



LAW AND JUSTICE INTERIM COMMITTEE

68th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

John Esp
Chris Friedel
Ryan Lynch
Keith Regier

HOUSE MEMBERS

Jodee Etchart
Donavon Hawk
Caleb Hinkle
Amy Regier

COMMITTEE STAFF

Julianne Burkhardt - Attorney
Sara Hess - Research Analyst
Bethany McDowell James - Secretary

MINUTES LOG

October 04, 2023

Zoom Only

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:

Rep. Amy Regier, Chair (R)
Sen. John Esp (R)
Rep. Jodee Etchart (R)
Sen. Chris Friedel (R)
Rep. Caleb Hinkle (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Sen. Keith Regier (R)

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Julianne Burkhardt, Attorney
Sara Hess, Research Analyst
Bethany McDowell James, Secretary

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

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

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

09:02:04 Chair Regier called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM. The committee secretary took roll.

REVIEW OF PROCESS AND BALLOT ISSUE #8

09:03:01 Chair Regier

09:03:12 Sara Hess, Lead Staff
[EXHIBIT1](#)

Committee Discussion/Questions

09:05:14 Sen. Regier

Public Comment

09:06:53 Bart Crabtree, Montana Citizens Council on Judicial Accountability

09:10:23 Dianne Hansen, Fortine, MT

09:11:04 Randy Adams, Laughlin, NV

09:12:28 Mary Jacobs, Somers, MT

09:13:09 Jeff Brooks, Kalispell, MT

09:13:45 Shelley Lustman, Kalispell, MT

09:15:23 Elena Gagliano, Philipsburg, MT

09:17:29 Glen Fowler, Livingston, MT

09:19:22 Elizabeth Peterson, Manhattan, MT

09:21:19 Brian Thompson, Montana County Attorneys' Association

09:24:09 James Reavis, Billings, MT

09:26:14 Devon Decker, Kalispell, MT

09:28:28 Pat Earnest, Stevensville, MT

Committee Discussion/Questions

09:29:46 Sen. Regier

09:30:39 Rep. Etchart

09:32:56 Sen. Friedel

COMMITTEE AT EASE

09:37:13 The committee stood at ease until 9:45:58, then continued with its discussion.

Committee Discussion/Questions

09:45:58 Julianne Burkhardt, Staff Attorney

09:47:17 Sen. Friedel

09:48:50 Brian Thompson

09:50:42 Sen. Regier
09:52:56 Chair Regier

Motion

09:53:21 Sen. Regier moved to support the placement of Ballot Issue #8 on the ballot.

Discussion on the Motion

09:53:53 Sen. Regier
09:54:46 Rep. Etchart

Vote

09:56:06 The motion failed 5-3 with Chair Regier, Sen. Regier, and Rep. Hinkle voting "yes." Vice Chair Hawk and Sen. Esp voted "no" by proxy.
([Attachment 3](#), [Attachment 4](#))

CLOSING REMARKS

09:57:13 Chair Regier

ADJOURNMENT

09:57:45 Chair Regier adjourned the meeting at 9:57:45.