

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Call to Order: Chair Seth Berglee, on January 16, 2019 at 3:00 PM, in Room 137
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Seth Berglee, Chair (R)
Rep. Moffie Funk, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Sue Vinton, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Fred Anderson (R)
Rep. Jacob Bachmeier (D)
Rep. Becky Beard (R)
Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Greg DeVries (R)
Rep. John Fuller (R)
Rep. Bruce Grubbs (R)
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)
Rep. Wendy McKamey (R)
Rep. Shane A. Morigeau (D)
Rep. Tyson T. Runningwolf (D)
Rep. Casey Schreiner (D)
Rep. Brad Tschida (R)

Members Excused:

Rep. Greg Hertz (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jessica Riffel, Committee Clerk
Laura Sankey Keip, 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 127, 1/10/2019; HB 159, 1/10/2019; HB 191, 1/10/2019

HEARING ON HB 127**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:01:37 Rep. Geraldine Custer (R), HD 39, opened the hearing on HB 127, Generally revise laws related to state payments to schools.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:06:45 Dennis Parman, Executive Director, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)

Opponents' Testimony: None**Informational Testimony:**

15:09:06 Kara Flath, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

15:09:27 Rep. G. Hertz entered the meeting

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:09:36 Vice Chair Vinton

15:10:14 Dennis Parman, MREA

15:12:14 Vice Chair Vinton

15:12:24 Dennis Parman, MREA

Closing by Sponsor:

15:13:00 Rep. Custer

HEARING ON HB 191**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:14:30 Rep. Bruce Grubbs (R), HD 68, opened the hearing on HB 191, Provide for K-12 synchronous distance learning payment.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:19:32 Greg Upham, Superintendent, Billings Public Schools

15:23:31 Steve Meloy, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)

15:27:20 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Association for Gifted and Talented Education (AGATE)

15:28:26 Brandon Newpher, Billings Public Schools

Opponents' Testimony:

15:30:36 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association (MTA)

15:31:54 Dennis Parman, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)

15:37:48 Eric Feaver, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

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

15:39:52 Rep. Keogh

15:40:52 Greg Upham, Billings Public Schools

15:42:28 Rep. McKamey

15:42:54 Eric Feaver, MFPE

15:43:59 Rep. Bishop
15:45:20 Rep. Grubbs
15:46:01 Chair Berglee
15:46:47 Greg Upham, Billings Public Schools

Closing by Sponsor:

15:48:20 Rep. Grubbs

HEARING ON HB 159

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:50:56 Rep. Bruce Grubbs (R), HD 68, opened the hearing on HB 159, Generally revise education funding laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:53:50 Eric Feaver, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

[EXHIBIT\(edh08a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(edh08a02\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:57:54 Kara Flath, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

15:58:34 Rep. Grubbs

15:59:13 Chair Berglee

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 15:59:30

Jessica Riffel, Clerk

jr

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([edh08aad.pdf](#))