

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

**Call to Order:** Chair Daniel R. Salomon, on February 22, 2019 at 3:16 PM, in Room 422 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Daniel R. Salomon, Chair (R)  
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Keith Regier, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Mark Blasdel (R)  
Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)  
Sen. Carlie Boland (D)  
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)  
Sen. Susan Webber (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Charlene Devine, 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 292, 2/20/2019; SB 297, 2/20/2019; SB 298, 2/20/2019

Executive Action: SB 146, Be Tabled (No hearing at sponsor's request)

15:15:51 Chair Salomon

**HEARING ON SB 297**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:17:06 Sen. Dee Brown (R), SD 2, opened the hearing on SB 297, Generally revise laws related to school elections involving property taxes.

15:19:14 Sen. Regier entered the hearing.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:20:25 Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)

15:27:14 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana

15:34:22 Denise Williams, Montana Association of School Business Officials

15:38:27 Daniel Farr, North East Rural Schools

15:42:18 Lauren Caldwell, Montana Federation of Public Employees

**Informational Testimony:**

15:44:29 Nicole Thuotte, Office of Public Instruction

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:46:05 Sen. McClafferty

15:46:45 Sen. Brown

15:48:54 Sen. McClafferty

15:49:16 Mr. Melton, MTSBA

15:49:49 Chair Salomon

15:50:36 Sen. Brown

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:51:31 Sen. Brown

15:52:47 Chair Salomon

**HEARING ON SB 298**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:53:08 Sen. Dee Brown (R), SD 2, opened the hearing on SB 298, Referendum to revise laws related to school elections involving property taxes.

15:53:12 Sen. Blasdel entered the hearing.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:53:56 Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association

15:54:16 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana

15:54:32 Denise Williams, Montana Association of School Business Officials

15:55:23 Daniel Farr, North East Rural Schools

15:55:41 Lauren Caldwell, Montana Federation of Public Employees

**Informational Testimony:**

15:55:49 Nicole Thoutte, Office of Public Instruction

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

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:56:33 Sen. Brown

15:57:17 Chair Salomon

**HEARING ON SB 292**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:57:35 Sen. Roger Webb (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 292, Revise laws related to financial administration of school districts.

15:58:49 Padraic McCracken, Legislative Services Division

15:59:11 Chair Salomon

15:59:14 Sen. Webb

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:59:33 Kara Flath, Office of Public Instruction

16:00:11 Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)

16:01:46 Denise Williams, Montana Association of School Business Officials

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

16:02:26 Sen. Boland

16:05:38 Mr. Melton, MTSBA

16:06:26 Chair Salomon

16:08:02 Mr. Melton

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:09:15 Sen. Webb

16:09:54 Chair Salomon

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 146**

16:10:50 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. K. Regier moved that **SB 146 BE TABLED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXHIBIT(eds38a01)**

16:10:53 Chair Salomon

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:12 PM

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Charlene Devine, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([eds38aad.pdf](#))