

MINUTES
MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Llew Jones, on March 23, 2021 at 10:00 A.M., in Room 102 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Llew Jones, Chair (R)
Rep. Mary Caferro, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Kenneth L. Holmlund, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Brad Tschida, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. David Bedey (R)
Rep. John Fuller (R)
Rep. Frank Garner (R)
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)
Rep. Mike Hopkins (R)
Rep. Jim Keane (D)
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)
Rep. Bill Mercer (R)
Rep. Terry Moore (R)
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)
Rep. Joe Read (R)
Rep. Vince Ricci (R)
Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R)
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Regier
Rep. Bartel
Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
Rep. Patelis
Rep. Schillinger
Rep. Vinton
Rep. Windy Boy

Staff Present:

Joe Triem, Legislative Fiscal Division
Julie Johnson, Legislative Fiscal Division
Jamie Bonilla, Committee Secretary
Anthony Nuno, 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: SJ 15, 3/22/2021, HB 632, 3/22/21
Executive Action: HB 583; HB 388

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

10:16:24 Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R), SD 43, opened the hearing on SJ 15, Approve organization of Bitterroot valley community college district.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Informational Testimony:

10:23:41 Tyler Trevor, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)

10:23:52 Rep. Regier and Rep. Bartel joined the meeting.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

10:24:12 Rep. Ricci

10:25:26 Tyler Trevor, OCHE

10:25:34 Chair Jones

10:25:37 Rep. Fuller

10:28:19 Sen. Ellsworth

10:29:22 Chair Jones

10:29:28 Rep. Mercer

10:34:48 Tyler Trevor, OCHE

10:35:45 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy

10:37:16 Brock Tessman, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)

10:37:36 Rep. Hamilton

10:38:18 Sen. Ellsworth

10:40:01 Rep. Keane

10:40:45 Sen. Ellsworth

10:42:32 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter joined the meeting.

10:42:59 Rep. Mercer

10:47:17 Trevor Tyler, OCHE

10:48:19 Rep. Nave

10:55:34 Sen. Ellsworth

10:56:27 Chair Jones

10:56:30 Rep. Bedey

10:58:02 Rep. Hopkins left the meeting.

11:02:08 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy

11:06:39 Sen. Ellsworth

11:07:19 Chair Jones

11:07:25 Rep. Mercer

11:09:43 Tyler Trevor, OCHE

11:11:49 Chair Jones

Closing by Sponsor:

11:11:57 Sen. Ellsworth

11:15:38 Chair Jones

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 583

11:16:12 Chair Jones

[EXHIBIT\(aph57a01\)](#)

11:16:55 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Holmlund moved that **HB 583 BE REMOVED FROM TABLE**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Hopkins, Rep. Patelis, Rep. Schillinger, Rep. Vinton and Rep. Windy Boy voted by proxy.

11:17:35 **Motion:** Rep. Holmlund moved that **HB 583 DO PASS**.

11:17:49 **Motion:** Rep. Holmlund moved that **HB 583 BE AMENDED**.
[EXHIBIT\(aph57a02\)](#)

11:18:01 Rep. Hopkins joined the meeting.

Discussion:

11:18:09 Chair Jones

11:18:36 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Patelis, Rep. Schillinger, Rep. Vinton and Rep. Windy Boy voted by proxy.

11:18:42 Rep. Windy boy joined the meeting.

11:18:59 **Motion/Vote:** Rep Holmlund moved that HB 583 be postponed pending a revised fiscal note. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Patelis, Rep. Schillinger, and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 388

11:19:44 **Motion:** Rep. Holmlund moved that **HB 388 DO PASS**.

11:19:50 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Holmlund made a substitute motion that **HB 388 BE TABLED**. Substitute Motion carried 17-7 by roll call vote with Rep. Caferro, Rep. Hamilton, Rep. Keane, Rep. Keogh, Rep. Kerr-Carpenter, Rep. Stewart Peregoy and Rep. Windy Boy voting no. Rep. Patelis, Rep. Schillinger and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy.

