

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

**Call to Order:** Chair Daniel R. Salomon, on March 29, 2021 at 3:00 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. 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)  
Sen. Susan Webber (D)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Theresa Manzella (R)

**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 329, 3/24/2021; HB 572, 3/24/2021

- 15:02:20 Chair Salomon left the meeting.  
15:02:30 Vice Chair Tempel assumed the role of the Chair.

**HEARING ON HB 572**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

- 15:04:03 Rep. Derek Skees (R), HD 11, opened the hearing on HB572, Establish Montana school marshal program.  
15:04:09 Sen. O'Brien entered the meeting.  
15:05:44 Sen. McClafferty entered the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

- 15:06:05 Debra Silk, Montana School Boards Association; Montana Public Education Coalition

**Opponents' Testimony:**

- 15:07:31 Dan Smith, Montana Police Protective Association (MPPA)  
15:13:30 Sen. Regier entered the meeting.  
15:14:05 Kiely Lammers, Billings  
15:18:58 Jan Strout, National Organization for Women  
[EXHIBIT\(eds61a01\)](#)

**Additional Testimony Received:**

[EXHIBIT\(eds61a02\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:**

- 15:22:20 Ken Bailey, Office of Public Instruction

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

- 15:23:14 Sen. O'Brien  
15:26:19 Ms. Lammers, citizen  
15:26:57 Sen. Sweeney  
15:33:21 Rep. Skees  
15:34:18 Sen. Webber  
15:36:31 Rep. Skees  
15:36:49 Sen. Webber  
15:39:55 Mr. Smith, MPPA  
15:40:24 Sen. Webber  
15:41:10 Rep. Skees  
15:41:45 Sen. McClafferty  
15:45:33 Mr. Smith

**Closing by Sponsor:**

- 15:45:56 Rep. Skees

**HEARING ON HB 329**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:48:30 Rep. Sue Vinton (R), HD 56, opened the hearing on HB329, Establish the Students with Special Needs Equal Opportunity Act.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:51:50 Scott Sales, Governor's office  
 15:53:11 Elsie Arntzen, superintendent, Office of Public Instruction  
 15:54:22 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation  
 15:56:54 Matthew Brower, Montana Catholic Conference  
 15:58:54 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity  
 16:01:05 Leslie Hiner, EdChoice

**EXHIBIT(eds61a03)**

**Opponents' Testimony:**

16:06:11 Joel Peden, Montana Independent Living Centers  
 16:10:44 Debra Silk, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA); Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC)  
 16:21:36 Kat Patterson, citizen

**EXHIBIT(eds61a04)**

16:28:28 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana; Montana Public Education Center  
 16:35:52 Dianne Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition; Montana Public Education Center  
 16:38:12 Diane Fladmo, Montana Federation of Public Employees; Montana Public Education Center  
 16:42:01 Michelle Halberg, Montana Council of Administration of Special Education

**EXHIBIT(eds61a05)**

**Additional Testimony Received:**

**EXHIBIT(eds61a06)**

**Informational Testimony:**

17:06:23 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

17:06:54 Sen. Sweeney  
 17:07:29 Ms. Silk, MT-PEC  
 17:09:12 Sen. McClafferty  
 17:10:34 Rep. Vinton  
 17:10:47 Sen. McClafferty  
 17:11:25 Sen. Webber  
 17:12:48 Rep. Vinton  
 17:13:20 Sen. Sweeney  
 17:15:19 Rep. Vinton  
 17:16:37 Sen. McClafferty  
 17:18:15 Mr. Taylor, OPI  
 17:18:24 Sen. McClafferty  
 17:18:42 Sen. Webber

17:19:11 Rep. Vinton

**Closing by Sponsor:**

17:20:00 Rep. Vinton

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 5:22 P.M.

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Charlene Devine, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([eds61aad.pdf](#))