

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Daniel R. Salomon, on February 1, 2021 at 2:43 in Room 422
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present in the Committee Room:

Sen. Daniel R. Salomon, Chair (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)
Sen. Greg Hertz (R)
Sen. Theresa Manzella (R)
Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D)
Sen. Keith Regier (R)
Sen. Mark Sweeney (D)
Sen. Susan Webber (D)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Susan Webber (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Charlene Devine, Committee Secretary
Padraic McCracken, Legislative Branch
Lindsey Bales, 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 26, 1/27/2021; HB 32, 1/27/2021; HB 100, 1/27/2021; HB 33,
1/27/2021; SB 157, 1/29/2021

Executive Action: HB 68, Be Concurred In

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 68

14:43:40 Chair Salomon

14:53:49 **Motion:** Sen. Tempel moved that **HB 68 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

14:54:26 Sen. O'Brien

14:55:11 Sen. McClafferty

14:55:40 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Bogner will carry the bill.

HEARING ON SB 157

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

14:56:47 Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R), SD 18, opened the hearing on SB157, Allow nonpublic students to participate in public school extracurriculars.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:12:49 Rep. Rhonda Knudsen, HD 34

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(eds21a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:02:04 Dianne Burke, Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC)

[EXHIBIT\(eds21a02\)](#)

15:07:27 Sen. Jason Ellsworth, SD 43

15:09:28 Pat Mischel, Glendive

[EXHIBIT\(eds21a03\)](#)

Informational Testimony:

15:14:51 Steve White, Montana Coalition of Home Educators (MTCHE)

15:15:51 Mark Beckman, Montana High School Association (MHSA)

[EXHIBIT\(eds21a04\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:27:23 Sen. Manzella

15:29:37 Ms. Burke, MT-PEC

15:29:49 Sen. Regier

15:30:07 Ms. Burke

15:30:50 Sen. Regier

15:32:24 Padraic McCracken, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

15:32:42 Sen. Regier

15:33:19 Sen. Hinebauch

15:34:20 Sen. Regier

15:34:35 Mr. McCracken, LSD

15:34:55 Sen. Regier

15:35:54 Ms. Burke

15:36:40 Chair Salomon
15:37:10 Sen. Regier
15:37:39 Sen. Hertz
15:37:59 Ms. Burke
15:38:10 Sen. Manzella
15:38:30 Mr. White, MTCHE
15:40:21 Sen. Manzella
15:40:34 Sen. Ellsworth
15:41:47 Sen. Manzella
15:43:11 Sen. Hinebauch
15:44:46 Sen. McClafferty
15:45:21 Mr. White
15:47:41 Sen. Sweeney
15:49:11 Mr. Beckman, MHSA
15:52:26 Chair Salomon
15:53:08 Mr. Beckman
15:54:15 Sen. Hertz
15:55:07 Ms. Burke
15:57:53 Sen. Regier
15:58:29 Mr. Beckman
15:59:01 Sen. Regier
15:59:23 Mr. Beckman
15:59:39 Sen. Sweeney
16:01:02 Sen. Hinebauch
16:01:21 Chair Salomon
16:01:51 Sen. Sweeney
16:02:02 Chair Salomon
16:02:40 Sen. Sweeney
16:03:07 Mr. Beckman

Closing by Sponsor:

16:04:06 Sen. Hinebauch

16:07:39 Brief Recess
16:11:46 Reconvened

HEARING ON HB 26

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:12:01 Rep. Moffie Funk (D), HD 82, opened the hearing on HB26, Clarify the definition of pupil.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:14:25 Elsie Arntzen, superintendent, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
16:15:39 Dianne Burke, MT-PEC

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

16:17:37 Ken Bailey, OPI

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:18:09 Sen. Regier
16:18:27 Ms. Arntzen, OPI
16:18:48 Mr. Bailey, OPI
16:18:55 Sen. Regier
16:19:10 Rep. Funk

Closing by Sponsor:

16:19:32 Rep. Funk

HEARING ON HB 32

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:20:47 Rep. Sue Vinton (R), HD 56, opened the hearing on HB32, Repeal ending fund balance limits for school district funds.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:22:09 Elsie Arntzen, superintendent, Office of Public Instruction
16:23:20 Kirk Miller, Montana Public Education Center

[EXHIBIT\(eds21a05\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

16:25:00 Ken Bailey, OPI

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

16:25:33 Rep. Vinton

HEARING ON HB 33

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:26:05 Rep. Sue Vinton (R), HD 56, opened the hearing on HB33, Clarify school funding related to anticipated enrollment increases.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:27:40 Elsie Arntzen, superintendent, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
16:30:13 Dennis Parman, Montana Public Education Center

[EXHIBIT\(eds21a06\)](#)

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(eds21a07\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

16:31:55 Ken Bailey, OPI

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:32:13 Chair Salomon
16:32:42 Mr. Bailey, OPI

Closing by Sponsor:

16:33:02 Rep. Vinton

HEARING ON HB 100

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:34:11 Rep. Denise Hayman (D), HD 66, opened the hearing on HB100, Revise community college audit requirements.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

16:38:19 Angus Maciver, Legislative Audit Division (LAD)
16:38:55 Shauna Lyons, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)
16:39:39 Cindy Jorgenson, LAD

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:40:16 Chair Salomon
16:42:54 Mr. Maciver, LAD
16:44:13 Sen. Tempel
16:44:43 Mr. Maciver
16:45:45 Sen. O'Brien
16:46:10 Mr. Maciver
16:48:04 Ms. Lyons, OCHE
16:48:27 Mr. Maciver

Closing by Sponsor:

16:49:38 Rep. Hayman

16:50:13 Chair Salomon

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:51 P.M.

Charlene Devine, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([eds21aad.pdf](#))