

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Sarah Laszloffy, on March 23, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 137  
Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Sarah Laszloffy, Chair (R)  
Rep. Debra Lamm, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Edith (Edie) McClafferty, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Bryce Bennett (D)  
Rep. Moffie Funk (D)  
Rep. Edward Greef (R)  
Rep. Greg Hertz (R)  
Rep. Kathy Kelker (D)  
Rep. Matthew Monforton (R)  
Rep. Jean Price (D)  
Rep. Daniel R. Salomon (R)  
Rep. Nicholas Schwaderer (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Jeff Essmann (R)  
Rep. G. Bruce Meyers (R)  
Rep. Susan Webber (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Laura Sankey, Legislative Branch  
Nadia Zylawy, Committee Secretary

**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 & Date Posted: HB 600, 3/11/2015; HB 610, 3/11/2015; HB 617, 3/11/2015

00:00:01 Chair Laszloffy

### HEARING ON HB 600

#### Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:07 Rep. Tom Woods (D), HD 62, opened the hearing on HB 600, Create MUS systems efficiency task force.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

#### Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:06:12 Rep. Hertz  
00:06:31 Rep. Woods  
00:07:05 Rep. Lamm  
00:07:09 *Rep. Meyers entered.*  
00:07:25 Rep. Woods  
00:07:54 Rep. Lamm  
00:08:06 Rep. Woods  
00:08:43 Rep. Lamm  
00:08:52 Rep. Woods  
00:09:04 Rep. Greef  
00:09:42 Rep. Woods  
00:10:05 Rep. McClafferty  
00:10:21 Rep. Woods

#### Closing by Sponsor:

00:11:08 Rep. Woods  
  
00:12:10 Recessed  
00:13:47 Reconvened

### HEARING ON HB 610

#### Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:13:58 Rep. Zach Brown (D), HD 63, opened the hearing on HB 610, Provide for a Montana student loan refinancing program.

[EXHIBIT\(edh60a01\)](#)

#### Proponents' Testimony:

00:26:07 Sheena Rice, Montana Organizing Project  
00:31:12 Mike Hopkins, Montana Associated Students (MAS)  
00:32:02 Harry (Haocheng) Wang, Associated Students of University of Montana (ASUM)  
00:32:38 Garrett Lankford, Associated Students of Montana State University (ASMSU)  
00:32:57 Braden Fitzgerald, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MONTPIRG)

00:33:29 Frank Kromkowski, Strike Debt Helena  
[EXHIBIT\(edh60a02\)](#)

00:38:50 *Rep. Essmann entered.*

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:40:54 Eric Feaver, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers  
(MEA-MFT)

**Informational Testimony:**

00:46:35 Sam Schaefer, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

00:46:51 Jim Stipcich, Montana Higher Education Students Assistance Corporation  
(MHESAC)

00:47:42 David Ewer, Executive Director, Montana Board of Investments

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:48:22 Rep. Hertz

00:48:43 Laura Sankey, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

00:48:52 Rep. Hertz

00:49:20 David Ewer, Montana Board of Investments

00:50:53 Rep. Hertz

00:51:04 David Ewer, Montana Board of Investments

00:51:44 Rep. Hertz

00:52:27 David Ewer, Montana Board of Investments

00:54:15 Rep. Hertz

00:54:55 David Ewer, Montana Board of Investments

00:56:21 Rep. Salomon

00:56:56 David Ewer, Montana Board of Investments

00:57:40 *Rep. Hertz exited.*

00:59:27 Rep. Salomon

00:59:47 David Ewer, Montana Board of Investments

01:01:01 Rep. Salomon

01:01:22 Rep. Brown

01:02:55 Rep. Kelker

01:04:01 Rep. Brown

01:05:20 Rep. Kelker

01:06:15 Rep. Brown

01:07:38 Jim Stipcich, MHESAC

01:08:26 Rep. Essmann

01:08:57 Jim Stipcich, MHESAC

01:09:04 Rep. Essmann

01:09:32 Jim Stipcich, MHESAC

01:12:14 Rep. Essmann

01:13:52 Jim Stipcich, MHESAC

01:15:06 Rep. Essmann

01:15:45 Jim Stipcich, MHESAC

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:16:02 Rep. Brown

01:19:35 Recessed

01:20:20 Reconvened

**HEARING ON HB 617****Opening Statement by Sponsor:****01:20:38** Rep. Steve Lavin (R), HD 8, opened the hearing on HB 617, Provide scholarship opportunities for higher education in Montana.**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:25:21 Angela Wong, Director, Montana Lottery

01:27:45 Shannon O'Brien, Education Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor

01:29:19 Kelly Cresswell, Vice President, Foundation Activities, Student Assistance Foundation (SAF)

**EXHIBIT(edh60a03)**

01:31:30 Mark Taylor, Montana Hospital Association (MHA)

01:32:58 Glenn Oppel, Montana Chamber of Commerce, Montana Manufacturing Council

01:35:06 Mike Hopkins, Montana Associated Students (MAS)

01:36:08 Harry (Haocheng) Wang, Associated Students of University of Montana (ASUM)

01:37:53 Wil Carroll, Principal, Deloitte Consulting, LLP

01:40:25 Braden Fitzgerald, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MONTPIRG)

01:41:17 Garrett Lankford, Associate Students of Montana State University (ASUM)

01:41:43 Sheena Rice, Montana Organizing Project

**EXHIBIT(edh60a04)**

01:43:33 Eric Feaver, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None**Informational Testimony:** None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:45:59 Rep. B. Bennett

01:46:34 Rep. Lavin

01:47:32 Rep. Greef

01:48:55 Rep. Lavin

01:49:59 Rep. Greef

01:50:14 Rep. Lavin

01:50:46 Angela Wong, Montana Lottery

01:54:05 Rep. Lamm

01:54:33 Kelly Cresswell, SAF

01:55:00 Rep. Lamm

01:55:22 Rep. Lavin  
01:56:44 Rep. Lamm  
01:56:47 Rep. Lavin  
01:56:54 Rep. Schwaderer  
01:59:24 Rep. Lavin  
02:00:18 Rep. Schwaderer  
02:00:49 Rep. Lavin  
02:01:26 Rep. Salomon  
02:01:42 Rep. Lavin  
02:02:03 Rep. Salomon  
02:02:14 Rep. Lavin  
02:02:20 Rep. Salomon  
02:02:30 Rep. Lavin  
02:02:51 Rep. Salomon  
02:03:24 Rep. Lavin

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:03:43 Rep. Lavin

02:05:23 Chair Laszloffy  
02:06:06 Laura Sankey, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
02:06:35 Rep. Funk  
02:07:00 Chair Laszloffy  
02:07:52 Rep. Funk  
02:08:12 Chair Laszloffy  
02:08:31 Rep. Funk  
02:08:55 Chair Laszloffy

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 02:09:09

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Nadia Zylawy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([edh60aad.pdf](#))**