

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Call to Order: Chair Seth Berglee, on February 15, 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. Scot Kerns (R)
Rep. Wendy McKamey (R)
Rep. Sara Novak (D)
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)
Rep. Tyson T. Running Wolf (D)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)
Rep. Mark Thane (D)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)

Members Excused:

Rep. Moffie Funk, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)
Rep. Brandon Ler (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Kathy Sangray, Committee Secretary
Ashley Duncan, Remote Meeting Coordinator
Laura Sankey Keip, 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 329, 2/4/2021; SB 18, 2/4/2021; SB 22, 2/4/2021; SB 75, 2/4/2021

15:22:20 Rep. Hawk joined the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 329

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:23:42 Rep. Sue Vinton (R), HD 56, opened the hearing on HB 329, Establish the Students with Special Needs Equal Opportunity Act.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:27:00 Glenn Oppel, Governor's Office (GOV)

15:28:32 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

15:30:35 Kris Hansen, self

15:34:51 Avery Monroe, self

EXHIBIT(edh31a01)

15:35:18 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation (MFF)

15:37:40 David Herbst, Americans for Prosperity Montana (AFP- MT)

15:40:06 Matt Brower, Montana Catholic Conference

15:42:01 Leslie Hiner, EdChoice

15:48:44 Jenny Clark, self

15:52:29 Jason Bedrick, EdChoice

EXHIBIT(edh31a02)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:58:08 Beth Brennehan, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)

16:01:17 Debra Silk, Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC)

16:12:27 Chair Berglee

16:12:56 Debra Silk, MT-PEC

16:13:49 Alyson Ball, self

16:19:39 Kat Patterson, Bozeman Area Special Education Parent Teachers Association (Bozeman Area SEPTA)

16:23:46 Amanda Curtis, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

16:25:17 Dianne Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition (MQEC)

16:27:33 Joel Peden, Montana Association of Centers for Independent Living (MTCIL)

16:30:00 Rep. Mitchell joined the meeting.

Informational Testimony:

16:30:09 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:30:37 Rep. Reksten

16:31:40 Rep. Vinton

16:32:54 Rep. Reksten

16:33:37 Paul Taylor, OPI

16:35:28 Rep. Thane

16:36:01 Rep. Kerns

16:36:12 Rep. Vinton
16:36:42 Rep. Kerns
16:37:59 Amanda Curtis, MFPE
16:38:58 Chair Berglee
16:39:45 Leslie Hiner, EdChoice
16:42:55 Rep. Bishop
16:42:30 Debra Silk, MT-PEC
16:46:26 Rep. Novak
16:48:44 Beth Brennaman, DRM
16:50:15 Rep. Kerns
16:51:02 Debra Silk, MT-PEC
16:51:59 Rep. Thane
16:52:52 Beth Brennaman, DRM
16:53:30 Chair Berglee
16:54:35 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, OPI
16:56:35 Chair Beard
16:57:15 Leslie Hiner, EdChoice

Closing by Sponsor:

17:00:02 Rep. Vinton

17:02:18 Recessed
17:13:15 Reconvened

HEARING ON SB 18**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

17:13:27 Sen. Daniel Salomon (R), SD 47, opened the hearing on SB 18, Establish graduation requirements for educationally-disrupted youth.

Proponents' Testimony:

17:16:45 Jordan Thompson, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)
17:17:40 Beth Brennehan, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)
17:18:29 Diane Fladmo, Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC)
17:21:17 Patricia Julianelle, SchoolHouse Connection

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:24:20 Rep. Reksten
17:25:20 Sen. Salomon

17:26:01 Rep. McKamey
17:26:27 Sen. Salomon
17:27:15 Rep. McKamey
17:27:18 Sen. Salomon

Closing by Sponsor:

17:27:39 Sen. Salomon

HEARING ON SB 22

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

17:28:09 Sen. Daniel Salomon (R), SD 47, opened the hearing on SB 22, Clarify amount of support for state-level strengthening CTSO program.

Proponents' Testimony:

17:30:08 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana (SAM)
17:31:59 Emily Dean, Montana School Board Association (MTSBA)
17:32:31 Dennis Parman, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)
17:33:33 Kellan Standley, Montana Association for Career and Technical Education (MACTE)
17:34:56 Katie Meier, Montana HOSA Future Health Professionals
17:36:44 Dianne Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition (MQEC)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

17:38:08 Kenneth Bailey, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:38:27 Rep. McKamey
17:38:38 Chair Berglee

Closing by Sponsor:

17:38:46 Sen. Salomon

HEARING ON SB 75

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

17:39:55 Sen. Daniel Salomon (R), SD 47, opened the hearing on SB 75, Revise school funding laws related to unforeseen emergencies.

Proponents' Testimony:

17:43:14 Emily Dean, Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

17:44:46 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

17:45:10 Sen. Salomon

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:46:16

Kathy Sangray, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([edh31aad.pdf](#))