11:21:27 Chair Jones

11:21:45 Rep. Hamilton

[EXHIBIT\(aph57a03\)](#)

Committee Business:

11:22:15 Chair Jones

11:23:22 Rep. Caferro

11:23:26 Chair Jones

11:25:11 Rep. Caferro

11:25:30 Chair Jones

11:25:48 Recessed
14:40:11 Reconvened

14:40:25 Chair Jones
14:40:49 Rep. Patelis joined the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 632

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

14:41:42 Rep. Frank Garner (R), HD 7, opened the hearing on HB 632, Implement receipt of and appropriate federal stimulus and COVID recovery funds.

14:45:36 Rep. Read joined the meeting.
14:45:40 Rep. Mercer joined the meeting.
14:45:53 Rep. Regier joined the meeting.
14:46:48 Chair Jones
14:47:44 Rep. Bedey

Proponents:

14:59:41 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
15:02:52 Jennie Stapp, Montana State Library (MSL)
15:06:30 Kristi Clark, Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA)
15:09:06 Clayton Christian, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)
15:10:41 Rep. Bedey
15:11:01 Emily Dean, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)

Opponents: None

Informational Testimony:

15:12:12 Katie Guenther, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
15:12:25 Julia Pattin, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
15:12:39 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
15:12:58 Nancy Hall, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)
15:13:09 Ken Bailey, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:13:26 Rep. Holmlund
15:13:47 Chair Jones

EXHIBIT(aph57a04)

15:14:33 Rep. Bedey
15:15:08 Chair Jones
15:15:20 Brock Tessman, Office of Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)
15:20:46 Chair Jones
15:20:48 Rep. Mercer
15:21:35 Brock Tessman, OCHE
15:22:09 Rep. Mercer
15:22:38 Chair Jones
15:22:43 Rep. Mercer

15:23:25 Brock Tessman, OCHE
15:24:21 Rep. Mercer
15:24:43 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
15:25:20 Rep. Bedey
15:25:37 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
15:26:04 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, OPI
15:26:50 Rep. Bedey
15:28:27 Rep. Hamilton
15:28:41 Rep. Bedey
15:28:55 Rep. Tschida
15:31:59 Brock Tessman, OCHE
15:32:34 Rep. Tschida
15:33:40 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, OPI
15:34:26 Rep. Patelis
15:36:33 Brock Tessman, OCHE
15:36:54 Rep. Keane
15:37:37 Rep. Patelis
15:37:47 Rep. Mercer
15:38:19 Rep. Bedey
15:38:29 Rep. Mercer
15:39:41 Chair Jones
15:40:19 Rep. Mercer
15:40:42 Rep. Bedey
15:42:31 Rep. Mercer
15:43:15 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, OPI
15:44:44 Rep. Mercer
15:45:12 Chair Jones
15:48:34 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, OPI
15:49:24 Chair Jones
15:49:32 Rep. Garner
15:51:01 Chair Jones
15:52:01 Rep. Keogh
15:52:53 Rep. Bedey
15:53:52 Chair Jones
15:53:59 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, OPI
15:54:52 Rep. Garner
15:55:17 Rep. Keane
15:56:01 Chair Jones
15:57:31 Rep. Mercer
15:58:53 Chair Jones
15:59:02 Joe Triem, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
16:00:06 Julie Johnson, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
16:00:39 Chair Jones
16:01:26 Joe Triem, LFD
16:02:01 Rep. Caferro
16:03:07 Chair Jones
16:03:21 Rep. Bedey
16:04:26 Rep. Mercer
16:05:13 Rep. Windy Boy
16:05:34 Chair Jones

16:07:06 Rep. Caferro
16:08:26 Chair Jones
16:09:26 Rep. Garner
16:09:43 Chair Jones
16:12:09 Rep. Holmlund
16:12:51 Chair Jones

16:14:45 Recessed

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Jamie Bonilla

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([aph57aad.pdf](#))