

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Call to Order: Chair Seth Berglee, on January 11, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 137
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Seth Berglee, Chair (R)
Rep. Fred Anderson, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Moffie Funk, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Becky Beard (R)
Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R)
Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)
Rep. Brandon Ler (R)
Rep. Wendy McKamey (R)
Rep. Sara Novak (D)
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)
Rep. Mark Thane (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)
Rep. Tyson T. Running Wolf (D)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Joanne Kauzlarich, Committee Secretary
Laura Sankey Keip, Legislative Branch
Ashley Duncan, Remote Meeting Coordinator

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 25, 1/7/2021; HB 26, 1/7/2021; HB 27, 1/7/2021

15:01:48 Chair Berglee
15:01:60 Rep. Mitchell joined the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 27

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:03:17 Rep. Moffie Funk (D), HD 82, opened the hearing on HB 27, Authorize school districts to create "handle with care" programs.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:05:01 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Speech-Language-Hearing Association (MSHA);
Montana Association for Gifted and Talented Education (AGATE)
15:05:52 Matt Kuntz, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
15:07:32 Jule Walker, Montana School Board Association (MSBA)
15:08:37 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana (SAM)
15:10:08 Dennis Parman, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)
15:10:57 Daniel Farr, self
15:12:20 James Reavis, self

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:15:20 Rep. Beard
15:15:28 Rep. Funk
15:19:45 Rep. Kerns
15:19:48 Rep. Funk
15:20:25 Rep. Seekins-Crowe
15:21:08 Rep. Funk
15:22:18 Rep. Seekins-Crowe
15:22:57 Rep. Funk
15:23:50 Chair Berglee
15:24:18 Rep. Bishop
15:24:44 Rep. Funk
15:24:51 Rep. Bishop
15:25:18 Rep. Funk
15:25:42 Chair Berglee

Proponents' Testimony:

15:25:58 Rebecca Hargis, Elevate Montana

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:28:19 Rep. Kerns

EXHIBIT(edh06a01)

15:29:12 Rep. Funk
15:29:55 Rep. Mitchell
15:30:07 Rep. Funk
15:30:26 Rep. Reksten

15:30:51 Rep. Funk
15:31:40 Rep. Reksten
15:31:55 Rep. Funk
15:32:09 Rep. Kerns
15:32:34 Rep. Funk
15:33:09 Chair Berglee
15:33:39 Rep. Funk
15:34:49 Chair Berglee
15:35:48 Rep. Funk
15:36:31 Rep. McKamey
15:37:33 Rep. Funk
15:38:12 Rep. McKamey
15:38:54 Rep. Funk

Closing by Sponsor:

15:39:34 Rep. Moffie Funk

HEARING ON HB 26

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:40:29 Rep. Moffie Funk (D), HD 82, opened the hearing on HB 26, Clarify the definition of pupil.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:42:47 Dianne Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition (MQEC)
15:44:01 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana (SAM)
15:45:48 Jule Walker, Montana School Board Association (MSBA)
15:46:59 Dennis Parman, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:48:28 Ken Bailey, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:48:56 Rep. Kerns
15:49:02 Chair Berglee
15:49:21 Rep. Funk
15:50:18 Rep. Kerns
15:50:49 Rep. Funk
15:51:40 Rep. Reksten
15:52:08 Rep. Funk
15:53:11 Chair Berglee
15:53:24 Ken Baily, OPI

Closing by Sponsor:

15:53:54 Rep. Funk

15:54:17 Rep. Beard left the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 25**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:54:25 Rep. Moffie Funk (D), HD 82, opened the hearing on HB 25, Clarify funding for education of children in residential treatment.

15:55:44 Rep. Vinton joined the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:56:31 State Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

15:58:07 Jim Fitzgerald, Intermountain Children's Home

16:02:28 Dianne Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition (MQEC)

16:05:06 Matt Kuntz, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

16:06:46 Mike Chavers, Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch

16:08:52 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana (SAM)

16:10:44 Ken Bailey, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

16:13:20 Jule Walker, Montana School Board Association (MSBA)

16:14:40 Craig Aasved, Shodair Children's Hospital

16:15:40 Dennis Parman, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:16:49 Rep. Vinton

16:17:47 Mike Chavers, Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch

16:18:28 Rep. Vinton

16:18:55 Mike Chavers, Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch

16:18:59 Rep. Novak

16:19:14 Chair Berglee

16:19:21 Rep. Novak

16:20:19 Rep. Funk

16:20:54 Rep. Novak

Closing by Sponsor:

16:21:08 Rep. Funk

16:22:06 Chair Berglee

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment:16:22:25

Joanne Kauzlarich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([edh06aad.pdf](#))