

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Daniel R. Salomon, on February 26, 2021 at 3:20 PM, 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)

Members Present by Video Zoom Conference:

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

Members Excused:

Sen. Susan Webber (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Charlene Devine, Committee Secretary
Padraic McCracken, Legislative Branch
Kathy Anderson, 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 342, 2/23/2021; SB 356, 2/23/2021; SR 40, 2/19/2021; SR 41, 2/19/2021

Executive Action: SR 40 - Be Not Adopted; SR 41 - Be Adopted; SB 356 - Do Pass As Amended; SB 342 - Do Pass; SB 243 - Do Pass; SB 281 - Do Pass As Amended; SB 305 - Do Pass As Amended; SJ 15 - Do Pass; SB 298 - Be Tabled

15:20:20 Sen. Tempel assumed the role of the Chair.

HEARING ON SR 40

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:21:55 Sen. Daniel Salomon (R), SD 47, opened the hearing on SR40, Confirm Governor appointees to Montana Historical Society.

[EXHIBIT\(eds41a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

[EXHIBIT\(eds41a02\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:26:25 Molly Kruckenberg, Montana Historical Society (MHS)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:28:08 Sen. Regier

15:30:18 Ms. Kruckenberg, MHS

Closing by Sponsor:

15:30:46 Sen. Salomon

HEARING ON SR 41

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:31:17 Sen. Daniel Salomon (R), SD 47, opened the hearing on SR41, Confirm Governor's appointee to the Montana Historical Society.

[EXHIBIT\(eds41a03\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

[EXHIBIT\(eds41a04\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:33:03 Molly Kruckenberg. Montana Historical Society (MHS)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:34:19 Sen. Regier

15:34:30 Ms. Kruckenberg, MHS

15:34:43 Sen. Regier

15:34:48 Sen. Salomon

Closing by Sponsor:

15:35:04 Sen. Salomon

15:35:19 Sen. Salomon resumed the role of the Chair.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 40

15:36:42 **Motion:** Sen. Temple moved that **SR 40 BE NOT ADOPTED.**

15:37:09 Sen. McClafferty

15:37:33 **Vote:** Motion carried 6-4 by roll call vote with Sen. McClafferty, Sen. O'Brien, Sen. Sweeney and Sen. Webber voting no. Sen. Hertz, Sen. Manzella, Sen. O'Brien and Sen. Webber voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 41

15:38:49 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Tempel moved that **SR 41 BE ADOPTED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Hertz, Sen. Manzella, Sen. O'Brien and Sen. Webber voted by proxy.

HEARING ON SB 356

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:40:30 Sen. Jen Gross (D), SD 25, opened the hearing on SB356, Revise Montana parents as scholars program eligibility.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:43:40 Jack Rinck, Associated Students of the University of Montana
15:44:28 Larisa Moe, Child Care Connections
15:45:39 Nanette Gilbertson, Montana Advocates for Children
15:46:41 Lisa Woodward, student

[EXHIBIT\(eds41a05\)](#)

15:48:22 Laurie Little Dog, citizen

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(eds41a06\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:50:22 Gene Hermanson, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:52:49 Sen. Regier
15:54:37 Mr. Hermanson, DPHHS
15:55:10 Sen. Regier
15:56:17 Sen. Gross
15:56:47 Ms. Woodward, student
15:58:47 Sen. Regier
15:58:59 Ms. Woodward
15:59:32 Sen. McClafferty
15:59:55 Mr. Hermanson
16:00:17 Chair Salomon

16:01:57 Mr. Hermanson

16:02:37 Sen. Sweeney left the meeting.

Closing by Sponsor:

16:03:12 Sen. Gross

Discussion:

16:06:20 Sen. Bogner
16:06:55 Padraic McCracken, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
16:07:14 Chair Salomon
16:08:50 Mr. McCracken, LSD
16:09:17 Chair Salomon
16:09:35 Sen. McClafferty
16:10:09 Chair Salomon
16:10:16 Sen. Bogner
16:10:20 Mr. McCracken
16:10:33 Chair Salomon

16:10:54 Brief Recess
16:20:36 Reconvened

HEARING ON SB 342

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:21:04 Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D), SD 46, opened the hearing on SB342, Generally revise laws related to preschool programs.

EXHIBIT(eds41a07)

Proponents' Testimony:

16:25:43 Larisa Moe, Child Care Connections
16:27:57 Caitlin Jensen, Zero to Five Montana

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

16:30:53 McCall Flynn, Montana Board of Public Education
16:31:25 Christine Lux, co-chair, Montana Early Childhood Higher Education Consortium (MT-ECHEC)
16:32:08 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
16:32:47 Dr. Robert Sonora, associate director, Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:33:25 Chair Salomon
16:35:07 Sen. O'Brien
16:35:24 Chair Salomon
16:36:00 Mr. Sonora, BBER
16:37:33 Chair Salomon
16:37:42 Sen. O'Brien

16:39:05 Mr. Sonora
 16:40:33 Sen. O'Brien
 16:40:39 Chair Salomon
 16:40:53 Sen. O'Brien

 16:41:44 Sen. Hertz entered the meeting.

