

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Taylor Brown, on January 21, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 422
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Taylor Brown, Chair (R)
Sen. Mark Blasdel, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Elsie Arntzen (R)
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)
Sen. Tom Facey (D) (arrived after roll call)
Sen. Kris Hansen (R)
Sen. Llew Jones (R)
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)
Sen. Mary Sheehy Moe (D)
Sen. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Angie Koehler, Committee Secretary
Padraic McCracken, 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 & Date Posted: SB 12, 1/7/2015; SB 14, 1/7/2015

HEARING ON SB 14

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:52 Sen. Robyn Driscoll (D), SD 25, opened the hearing on SB 14, Raise the legal dropout age to 18 years old or upon graduation.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:43 Denise Juneau, state superintendent, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

[EXHIBIT\(eds13a01\)](#)

00:10:25 Shannon O'Brien, education policy advisor, Governor's Office

00:11:12 Kevin McRae, deputy commissioner of higher education, Montana University System (MUS)

00:13:18 Candy Lubansky, superintendent, Belgrade Public Schools

00:15:52 Hailey Duffin, student, University of Montana and Custer County District High School

[EXHIBIT\(eds13a02\)](#)

00:18:03 Joe Sullivan, attorney, Great Falls

00:20:46 Taylor Canright, senior, Helena High School

00:21:50 Rod Bullis, parent, Helena

00:23:24 Jan Cahill, Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce

00:24:21 Loren Rider, student, Browning Public Schools

00:25:02 Travis Tailfeathers, student, Browning Public Schools

00:25:47 Lori Dust, assistant principal, Hardin High School

00:27:32 John Rouse, superintendent, Browning Public Schools

00:29:29 Rob Hankins, principal, Hardin High School

00:30:44 Kathy Heisler, superintendent, Lincoln K-12 Schools

[EXHIBIT\(eds13a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(eds13a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(eds13a05\)](#)

00:32:21 Trevor Laboski, executive regional director, Missoula County Schools; former principal and teacher

00:34:01 Marco Ferro, director of public policy, Montana Education Association (MEA-MFT)

00:34:41 Diana Tavary, advocate for children with disabilities

00:35:56 Ronda Wiggers, Helena Area Chamber of Commerce

00:36:52 Kelly Cresswell, vice president of foundation activities, Student Assistance Foundation

00:37:15 Sen. Facey entered the hearing.

00:37:24 Jodie Barber, director, Linderman Education Center, Kalispell Public Schools

[EXHIBIT\(eds13a06\)](#)

00:38:29 Tom Moore, assistant superintendent, Great Falls Public Schools

00:39:38 Matthew Johnson, alternative education program administrator, Browning Public Schools

00:41:10 Shane Morigeau, lobbyist, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
[EXHIBIT\(eds13a07\)](#)

00:42:15 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana
00:45:12 Melissa Snow, lobbyist, Western Native Voice
00:45:37 Steve Meloy, Montana School Board Association

Opponents' Testimony:

00:46:21 Steve White, representative, Montana Coalition of Home Educators
00:55:49 Ty Belcourt, Willard Alternative School (WAS)
00:58:00 Blaine Lawrence, student, Big Sky High School and WAS
00:59:38 Ty Belcourt, WAS

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:00:57 Sen. Cohenour
01:01:28 Sen. Hansen left the hearing.
01:01:43 Ms. Juneau, OPI

Closing by Sponsor:

01:02:12 Sen. Driscoll
[EXHIBIT\(eds13a08\)](#)

HEARING ON SB 12

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:04:23 Sen. Mary Sheehy Moe (D), SD 12, opened the hearing on SB 12, Provide ANB funding for 19 year olds.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:06:35 Denise Juneau, state superintendent, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
[EXHIBIT\(eds13a09\)](#)

01:08:20 Shannon O'Brien, education policy advisor, Governor's Office
01:08:59 Drew Uecker, principal, Paris Gibson Education Center, Great Falls Public Schools (GFPS); supervisor, Great Falls Adult Education Center
[EXHIBIT\(eds13a10\)](#)

01:11:06 William Bailey, graduate, Paris Gibson Education Center
01:12:59 Andrew Altringer, student, GFPS
01:14:37 Mike Holland, vice president and financial advisor, D.A. Davidson Companies
[EXHIBIT\(eds13a11\)](#)

01:16:23 Judy Povilaitis, education executive director, Billings Public Schools

01:19:47 Matthew Johnson, principal of alternative programs, Browning Public Schools
01:21:36 Loren Rider, student, Browning Public Schools
01:22:38 Travis Tailfeathers, student, Browning Public Schools
01:23:59 John Rouse, superintendent, Browning Public Schools
01:25:12 Joe Sullivan, attorney, Great Falls
01:27:29 Jan Cahill, Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce; chairman of board of trustees, GFPS
01:29:39 Jodie Barber, director, Linderman Education Center

EXHIBIT(eds13a12)

01:31:54 Taylor Canright
01:32:52 Hailey Duffin, student, University of Montana

EXHIBIT(eds13a13)

01:34:13 Aidan Myhre, IBM and AT&T

EXHIBIT(eds13a14)

01:36:30 Shane Morigeau, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

EXHIBIT(eds13a15)

01:36:58 Kathy Heisler, superintendent, Lincoln K-12 Schools (see exhibits 4 and 5)
01:38:30 Tamra Covington, special education coordinator, Billings Public Schools (BPS)
01:39:45 Ronda Wiggers, Helena Area Chamber of Commerce
01:41:28 Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT
01:41:57 Melissa Snow, Western Native Voice
01:42:23 Kelly Cresswell, Student Assistance Foundation
01:42:57 Cami Lesh, student, Willard Alternative School
01:46:16 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana

Opponents' Testimony:

01:48:49 Dave Puyear, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:55:24 Chairman Brown
01:56:07 Ms. Juneau, OPI
01:56:52 Chairman Brown
01:57:34 Madalyn Quinlan, chief of staff, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
01:58:10 Chairman Brown
01:58:16 Ms. Quinlan, OPI
01:58:49 Chairman Brown
01:59:12 Ms. Covington, BPS
02:00:05 Chairman Brown
02:00:10 Ms. Covington

Chairman Brown turned Chair responsibilities over to Vice Chair Mark Blasdel

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02:00:38 Sen. Facey
02:00:57 Ms. Covington
02:01:21 Sen. Facey
02:01:30 Ms. Covington
02:01:36 Sen. Facey
02:01:47 Mr. Puyear, MREA
02:02:04 Sen. Facey
02:02:42 Mr. Puyear
02:02:47 Sen. Facey
02:02:51 Mr. Puyear
02:03:16 Sen. Facey
02:03:22 Mr. Puyear
02:03:29 Sen. Facey
02:03:40 Mr. Puyear
02:03:46 Sen. Facey
02:04:09 Sen. Cohenour
02:04:51 Mr. Puyear
02:05:21 Sen. Cohenour
02:06:38 Mr. Puyear
02:07:22 Sen. Cohenour
02:07:51 Mr. Puyear
02:08:09 Sen. Keenan
02:09:38 Ms. Juneau
02:09:58 Sen. Blasdel
02:10:25 Mr. Puyear
02:10:35 Sen. Blasdel
02:10:38 Mr. Puyear

Closing by Sponsor:

02:10:56 Sen. Moe

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:12 PM

Angie Koehler, Secretary

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Additional Information:

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([eds13aad.pdf](#))