

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**Call to Order:** By Chairman Rick Jore, on April 11, 2007 at  
3:00 P.M., in Room 137 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Rick Jore, Chairman (C)  
Rep. Roger Koopman, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Holly Raser, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Norma Bixby (D)  
Rep. Mark Blasdel (R)  
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)  
Rep. Douglas Cordier (D)  
Rep. George Everett (R)  
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)  
Rep. Robin Hamilton (D)  
Rep. Jesse O'Hara (R)  
Rep. John Ward (R)  
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Bob Lake  
Rep. Michael Lange

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Dee Barfknecht, Committee Secretary  
Susan Fox, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing: HJR 54, HJR 55  
Executive Action: SB 129, SB 412

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**HEARING ON HJR 54**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:43 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D), HD 32, opened the hearing on HJR 54, Study credit transferability-all accredited institutions of higher education.

[EXHIBIT\(edh76a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(edh76a02\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:03:23 Laura Pflum, Education Policy Intern, Governor's Office

[EXHIBIT\(edh76a03\)](#)

00:05:25 Scott Martin, Student Representative, Montana State University

00:07:06 Denver Henderson, Student Representative, University of Montana

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:08:13 Sheila Stearns, Commissioner of Higher Education

00:08:56 Roger Barber, Deputy Commissioner, Commissioner of Higher Education office

[EXHIBIT\(edh76a04\)](#)

00:11:12 Angie Grove, Auditor, Legislative Auditor's Office

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:11:52 Rep. Hamilton

00:12:16 Mr. Barber

00:12:26 Rep. Hamilton

00:12:42 Ms. Stearns

00:13:13 Rep. Ward

00:13:28 Chairman Jore

00:14:22 Ms. Stearns

00:15:30 Chairman Jore

00:15:59 Ms. Stearns

00:17:28 Chairman Jore

00:18:02 Rep. Windy Boy

00:21:22 Rep. Ward

00:22:21 Ms. Stearns

00:26:01 Rep. Butcher

00:27:39 Ms. Stearns

00:28:48 Rep. Butcher

00:30:26 Ms. Stearns  
00:32:35 Rep. Butcher  
00:33:01 Ms. Stearns  
00:33:39 Rep. Butcher  
00:34:05 Mr. Barber  
00:34:21 Rep. Butcher  
00:34:37 Mr. Barber  
00:35:16 Rep. Butcher  
00:36:09 Mr. Barber  
00:36:29 Rep. Wilmer  
00:37:31 Ms. Stearns  
00:38:29 Rep. Wilmer  
00:38:57 Ms. Stearns  
00:39:12 Rep. Ward  
00:39:42 Ms. Stearns

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:39:53 Rep. Windy Boy

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**HEARING ON HJR 55**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:41:59 Rep. Roger Koopman (R), HD 70, opened the hearing on HJR 55, Study intellectual diversity in Montana's university system.

**EXHIBIT**(edh76a05)

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:02:46 Jessica LaReche, Student Representative, Montana State University  
01:06:54 Denver Henderson, Student Representative, University of Montana  
01:10:09 Scott Martin, Student Representative, Montana Student University  
01:16:04 John Vincent, Gallatin Gateway Resident  
01:30:11 Annie Glover, Montana Education Association, Montana Federation of Teachers  
01:31:40 Sheila Stearns, Commissioner of Higher Education  
01:32:58 Lois Fitzpatrick, Montana Library Association and College Professor  
01:37:55 Cathy Day, ACLU of Montana

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:40:24 Chairman Jore  
01:41:35 Mr. Vincent  
01:42:43 Chairman Jore  
01:43:19 Mr. Vincent  
01:44:11 Rep. Wilmer  
01:44:53 Rep. Koopman  
01:45:54 Rep. Wilmer  
01:46:12 Rep. Koopman  
01:46:41 Rep. Wilmer  
01:47:12 Rep. Koopman  
01:48:14 Rep. Everett  
01:48:45 Mr. Martin  
01:49:44 Rep. Everett  
01:50:03 Mr. Martin  
01:50:35 Mr. Everett  
01:50:55 Mr. Martin

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:51:27 Rep. Koopman

**Additional Discussion:**

02:12:29 Mr. Vincent  
02:12:09 Chairman Jore  
02:12:36 Rep. Butcher  
02:12:42 Rep. Raser  
02:12:46 Chairman Jore  
02:12:59 Rep. Raser  
02:13:43 Chairman Jore  
02:13:57 Rep. Butcher  
02:14:00 Chairman Jore  
  
02:14:11 Break  
02:32:18 Reconvene

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 129**

02:32:49 **Motion:** Rep. O'Hara moved that **SB 129 BE CONCURRED IN.**

02:34:31 **Motion:** Rep. Butcher moved that **SB 129 BE AMENDED.**

**EXHIBIT** (edh76a06)

**Discussion:**

02:34:43 Rep. Butcher  
02:38:25 Chairman Jore  
02:38:30 Rep. Butcher  
02:38:51 Rep. Wilmer  
02:39:38 Rep. O'Hara

02:40:24 **Vote:** Motion that **SB 129 BE AMENDED** carried by voice vote, 12-3. Reps. Jore, Bixby and Koopman voted no. Reps. Lange, Koopman and Lake voted by proxy.

02:41:04 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Cordier moved that **SB 129 CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED**. Motion failed by roll call vote, 7-8. Reps. Raser, Wilmer, Cordier, O'Hara, Butcher, Grinde, Hamilton aye. Reps. Lange, Koopman and Lake voted by proxy.

**Additional Discussion:**

02:42:44 Rep. Raser  
02:43:16 Chairman Jore  
02:43:32 Rep. O'Hara  
02:44:01 Rep. Raser  
02:44:39 Rep. Everett  
02:45:06 Chairman Jore  
02:45:28 Rep. Raser  
02:45:53 Rep. Butcher

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 412**

02:46:28 **Motion:** Rep. Raser moved that **SB 412 BE CONCURRED IN**.

**Discussion:**

02:46:52 Rep. O'Hara  
02:47:05 Rep. Ward

02:47:11 **Vote:** Motion that **SB 412 BE CONCURRED IN** carried by voice vote, 13-2. Reps. Jore and Koopman voted no. Reps. Lange, Koopman and Lake voted by proxy. Rep. Ward will carry the bill.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

02:48:08 Adjournment

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REP. RICK JORE, Chairman

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DEE BARFKNECHT, Secretary

RJ/db

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([edh76aad.pdf](#))**