

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Call to Order: Chair Seth Berglee, on February 22, 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. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)
Rep. Scot Kerns (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. Brandon Ler (R)
Rep. Wendy McKamey (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 392, 2/18/2021; HB 403, 2/18/2021; HB 404, 2/18/2021; HB 465, 2/18/2021

Executive Action: HB 185; HB 233; HB 286; HB 300: HB 329; HB 332

HEARING ON HB 465**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:14:00 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, opened the hearing on HB 465, Limit school district superintendent salaries.

15:14:33 Rep. Hawk and Rep. Bishop left the meeting.

15:16:40 Rep. Ler joined the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony: None**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:16:37 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana (SAM); Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC)

[EXHIBIT\(edh37a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(edh37a02\)](#)

15:29:49 Daniel Farr, self

15:32:02 Diane Fladmo, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

15:33:55 Rep. Bertoglio joined the meeting.

15:35:44 Superintendent Justin Barnes, Anaconda Public Schools; School Administrators of Montana (SAM)

15:36:38 Rep. Vinton joined the meeting.

15:39:14 Superintendent Rick Duncan, Powell County School District

15:43:10 Jule Walker, Montana School Board Association (MTSBA)

15:44:30 Dennis Parman, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)

15:45:12 Rep. Seekins-Crowe left the meeting.

Informational Testimony:

15:45:55 Ken Baily, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:46:23 Rep. Kerns

HEARING ON HB 404**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:50:11 Rep. Jimmy Patelis (R), HD 52, opened the hearing on HB 404, Generally revise education funding relating to oil and gas distribution.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:55:15 Ej Redding, Bainville Public School

[EXHIBIT\(edh37a03\)](#)

15:58:43 Superintendent Renee Rasmussen, Bainville Public School

[EXHIBIT\(edh37a04\)](#)

16:02:49 Chris Hansen, Bainville School Board
16:04:17 Dana Berwick, Bainville School Board
16:08:30 Shelby DeMars, Montana Association of Oil, Gas, and Coal Counties
16:09:59 Daniel Farr, North East Rural Schools
16:14:50 Larry Crowder, Culbertson School District

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

16:15:36 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

16:16:02 Rep. Patelis

HEARING ON HB 403

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:17:21 Rep. Tyson Running Wolf (D), HD 16, opened the hearing on HB 403, Create "grow your own" teacher grant program.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:26:45 Vikki Howard, University of Montana Western (UMW)
16:30:56 Dee Hoyt, Blackfeet Community College (BCC)
16:33:20 Pat Armstrong, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
16:35:38 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy
16:38:34 Kelli Twoteeth, Montana Native Vote (MNV)
16:40:16 Jordan Thompson, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)
16:41:01 Angela McLean, Office of Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)
16:45:41 Reyna Monteau, Fort Belknap Indian Community (FBIC)
16:48:47 Laurie Little Dog, self
16:50:44 Dianne Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition (MQEC); Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC)
16:54:32 Heather O'Loughlin, Montana Budget and Policy Center (MBPC)
16:55:37 Andy Werk Jr., Fort Belknap Indian Community (FBIC)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:58:43 Rep. Kerns
17:02:12 Rep. Running Wolf
17:02:22 Rep. Windy Boy
17:03:01 Rep. Beard
17:04:00 Rep. Running Wolf
17:05:17 Rep. Beard

17:06:00 Rep. Running Wolf
17:06:51 Rep. Novak
17:07:48 Rep. Running Wolf

Closing by Sponsor:

17:08:14 Rep. Running Wolf

HEARING ON HB 392

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

17:10:26 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D), HD 32, opened the hearing on HB 392, Generally revise language immersion laws.

[EXHIBIT\(edh37a05\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

17:14:48 Kelli Twoteeth, Montana Native Vote (MNV)
17:17:02 Jordan Thompson, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)
17:18:49 Laurie Little Dog, self
17:20:07 Andy Werk Jr., Fort Belknap Indian Community (FBIC)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

17:22:47 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
17:23:13 Lona Running Wolf, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:23:41 Rep. Reksten
17:24:28 Paul Taylor, OPI

Closing by Sponsor:

17:26:13 Rep. Windy Boy

17:33:14 Chair Berglee

17:33:53 Recessed
18:03:35 Reconvened with Rep. Running Wolf absent.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 185

18:03:55 **Motion:** Rep. Funk moved that **HB 185 DO PASS.**

18:04:07 **Motion:** Rep. Kerns moved that **HB 185 BE AMENDED.**

[EXHIBIT\(edh37a06\)](#)

Discussion:

18:04:25 Rep. Kerns

18:05:13 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Bishop, Rep. Hawk, Rep. McKamey, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Seekins-Crowe voted by proxy.

