

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Call to Order: Chair Seth Berglee, on February 1, 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. Becky Beard (R)
Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R)
Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)
Rep. Brandon Ler (R)
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)
Rep. Sara Novak (D)
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)
Rep. Tyson T. Running Wolf (D)
Rep. Mark Thane (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Moffie Funk, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Wendy McKamey (R)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)
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 192, 1/27/2021; HB 227, 1/27/2021; HB 233, 1/27/2021

HEARING ON HB 233**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

- 15:01:59 Rep. Fred Anderson (R), HD 20, opened the hearing on HB 233, Revise funding for students with disabilities.
- 15:02:40 Rep. Seekins-Crowe joined the meeting.
- 15:03:15 Rep. McKamey joined the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

- 15:05:36 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)

EXHIBIT(edh21a01)

- 15:09:20 Joel Peden, Montana Association for Centers of Independent Living (MTCIL)
- 15:11:39 Chair Berglee
- 15:11:48 Joel Peden, MTCIL
- 15:12:34 Chair Berglee
- 15:12:50 Shyla Patera, North Central Independent Living Services, Inc. (NCILS)
- 15:15:37 Chris Pope, self
- 15:18:35 Walker Asserson, self

EXHIBIT(edh21a02)

- 15:20:59 Kristin Taylor, Inclusive Community Solutions
- 15:22:51 Angela Wathan, self
- 15:26:31 Kat Patterson, Bozeman Area Special Education Patent Teacher Association (Bozeman Area SEPTA); Inclusive Community Solutions
- 15:30:38 Jed Huseby, self
- 15:33:49 Christy Sofianek, self
- 15:37:00 Sierra Parsons, self
- 15:39:17 Kiera Kirschner, self

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

- 15:41:05 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

- 15:41:30 Rep. Beard
- 15:42:57 Beth Brenneman, DRM
- 15:43:53 Rep. Beard
- 15:44:07 Rep. Kerns
- 15:46:13 Beth Brenneman, DRM
- 15:47:36 Rep. Kerns
- 15:48:35 Beth Brenneman, DRM
- 15:49:40 Rep. Hawk
- 15:50:00 Rep. Anderson
- 15:50:16 Rep. Reksten
- 15:51:00 Beth Brenneman, DRM

15:51:20 Rep. Reksten
15:51:58 Beth Brenneman, DRM
15:54:04 Rep. Bertoglio
15:54:26 Rep. McKamey left the meeting.
15:54:39 Rep. Anderson

Closing by Sponsor:

15:56:02 Rep. Anderson

HEARING ON HB 227**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:57:24 Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell (D), HD 84, opened the hearing on HB 227, Establish student mental health screening pilot program.

EXHIBIT(edh21a03)

15:57:35 Rep. Seekins-Crowe left the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:02:29 Matt Kuntz, National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI); Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA)
16:04:50 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)
16:05:30 Angie Dailey, Shodair Children's Hospital
16:08:16 Jennifer Preble, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP); National Public Policy Council
16:10:05 Diane Fladmo, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

Opponents' Testimony:

16:12:59 Steven Pearce, Citizens Commission on Human Rights (CCHR)

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

16:17:14 Rep. Kerns
16:18:09 Rep. Dunwell
16:20:21 Rep. Kerns
16:20:46 Rep. Dunwell
16:20:54 Chair Berglee
16:21:00 Rep. Bertoglio
16:21:23 Rep. Dunwell
16:22:13 Matt Kuntz, NAMI

Closing by Sponsor:

16:24:14 Rep. Dunwell
16:25:10 Rep. Funk joined the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 192

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:27:00 Rep. Linda Reksten (R), HD 12, opened the hearing on HB 192, Revising laws related to school major maintenance funding.

[EXHIBIT\(edh21a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

16:36:26 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:36:49 Rep. Thane

16:37:10 Paul Taylor, OPI

Closing by Sponsor:

16:37:48 Rep. Reksten

Committee Business:

16:38:52 Chair Berglee

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:39:02

Joanne Kauzlarich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([edh21aad.pdf](#))