

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Taylor Brown, on March 6, 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. Tom Facey (D)
Sen. Kris Hansen (R)
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)
Sen. Mary Sheehy Moe (D)
Sen. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Jill Cohenour (D), Sen. Llew Jones (R)

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: HB 373, 2/24/2015; SR 19, 2/25/2015; SR 20, 2/25/2015; SR 21, 2/25/2015; SR 24, 2/25/2015

Executive Action:

SR 19 Be Adopted
SR 20 Be Adopted
SR 21 Be Adopted
SR 24 Be Adopted

00:01:26 Chairman Brown turned chair responsibilities over to Vice Chair Blasdel.

HEARING ON SR 19

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:41 Sen. Taylor Brown (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SR 19, Confirm Governor appointments related to education.

[EXHIBIT\(eds47a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:37 Mary Jo Bremner, appointee, teacher, Browning

00:05:37 Peter Donovan, Board of Public Education

00:06:05 Sen. Brown

00:06:16 Vice Chair Blasdel

00:06:23 Denise King, centralized services division administrator, Montana Historical Society

00:07:03 Vice Chair Blasdel

00:07:08 Fran Albrecht, appointee, Board of Regents, Montana University System; executive director, Providence Montana Health Foundation; previous executive director, Watson Children's Shelter; adjunct professor for advanced non-profit administration, University of Montana

00:08:34 Bill Johnstone, appointee, Bozeman; executive chair, D. A. Davidson and Company, Great Falls; foundation chairman, Montana State University; adjunct professor, University of Montana Law School

00:10:14 Mariah Williams, appointee, student, University of Montana

00:11:10 Martha Sheehy, appointee, attorney, Billings

00:12:04 Clayton Christian, commissioner of higher education, Montana University System

00:12:38 Mike Hopkins, representative, Montana Associated Students

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:13:46 Sen. Facey

00:14:13 Mr. Christian

Closing by Sponsor:

00:14:28 Sen. Brown

HEARING ON SR 20

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:15:39 Sen. Taylor Brown (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SR 20, Confirm Governor's appointee to board of public education.

[EXHIBIT\(eds47a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:16:16 Darlene Schottle, appointee, previous teacher, principal and superintendent, Kalispell Public Schools; consultant, Flathead Valley Community College and School Administrators of Montana
00:17:06 Peter Donovan, Board of Public Education
00:17:30 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:18:40 Sen. T. Brown

HEARING ON SR 21

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:19:12 Sen. Taylor Brown (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SR 21, Confirm Governor's appointments to the Montana arts council.

[EXHIBIT\(eds47a03\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:20:15 Sen. T. Brown

HEARING ON SR 24

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:21:04 Sen. Taylor Brown (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SR 24, Confirm Governor's appointee to Montana Historical Society Board of Trustees.

[EXHIBIT\(eds47a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:21:56 Denise King, Montana Historical Society

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:22:37 Sen. T. Brown

00:23:05 Chairman Brown resumed chair responsibilities.

Committee Business:

00:23:32 Sen. Arntzen

00:23:46 Chair Brown

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 19

00:23:59 **Motion:** Sen. Blasdel moved that **SR 19 BE ADOPTED.**

Discussion:

00:24:27 Chairman Brown

00:24:36 Sen. Arntzen

00:24:51 Chair Brown

00:25:21 Sen. Moe

00:25:34 Chairman Brown

00:25:56 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote. Sen. Moe, Sen. Cohenour and Sen. Jones were excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 20

00:26:14 **Motion:** Sen. Blasdel moved that **SR 20 BE ADOPTED.**

Discussion:

00:26:20 Chair Brown

00:26:34 Sen. Moe

00:26:58 **Vote:** Motion carried 8-0 by voice vote. Sen. Cohenour and Sen. Jones were excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 21

00:27:08 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Blasdel moved that **SR 21 BE ADOPTED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Cohenour and Sen. Jones were excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 24

00:27:50 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Blasdel moved that **SR 24 BE ADOPTED**. Motion carried 8-0 by voice vote. Sen. Cohenour and Sen. Jones were excused.

00:28:33 Recess

00:30:43 Reconvene

HEARING ON HB 373

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:31:12 Rep. Scott Staffanson (R), HD 35, opened the hearing on HB 373, Revise school bonding limit laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:33:30 Mike Waterman, director of business services, Bozeman School District (BSD)

00:36:39 Bob Vogel, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)

00:40:27 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana

EXHIBIT(eds47a05)

00:44:48 Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT

00:45:29 Denise Williams, Montana Associate of School Business Officials

00:46:15 Sen. Cohenour entered the hearing.

00:47:35 Diane Burke, executive director, Montana Quality Education Coalition

00:48:24 Ken Morrison, representative, Northeastern Montana rural schools

00:49:07 E. J. Redding, superintendent, Bainville Public Schools

Opponents' Testimony:

00:49:42 Bob Storey, Montana Taxpayers Association (MonTax)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:54:26 Sen. Hansen

00:54:44 Mr. Waterman, BSD

EXHIBIT(eds47a06)

00:54:55 Sen. Hansen

00:55:00 Mr. Waterman

00:55:59 Sen. Hansen

00:56:07 Mr. Waterman

00:56:46 Sen. Cohenour

00:57:37 Mr. Storey, MonTax

00:58:35 Sen. Hansen

00:58:50 Mr. Vogel, MTSBA
01:01:41 Sen. Hansen
01:01:53 Padraic McCracken, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
01:03:13 Sen. Hansen
01:03:56 Mr. Storey
01:05:12 Sen. Facey
01:05:52 Chairman Brown

Closing by Sponsor:

01:06:13 Rep. Staffanson

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:11 P.M.

Angie Koehler, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([eds47aad.pdf](#))