelly Driscoll
10:14:48 Presiding Officer Lenz

Child Protective Issues Updates- Continued

10:19:37 Nikki Grossberg
[EXHIBIT 5](#)

Public Comment on CPS Issue Updates

10:26:46 Irene Fensane, Self
10:37:58 Mary Windecker, Behavioral Health Alliance of Montana, (BHAM)

Committee Discussion/Questions

10:41:18 Rep. Carlson
10:49:30 Vice Presiding Officer Howell
10:54:42 Kelly Driscoll
10:57:05 Rep. Carlson
10:59:44 Nikki Grossberg
11:00:15 Presiding Officer Lenz
11:01:07 Vice Presiding Officer Howell
11:02:23 Kelly Driscoll
11:03:08 Presiding Officer Lenz

RECESS

11:04:09 Reconvened at 11:17:33

Work Session

11:17:42 Presiding Officer Lenz
11:23:05 Rep. Carlson
11:25:20 Presiding Officer Lenz
11:25:34 Lt. Kadner
11:26:41 Kelly Driscoll
11:27:03 Rep. Carlson
11:30:38 Nikki Grossberg
11:32:39 Rep. Carlson
11:32:49 Heather Webster
11:35:42 Presiding Officer Lenz
11:37:23 Heather Webster
11:38:20 Presiding Officer Lenz
11:38:31 S. Chase Rosario
11:39:01 Presiding Officer Lenz
11:39:55 Nikki Grossberg
11:41:30 Rep. Carlson
11:43:36 Presiding Officer Lenz

11:44:11 Rep. Carlson
11:47:56 Nikki Grossberg
11:48:42 Presiding Officer Lenz
11:49:34 Vice Presiding Officer Howell
11:52:42 Kelly Driscoll
11:54:04 Rep. Carlson
11:54:53 Kelly Driscoll
11:55:01 Rep. Carlson
11:58:51 Presiding Officer Lenz
12:02:00 Vice Presiding Officer Howell
12:02:53 Presiding Officer Lenz
12:03:18 Vice Presiding Officer Howell
12:03:45 Kelly Driscoll
12:04:06 Nikki Grossberg
12:04:36 Vice Presiding Officer Howell
12:06:11 Rep. Carlson
12:07:34 Presiding Officer Lenz
12:08:53 Rep. Carlson
12:11:25 Vice Presiding Officer Howell

MOTION

12:15:26 Presiding Officer Lenz moved without objection to adopt committee schedule as proposed.

VOTE

12:15:26 Carried unanimously by voice vote.
12:16:56 Rep. Carlson
12:17:09 Presiding Officer Lenz

ADJOURNMENT

12:19: 41 Presiding Officer Lenz adjourned the meeting at 12:19pm.