

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Seth Berglee, on March 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. Moffie Funk, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Becky Beard (R)  
Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)  
Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)  
Rep. Brandon Ler (R)  
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)  
Rep. Sara Novak (D)  
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)  
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)  
Rep. Mark Thane (D)

**Members Excused:**

Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R)  
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)  
Rep. Wendy McKamey (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: SB 99, 3/8/2021; SB 157, 3/10/2021; SB 305, 3/10/2021;  
SJ 15, 3/10/2021  
Executive Action: HB 181; HB 612; SB 42; SB 72; SB 109; SB 305; SJ 15

**HEARING ON SB 305****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:02:57 Sen. Mike Lang (R), SD 17, opened the hearing on SB 305, Revise and extend state lands reimbursement block grant for schools.

**EXHIBIT(edh51a01)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:06:09 Rep. R. Knudsen

15:07:20 Dennis Parman, Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

15:08:22 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

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

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:08:48 Sen. Lang

**HEARING ON SB 157****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:09:45 Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R), SD 18, opened the hearing on SB 157, Allow nonpublic students to participate in public school extracurriculars.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:13:48 Rep. R. Knudsen

15:15:30 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity Montana (AFP-Montana)

15:17:15 Brynn Cotton, self

15:19:51 Jeff Laszloffy, self

15:20:02 Rep. Running Wolf joined the meeting.

15:20:34 Jenae Weber, self

15:23:28 Steve White, Montana Coalition of Home Educators (MCHE)

15:25:40 Lori Stoffer, self

**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:28:41 Dianne Burke, Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC)

15:32:50 Pat Mischel, self

15:33:35 Rep. Bertoglio joined the meeting.

**Informational Testimony:** None

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

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:36:37 Sen. Hinebauch

**HEARING ON SB 99****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:40:24 Sen. Cary Smith (R), SD 27, opened the hearing on SB 99, Establish parameters for K-12 human sexuality education.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:42:29 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation (MFF)  
15:46:33 Carolyn Truscott, self  
15:48:51 Sharon Nason, self  
15:52:03 Cindy Roscoe, self  
15:52:28 Matt Brower, Montana Catholic Conference  
15:54:24 Debra Silk, Montana School Board Association (MTSBA)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:55:11 Rick Duncan, School Administrators of Montana (SAM); Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC)  
15:57:14 Clara Bentler, self  
15:59:06 Bella DeLong, self  
16:01:17 Hanna Harrison, self  
16:03:27 Mary Helen Satrom, self  
16:04:59 Cami Armijo- Grover, Bridgercare  
16:07:20 Kate Nesson, Planned Parenthood of Montana(PPMT)  
16:11:33 Stephanie McDowell, Bridgercare  
16:12:36 Julia Maxon, self  
16:15:02 Sydney Barry, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV)  
16:15:48 Brynn Engler, self  
16:18:12 Alexandra Hay, self  
16:20:00 Remy Sexton, self  
16:21:29 Grace Benasutti, Forward Montana  
16:22:52 Laura Terrill, Planned Parenthood of Montana (PPMT)  
16:26:17 SJ Howell, Montana Women Vote (MWV)  
16:28:04 Shannon Sheehy, self

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

16:30:00 Rep. Ler

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:31:24 Sen. Smith

**HEARING ON SJ 15****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:35:41 Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R), SD 43, opened the hearing on SJ 15, Approve organization of Bitterroot valley community college district.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

16:41:18 Janet Woodburn, self  
16:42:31 Rep. McKamey joined the meeting.  
16:45:08 Julie Foster, self  
16:47:36 Tor Gudmundsson, self  
16:50:36 Superintendent Tom Korst, Hamilton

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

16:51:53 Shauna Lyons, Office of Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

16:52:21 Rep. Reksten  
16:52:58 Sen. Ellsworth  
16:55:14 Vice Chair Funk  
16:55:02 Superintendent Tom Korst, Hamilton

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:57:14 Sen. Ellsworth  
  
16:59:18 Chair Berglee  
  
16:59:47 Recessed  
17:12:40 Reconvened

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 181**

17:13:12 **Motion:** Rep. Anderson moved that **HB 181 DO PASS.**

17:13:36 **Motion:** Rep. Anderson moved that **HB 181 BE AMENDED.**  
[EXHIBIT\(edh51a02\)](#)

**Discussion:**

17:14:45 Laura Sankey Keip, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
17:14:52 Chair Berglee  
  
17:15:20 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Kerns and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy.  
  
17:15:39 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Anderson moved that **HB 181 DO PASS AS AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Kerns and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 612**

17:16:16 **Motion:** Rep. Anderson moved that **HB 612 DO PASS.**

17:16:27 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Ler made a substitute motion that **HB 612 BE TABLED.** Substitute Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Kerns and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 42**

17:17:16 **Motion:** Rep. Anderson moved that **SB 42 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

17:17:26 Chair Berglee

17:17:42 Rep. Reksten

17:18:05 Chair Berglee

17:18:40 Rep. Thane

17:19:36 **Vote:** Motion failed 3-14 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Hawk and Rep. Thane voting aye. Rep. Kerns and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy.

17:20:52 Without objection Vice Chair Anderson moved that **SB 42 BE TABLED.**

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 72**

17:21:06 **Motion:** Rep. Anderson moved that **SB 72 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

17:21:09 Chair Berglee

17:21:25 **Vote:** Motion carried 16-1 by voice vote with Rep. Anderson voting no. Rep. Kerns and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy. Rep. Seekins-Crowe will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 109**

17:22:13 **Motion:** Rep. Anderson moved that **SB 109 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

17:22:26 Chair Berglee

17:23:28 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Rep. Kerns and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy. Rep. Bertoglio will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 15**

17:24:54 **Motion:** Rep. Anderson moved that **SJ 15 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

17:25:28 Chair Berglee

17:25:36 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Kerns and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy. Rep. Bedey will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 305**

17:26:09 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Anderson moved that **SB 305 BE CONCURRED IN.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Kerns and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy. Rep. R. Knudsen will carry the bill.

**Committee Business:**

17:27:09 Chair Berglee

17:28:02 Rep. Thane

17:28:17 Chair Berglee

17:28:27 Laura Sankey Keip, LSD

17:28:59 Chair Berglee

17:29:06 Laura Sankey Keip, LSD

17:29:13 Rep. Thane

17:29:34 Laura Sankey Keip, LSD

17:30:02 Chair Berglee

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment:  
17:30:23

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Joanne Kauzlarich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([edh51aad.pdf](#))