 16:42:24 Sen. Regier
 16:42:42 Mr. Taylor, OPI
 16:43:16 Sen. O'Brien
 16:43:35 Sen. Regier
 16:44:56 Sen. O'Brien
 16:45:25 Mr. Taylor
 16:45:52 Sen. Regier
 16:46:07 Mr. Taylor
 16:46:33 Sen. Bogner
 16:46:48 Sen. O'Brien
 16:47:13 Ms. Lux, MT-ECHEC
 16:49:10 Sen. Hertz
 16:49:26 Sen. O'Brien

Closing by Sponsor:

16:49:56 Sen. O'Brien

Discussion on SB 356:

16:52:54 Chair Salomon
 16:53:20 Pad McCracken, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

EXHIBIT(eds41a08)

16:54:58 Sen. Bogner
 16:55:04 Sen. Regier
 16:55:44 Mr. McCracken, LSD
 16:55:59 Chair Salomon

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 356

16:56:31 **Motion:** Sen. Tempel moved that **SB 356 DO PASS.**

16:56:46 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Bogner moved that **SB 356 BE CONCEPTUALLY AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Manzella, Sen. Sweeney and Sen. Webber voted by proxy.

EXHIBIT(eds41a09)

16:57:58 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Tempel moved that **SB 356 DO PASS AS AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Manzella, Sen. Sweeney and Sen. Webber voted by proxy. -

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 342

16:58:44 **Motion:** Sen. Tempel moved that **SB 342 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:58:58 Chair Salomon
 16:59:22 Sen. Regier
 16:59:52 Sen. Hertz
 17:00:19 Sen. McClafferty

17:01:02 **Vote:** Motion carried 8-2 by voice vote with Sen. Manzella and Sen. K. Regier voting no. Sen. Manzella, Sen. Sweeney and Sen. Webber voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 243

17:01:52 **Motion:** Sen. Tempel moved that **SB 243 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

17:02:43 Chair Salomon
 17:03:21 Sen. Regier
 17:03:28 Chair Salomon
 17:03:37 Sen. Bogner
 17:04:01 Sen. Tempel
 17:04:26 Sen. McClafferty

17:05:05 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Manzella, Sen. Sweeney and Sen. Webber voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 281

17:05:43 Chair Salomon

17:06:06 **Motion:** Sen. Tempel moved that **SB 281 DO PASS.**

17:06:16 **Motion:** Sen. McClafferty moved that **SB 281 BE AMENDED.**

[**EXHIBIT\(eds41a10\)**](#)

Discussion:

17:06:38 Pad McCracken, Legislative Services Division
 17:08:13 Sen. McClafferty
 17:08:34 Chair Salomon

17:08:46 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Manzella, Sen. Sweeney and Sen. Webber voted by proxy.

17:09:19 **Motion:** Sen. Tempel moved that **SB 281 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:09:35 Sen. McClafferty
 17:09:53 Sen. Regier
 17:11:34 Sen. Tempel
 17:12:14 Sen. Hertz
 17:12:29 Chair Salomon

17:13:02 **Vote:** Motion carried 6-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Bogner, Sen. Manzella, Sen. K. Regier and Sen. Tempel voting no. Sen. Manzella, Sen. Sweeney and Sen. Webber voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 298

17:14:03 **Motion:** Sen. Tempel moved that **SB 298 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

17:14:10 Sen. Regier
 17:14:56 Sen. McClafferty
 17:15:38 Sen. Hertz
 17:15:45 Sen. Regier
 17:16:32 Chair Salomon
 17:17:34 Sen. Regier

17:18:17 **Vote:** Motion failed 4-6 by roll call vote with Sen. Bogner, Sen. Hertz, Sen. Manzella and Sen. K. Regier voting aye. Sen. Manzella, Sen. Sweeney and Sen. Webber voted by proxy.

17:19:18 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Tempel moved that **SB 198 BE TABLED AND THE VOTE REVERSED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Manzella, Sen. Sweeney and Sen. Webber voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 305

17:20:15 **Motion:** Sen. Tempel moved that **SB 305 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

17:20:48 Pad McCracken, Legislative Services Division

17:21:57 **Motion:** Sen. Tempel moved that **SB 305 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(eds41a11\)](#)

17:22:06 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. McClafferty, Sen. Sweeney and Sen. Webber voted by proxy.

17:22:25 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Tempel moved that **SB 305 DO PASS AS AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Manzella, Sen. Sweeney and Sen. Webber voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 15

17:23:22 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. O'Brien moved that **SJ 15 DO PASS.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Manzella, Sen. Sweeney and Sen. Webber voted by proxy.

17:24:40 Chair Salomon

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:24 P.M.

Charlene Devine, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([eds41aad.pdf](#))