

## MINUTES

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

#### COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Sarah Laszloffy, on March 25, 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. Jeff Essmann (R)  
Rep. Moffie Funk (D)  
Rep. Edward Greef (R)  
Rep. Greg Hertz (R)  
Rep. Jean Price (D)  
Rep. Daniel R. Salomon (R)  
Rep. Nicholas Schwaderer (R)  
Rep. Susan Webber (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Kathy Kelker (D)  
Rep. G. Bruce Meyers (R)  
Rep. Matthew Monforton (R)

**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 596, 3/17/2015

Executive Action: HB 595, HB 596, HB 600, HB 610, HB 617

00:00:01 Chair Laszloffy  
00:01:16 Rep. Funk  
00:01:24 Chair Laszloffy  
00:01:34 Rep. Funk  
00:01:50 Chair Laszloffy

### HEARING ON HB 596

#### Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:24 Rep. Austin Knudsen (R), HD 34, opened the hearing on HB 596, Establish public charter schools.  
00:06:59 *Rep. Meyers entered.*

#### Proponents' Testimony:

00:10:11 Rep. Lamm  
00:11:55 Dan Nicklay, Principal, Charter Academy, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho  
00:19:33 Brent Mead, Executive Director, Montana Policy Institute (MPI)  
00:20:24 Elaine Herman, Eagle Forum  
00:23:55 Rudolph Tankink, Self

#### [EXHIBIT\(edh62a01\)](#)

00:26:42 John Quandt, Americans for Prosperity Montana (AFP-MT)  
00:27:14 Judy Tankink, Self

#### [EXHIBIT\(edh62a02\)](#)

00:30:37 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation (MFF)

#### Opponents' Testimony:

00:35:23 Jim Molloy, Education Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor  
00:38:59 Dennis Parman, Deputy Superintendent, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)  
00:47:44 Dee Hensley-Maclean, Advocacy Chair, Montana Parent-Teacher Association Board,(MTPTA)

#### [EXHIBIT\(edh62a03\)](#)

00:52:35 Peter Donovan, Executive Director, Montana Board of Public Education (BPE)

#### [EXHIBIT\(edh62a04\)](#)

00:54:54 Barbara Allen, Self  
00:56:15 Tim McWilliams, Self  
01:02:55 *Rep. Kelker entered.*  
01:03:47 Sharla Crawford, Educator, Access to Success, Helena Public School District, Self  
01:06:57 Gina Satterfield, Self

#### [EXHIBIT\(edh62a05\)](#)

01:09:08 Les Meyer, Superintendent, Fairfield Public Schools  
01:11:37 Sabrina Steketee, Self  
01:12:41 Shawn Graham, Executive Director, Teachers' Retirement System (TRS)

#### [EXHIBIT\(edh62a06\)](#)

01:13:35 Jason Butcher, Lewistown Public Schools  
01:13:51 Dianne Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition (MQEC)  
01:14:04 Marco Ferro, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers  
(MEA-MFT)  
01:14:21 Kim Abbott, Montana Human Rights Network (MHRN)  
01:14:30 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana (SAM)  
01:13:17 Melanie Symons, Legal Council, Montana Public Employees' Retirement  
Administration (MPERA)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:15:06 Rep. McClafferty  
01:15:34 Rep. Knudsen  
01:16:13 Rep. McClafferty  
01:16:42 Rep. Knudsen  
01:17:08 Rep. McClafferty  
01:17:28 Rep. Knudsen  
01:17:37 Rep. McClafferty  
01:17:55 Rep. Knudsen  
01:18:08 Rep. Kelker  
01:18:48 Rep. Knudsen  
01:18:57 Rep. Kelker  
01:19:40 Rep. Knudsen  
01:20:49 Rep. Kelker  
01:21:33 Rep. Knudsen  
01:22:40 Rep. B. Bennett  
01:23:33 Rep. Knudsen  
01:24:07 Rep. Price  
01:26:48 Rep. Knudsen  
01:27:38 Rep. Price  
01:28:17 Rep. Knudsen  
01:28:57 Rep. Price  
01:29:46 Rep. Knudsen  
01:30:56 Rep. Hertz  
01:31:31 Dan Nicklay, Charter Academy  
01:32:18 Rep. Hertz  
01:32:33 Dan Nicklay, Charter Academy  
01:35:00 Rep. Hertz  
01:35:35 Dennis Parman, OPI  
01:35:52 Rep. Hertz  
01:36:10 Sharla Crawford, Access to Success  
01:37:00 Rep. Hertz  
01:37:18 Sharla Crawford, Access to Success  
01:37:44 Rep. Essmann  
01:38:54 Rep. Knudsen  
01:39:01 Rep. Essmann  
01:39:51 Rep. Knudsen  
01:39:54 Rep. Essmann  
01:40:09 Rep. Knudsen

