

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Call to Order: Chair Seth Berglee, on January 27, 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. Donavon Hawk (D)
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)
Rep. Brandon Ler (R)
Rep. Wendy McKamey (R)
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)
Rep. Sara Novak (D)
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)
Rep. Tyson T. Running Wolf (D)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)
Rep. Mark Thane (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R)
Rep. Laurie Bishop (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 166, 1/22/2021; HB 181, 1/22/2021; HB 219, 1/22/2021
Executive Action: HB 15; HB 16; HB 27; HB 69; HB 143

HEARING ON HB 219**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:02:06 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D), HD 32, opened the hearing on HB 219, Create computer coding student employment pilot program.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:05:28 Matt Kuntz, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
15:09:05 Beth Breneman, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:10:17 Rep. Beard
15:10:41 Rep. Windy Boy
15:11:24 Rep. Kerns
15:12:28 Rep. Windy Boy
15:13:33 Rep. Reksten
15:14:17 Rep. Windy Boy
15:14:26 Matt Kuntz, NAMI
15:15:49 Rep. Reksten
15:15:57 Matt Kuntz, NAMI
15:16:33 Rep. Hawk
15:17:02 Matt Kuntz, NAMI
15:17:43 Chair Berglee
15:18:14 Matt Kuntz, NAMI
15:19:28 Chair Berglee
15:19:58 Matt Kuntz, NAMI
15:21:21 Rep. Reksten
15:22:06 Matt Kuntz, NAMI
15:23:03 Chair Berglee
15:23:20 Rep. Windy Boy

Closing by Sponsor:

15:24:36 Rep. Windy Boy

15:25:10 Rep. Bertoglio joined the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 166**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:26:07 Rep. Dave Fern (D), HD 5, opened the hearing on HB 166, Expanding the transformational learning program to include magnet schools.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:31:18 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
15:33:06 Dennis Parman, Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:35:26 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

15:36:04 Rep. Fern

HEARING ON HB 181

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:37:04 Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB 181, Reauthorizing the e-rate broadband program.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:38:50 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

15:40:11 Geoff Feiss, Montana Telecommunication Association (MTA); Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC)

15:43:22 Dennis Parman, Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:49:22 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:49:45 Rep. Reksten

15:50:46 Rep. Zolnikov

15:51:04 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, OPI

15:52:12 Rep. Thane

15:52:46 Geoff Feiss, MTA, USAC

Closing by Sponsor:

15:54:25 Rep. Zolnikov

15:54:38 Chair Berglee

15:54:55 Recessed

16:02:25 Reconvened with Rep. Bishop and Rep. Vinton present.

16:02:39 **Motion:** Rep. Anderson moved that **HB 15 BE REMOVED FROM TABLE AND RECONSIDER PREVIOUS ACTIONS.**

Discussion:

16:02:49 Chair Berglee

16:03:13 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 15

16:03:40 **Motion:** Rep. Anderson moved that **HB 15 DO PASS AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED.**

Discussion:

16:03:49 Rep. Funk

16:04:15 **Vote:** Motion carried 15-2 by voice vote with Rep. Kerns and Rep. Ler voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 16

16:05:02 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Anderson moved that **HB 16 BE TABLED.** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 27

16:06:37 **Motion:** Rep. Anderson moved that **HB 27 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:06:50 Rep. Kerns

16:07:08 Chair Berglee

16:07:38 Rep. Funk

16:08:26 Rep. Bishop

16:09:03 Rep. Kerns

16:09:26 **Vote:** Motion carried 9-8 by roll call vote with Rep. Anderson, Rep. Beard, Rep. Berglee, Rep. Kerns, Rep. Ler, Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Seekins-Crowe and Rep. Vinton voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 69

16:11:19 **Motion:** Rep. Anderson moved that **HB 69 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:11:32 Chair Berglee

16:11:56 Rep. Funk

16:13:06 Rep. McKamey

16:13:45 Chair Berglee

16:15:41 Rep. McKamey

16:18:18 Rep. Kerns

16:19:09 Rep. Thane

16:19:46 Rep. Beard

16:21:20 **Vote:** Motion failed 8-9 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Funk, Rep. Hawk, Rep. McKamey, Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Novak, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Thane voting aye.

16:22:46 Without objection Rep. Anderson moved to **TABLE HB 69.**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 143

16:23:04 **Motion:** Rep. Anderson moved that **HB 143 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:23:29 Rep. Beard

16:24:14 Chair Berglee

16:25:08 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Committee Business:

16:25:25 Chair Berglee

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:26:05

Joanne Kauzlarich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([edh18aad.pdf](#))