

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Vice Chair Regier, on March 18, 2019 at 3:00 PM, in Room 303 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: HB 298, 3/12/2019; HB 351, 3/15/2019; HB 387, 3/15/2019

15:01:57 Chair Regier

HEARING ON HB 298

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:03:10 Rep. Christopher Pope (D), HD 65, opened the hearing on HB 298, Revise funding for students with disabilities.

EXHIBIT(eds55a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:08:51 Sen. Sue Vinton, HD 56

15:10:27 Alyson Ball, Bozeman Area Special Education Parent Teacher Association

15:12:07 Christy Sofianek, Montana State University Life Scholars and Peer Partners (MSU Life Scholars)

EXHIBIT(eds55a02)

15:18:44 Walker Asserson, self, Dream Down Syndrome Research Education Advocacy

EXHIBIT(eds55a03)

15:21:23 Sen. Salomon entered the hearing.

15:21:58 Shyla Pateria, National Coalition of Independent Scholars

15:24:56 Mark Sanders, self

15:25:46 Mike Merchant, Kalispell Public Schools

15:28:33 Marni Rolston, self

15:31:07 Ida Hughesbe, self

15:31:32 Dr. Julie Lane-Tudor, ADSE, LLC

15:36:05 Jean Branscum, Montana Medical Association

EXHIBIT(eds55a04)

15:37:48 Abigail St. Lawrence, Association of Gifted and Talented Education, Montana Speech-Language-Hearing Association

EXHIBIT(eds55a05)

15:38:46 Barb Fitzpatrick, Circle of Parents

15:43:30 Heather Stenson, Circle of Parents

15:48:09 Lindsey Gordon, self

15:54:22 June Hermanson, Montana Association of Rehabilitation

15:56:28 Marco Ferro, Montana Federation of Public Employees

15:56:51 Jackie Jones, Montana Association of Community Disability Service Providers

15:58:53 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

16:01:21 Frank Podobnik, Office of Public Instruction

16:01:43 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:02:12 Sen. McClafferty
 16:02:57 Ms. Sofianek, MSU Life Scholars
 16:03:32 Sen. Webber
 16:04:39 Rep. Pope
 16:05:27 Chair Regier
 16:08:18 Rep. Pope
 16:09:48 Chair Regier
 16:12:04 Mr. Taylor, OPI

Closing by Sponsor:

16:12:18 Rep. Pope

 16:18:02 Chair Regier

 16:18:10 Sen. Salomon assumed the role of the Chair.

 16:19:32 Brief Recess
 16:22:19 Reconvened

 16:22:30 Chair Salomon

HEARING ON HB 351

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:22:51 Rep. Wendy McKamey (R), HD 19, opened the hearing on HB 351, Encourage transformational learning.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:35:38 Abigail St. Lawrence, Association of Gifted and Talented Education
 16:36:56 Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)
 16:41:53 Mike Merchant, Kalispell Public Schools
 16:45:09 Peter Donovan, Board of Public Education
 16:46:08 Gary Lusin, Bozeman Public Schools
 16:48:32 Cal Ketchum, School Administrators of Montana
 16:51:44 Marco Ferro, Montana Federation of Public Employees
 16:53:32 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce
 16:54:56 Joe Steele, St. Regis School District
 16:59:11 Sharon Anderson, trustee, Dillon Elementary District #10
 17:03:17 Dianne Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition
 17:05:03 Barb Riley, Columbia Falls Schools
 17:07:49 Scott Kinney, Superior Public Schools
 17:09:14 Tammy Lacey, Great Falls Public Schools
 17:10:06 Jan Cahill, Great Falls Public Schools, Vaughn Public Schools

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

17:11:12 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:11:38 Sen. McClafferty
 17:13:07 Mr. Steele, St. Regis
 17:13:25 Chair Salomon
 17:19:11 Mr. Melton, MTSBA
 17:19:55 Sen. Regier
 17:22:15 Mr. Melton
 17:22:47 Sen. Regier
 17:23:31 Mr. Steele
 17:23:39 Sen. Regier
 17:23:45 Rep. McKamey
 17:24:39 Mr. Melton

Closing by Sponsor:

17:27:00 Rep. McKamey
 17:29:23 Chair Salomon

HEARING ON HB 387

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

17:29:38 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 18, opened the hearing on HB 387, Create advanced opportunity act for Montana students.

Proponents' Testimony:

17:35:35 Sharon Anderson, Dillon Elementary District #10
 17:37:33 Mike Merchant, Kalispell Public Schools
 17:39:12 Mike Perry, School Administrators of Montana, (SAM); Hot Springs Public Schools
 17:41:51 Bridger Mahlum. Montana Chamber of Commerce

EXHIBIT(eds55a06)

17:43:57 Marco Ferro, Montana Federation of Public Employees
 17:44:26 Thom Peck, Lewistown Public Schools
 17:50:03 Peter Donovan, Board of Public Education
 17:51:26 Luke Muszkiewicz, Helena Public Schools
 17:53:54 Betsy Kohnstamm, Whitefish School Board
 17:54:52 Les Meyer, Fairfield Public Schools
 17:56:24 Brenna Love, Associated Students of the University of Montana
 17:57:46 Mike Leo, Billings Public Schools
 18:02:09 Tammy Lacey, Great Falls Public Schools
 18:04:04 Joe Steele, St. Regis School District
 18:04:29 Scott Kinney, Superior Public Schools
 18:05:52 Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

18:06:16 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

18:06:49 Chair Salomon
18:06:57 Rep. Jones
18:09:01 Sen. Regier
18:09:54 Rep. Jones
18:10:04 Sen. Regier
18:10:08 Mr. Melton, MTSBA
18:12:25 Sen. Regier
18:12:42 Rep. Jones
18:15:07 Sen. Tempel
18:15:34 Mr. Perry, SAM
18:15:39 Sen. Tempel
18:15:45 Mr. Perry
18:16:01 Mr. Peck, Lewistown
18:16:06 Sen. Tempel
18:16:10 Mr. Peck

Closing by Sponsor:

18:16:55 Rep. Jones

18:23:53 Chair Salomon

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 6:25 PM

Charlene Devine, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([eds55aad.pdf](#))