01:40:16 Rep. Essmann  
01:40:42 Rep. Knudsen  
01:40:48 Rep. McClafferty  
01:41:24 Dan Nicklay, Charter Academy  
01:41:33 Rep. McClafferty  
01:41:42 Dan Nicklay, Charter Academy  
01:41:50 Rep. McClafferty  
01:42:12 Dennis Parman, OPI  
01:42:39 Rep. McClafferty  
01:43:19 Dennis Parman, OPI  
01:43:52 Rep. McClafferty  
01:44:05 Dennis Parman, OPI  
01:45:40 Rep. Kelker  
01:46:37 Kirk Miller, SAM  
01:48:11 Rep. Kelker  
01:48:31 Kirk Miller, SAM  
01:49:52 Rep. Webber  
01:50:15 Kirk Miller, SAM  
01:50:42 Rep. Funk  
01:53:23 Rep. Knudsen  
01:55:50 Rep. Hertz  
01:56:48 Dennis Parman  
01:58:18 Rep. Hertz  
01:58:29 Dennis Parman  
01:59:13 Rep. Hertz  
01:59:41 Melanie Symons, MPERA  
02:02:10 Rep. Kelker  
02:02:45 Rep. Knudsen  
02:02:54 Rep. Kelker  
02:03:02 Rep. Knudsen  
02:03:08 Rep. Kelker  
02:03:36 Rep. Knudsen  
02:03:46 Rep. Lamm  
02:03:56 Rep. Kelker  
02:04:58 Rep. Lamm  
02:05:31 Rep. Kelker  
02:06:37 Rep. Lamm  
02:06:50 At Ease  
02:07:44 Rep. Knudsen

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:08:56 Rep. Knudsen  
  
02:13:25 Chair Laszloffy  
02:13:57 Rep. Funk  
02:15:38 Chair Laszloffy  
02:15:47 Rep. Funk  
02:15:55 Chair Laszloffy  
02:16:20 Recessed.  
02:33:26 Reconvened.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 595**

02:33:57 Laura Sankey, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
02:34:05 Chair Laszloffy

02:34:16 **Motion:** Rep. Lamm moved that **HB 595 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

02:34:28 **Motion:** Rep. Lamm moved that **HB 595 BE AMENDED.**  
**EXHIBIT(edh62a07)**

**Discussion:**

02:34:35 Laura Sankey, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
02:35:42 Rep. B. Bennett  
02:36:35 Rep. Kelker  
02:37:00 Rep. Essmann

02:37:32 **Vote:** Motion failed 7-8 by roll call vote with Rep. Bennett, Rep. Funk, Rep. Kelker, Rep. McClafferty, Rep. Price, Rep. Schwaderer and Rep. Webber voting aye. Rep. Monforton voted by proxy.

02:39:59 **Vote:** Motion failed 4-11 by roll call vote with Rep. Bennett, Rep. Funk, Rep. McClafferty and Rep. Schwaderer voting aye. Rep. Monforton voted by proxy.

02:40:12 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Essmann moved that **HB 595 BE TABLED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Monforton voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 596**

02:40:44 **Motion:** Rep. Lamm moved that **HB 596 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

02:40:59 Rep. McClafferty  
02:41:30 Rep. Price

**EXHIBIT(edh62a08)**

02:42:33 Rep. Kelker  
02:43:41 Rep. Schwaderer  
02:46:10 Rep. Meyers  
02:47:19 Rep. Essmann  
02:47:36 *Rep. Price exited.*

02:49:57 Rep. Funk  
02:50:25 Chair Laszloffy

02:50:31 **Vote:** Motion carried 9-6 by roll call vote with Rep. Bennett, Rep. Funk, Rep. Kelker, Rep. McClafferty, Rep. Price and Rep. Webber voting no. Rep. Monforton and Rep. Price voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 600**

02:51:25 **Motion:** Rep. Lamm moved that **HB 600 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

02:51:37 Laura Sankey, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

02:51:52 Rep. Hertz

02:52:23 Rep. McClafferty

02:52:44 Rep. Funk

02:53:58 **Vote:** Motion failed 7-8 by roll call vote with Rep. Bennett, Rep. Funk, Rep. Kelker, Rep. McClafferty, Rep. Price, Rep. Schwaderer and Rep. Webber voting aye. Rep. Monforton and Rep. Price voted by proxy.

02:54:58 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Lamm moved that **HB 600 BE TABLED.** Motion carried 14-0 by voice vote. Rep. Monforton voted by proxy. Rep. Price was excused.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 610**

02:55:28 **Motion:** Rep. Lamm moved that **HB 610 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

02:55:33 Laura Sankey, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

02:55:51 Rep. McClafferty

02:56:22 **Motion:** Rep. Lamm moved that **HB 610 BE AMENDED.**

**EXHIBIT**([edh62a09](#))

**Discussion:**

02:56:34 Laura Sankey, LSD

02:58:17 Rep. McClafferty

02:58:35 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Monforton and Rep. Price voted by proxy.

02:58:44 **Motion:** Rep. Lamm moved that **HB 610 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

02:58:54 Rep. Salomon

02:59:38 Rep. Schwaderer

03:00:53 Rep. Kelker

03:01:47 Rep. Hertz

03:03:23 Rep. Essmann

03:05:24 **Vote:** Motion carried 8-7 by roll call vote with Rep. Essmann, Rep. Greef, Rep. Hertz, Rep. Lamm, Rep. Laszloffy, Rep. Meyers and Rep. Monforton voting no. Rep. Monforton and Rep. Price voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 617**

03:06:48     **Motion:** Rep. Lamm moved that **HB 617 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

03:06:53     Laura Sankey, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

03:07:08     **Motion:** Rep. Lamm moved that **HB 617 BE AMENDED.**

**EXHIBIT(edh62a10)**

**Discussion:**

03:07:16     Laura Sankey, LSD

03:08:14     **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Monforton and Rep. Price voted by proxy.

03:08:46     Rep. Funk

03:09:30     Rep. B. Bennett

03:10:25     Rep. Salomon

03:10:56     Rep. Hertz

03:11:35     **Vote:** Motion carried 11-4 by roll call vote with Rep. Hertz, Rep. Lamm, Rep. Laszloffy and Rep. Monforton voting no. Rep. Monforton and Rep. Price voted by proxy.

03:12:26     Chair Laszloffy

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 03:13:02

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Nadia Zylawy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([edh62aad.pdf](#))