Discussion:

18:06:13 Rep. Funk
18:06:42 Chair Berglee
18:07:02 Rep. Funk

18:07:15 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Berglee moved that **HB 185 DO PASS AS AMENDED**. Motion carried 11-6 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Funk, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Novak, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Thane voting no. Rep. Bishop, Rep. Hawk, Rep. McKamey, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Seekins-Crowe voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 233

18:08:43 **Motion:** Rep. Funk moved that **HB 233 DO PASS**.

Discussion:

18:08:53 Rep. Anderson
18:09:53 Chair Berglee
18:10:35 Rep. Kerns
18:10:59 Rep. Novak
18:11:47 Rep. Funk

18:12:28 **Vote:** Motion carried 12-5 by roll call vote with Rep. Berglee, Rep. Kerns, Rep. Ler, Rep. Mitchell and Rep. Seekins-Crowe voting no. Rep. Bishop, Rep. Hawk, Rep. McKamey, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Seekins-Crowe voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 286

18:14:11 **Motion:** Rep. Funk moved that **HB 286 DO PASS**.

18:14:20 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Vinton made a substitute motion that **HB 286 BE TABLED**. Substitute Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Rep. Bishop, Rep. Hawk, Rep. McKamey, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Seekins-Crowe voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 300

18:15:47 **Motion:** Rep. Funk moved that **HB 300 DO PASS**.

Discussion:

18:15:55 Chair Berglee
18:17:02 Rep. Reksten
18:17:05 Chair Berglee

18:17:09 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Kerns moved that **HB 300 BE AMENDED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Bishop, Rep. Hawk, Rep. McKamey, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Seekins-Crowe voted by proxy.

EXHIBIT(edh37a07)

Discussion:

18:17:53 Rep. Ler
18:18:21 Rep. Thane
18:18:41 Rep. Vinton
18:19:00 Rep. Thane
18:19:04 Rep. Vinton
18:19:20 Rep. Anderson
18:19:47 Rep. Novak

18:20:24 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Berglee moved that **HB 300 DO PASS AS AMENDED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Bishop, Rep. Hawk, Rep. McKamey, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Seekins-Crowe voted by proxy.

Motion/Vote: Rep. Berglee moved that **HB 300 DO PASS AS AMENDED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Bishop, Rep. Hawk, Rep. McKamey, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Seekins-Crowe voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 329

18:20:56 **Motion:** Rep. Funk moved that **HB 329 DO PASS**.

Discussion:

18:21:06 Rep. Vinton
18:21:34 Rep. Novak
18:22:47 Rep. Reksten
18:23:04 Rep. Vinton
18:24:13 Rep. Thane
18:24:48 Chair Berglee

18:26:51 **Vote:** Motion carried 10-7 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Funk, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Novak, Rep. Reksten, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Thane voting no. Rep. Bishop, Rep. Hawk, Rep. McKamey, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Seekins-Crowe voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 332

18:28:03 **Motion:** Rep. Funk moved that **HB 332 DO PASS**.

18:28:14 **Motion:** Rep. Funk moved that **HB 332 BE AMENDED**.

EXHIBIT(edh37a08)

Discussion:

18:28:27 Rep. Funk
18:28:39 Laura Sankey Keip, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

18:29:14 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Bishop, Rep. Hawk, Rep. McKamey, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Seekins-Crowe voted by proxy.

18:29:45 **Motion:** Rep. Funk moved that **HB 332 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

18:29:56 Chair Berglee

18:31:36 Rep. Funk

18:32:24 Rep. Kerns

18:32:45 **Vote:** Motion carried 9-8 by roll call vote with Rep. Bertoglio, Rep. Bishop, Rep. Funk, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Novak, Rep. Reksten, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Thane voting no. Rep. Bishop, Rep. Hawk, Rep. McKamey, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Seekins-Crowe voted by proxy.

Committee Business:

18:34:15 Chair Berglee

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 18:35:03

Joanne Kauzlarich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([edh37aad.pdf](#))