

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Reconvene: Chair Ryan Osmundson, on March 30, 2021 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Ryan Osmundson, Chair (R)
Sen. Mike Cuffe, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Janet Ellis, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)
Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)
Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. Carl Glimm (R)
Sen. David Howard (R)
Sen. Tom Jacobson (D)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Sen. Mary McNally (D)
Sen. Shane A. Morigeau (D)
Sen. Daniel R. Salomon (R)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Heather Vande-Sandt, Remote Meeting Coordinator
Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Branch

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 2, 3/23/2021

14:52:47 Chair Osmundson

HEARING ON HB 2

HB2, General Appropriations Act.

Section E - Education

14:53:29 Rep. David Bedey, (R) HD 86 opened on Section E.

Office of Public Instruction

14:56:23 Rep. Bedey

15:00:11 Elsie Arntzen, superintendent, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Public Comment:

[EXHIBIT\(fcs62b01\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:01:18 Sen. Keenan

15:01:39 Ms. Arntzen, OPI

15:02:41 Ken Bailey, chief financial officer, OPI

15:03:51 Sen. Keenan

15:03:56 Mr. Bailey

15:04:05 Sen. Keenan

Board of Public Education

15:04:50 Rep. Bedey

15:06:52 McCall Flynn, executive director, Board of Public Education (BPE)

Public Comment: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:08:18 Sen. Keenan

15:08:48 Ms. Flynn, BPE

15:08:56 Sen. Keenan

15:09:08 Ms. Flynn

15:09:24 Sen. Keenan

15:09:28 Ms. Flynn

15:10:00 Sen. Ellis

15:10:37 Rep. Bedey

15:11:27 Sen. Lang

15:11:48 Rep. Bedey

15:11:56 Sen. Lang

15:12:02 Rep. Bedey

15:12:35 Sen. Lang

15:12:44 Rep. Bedey

15:12:52 Ms. Flynn

15:13:39 Sen. Lang

15:13:44 Ms. Flynn

Commissioner of Higher Education

15:14:16 Rep. Bedey
15:17:07 Clayton Christian, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)
15:19:01 Jane Karas, president, Flathead Valley Community College; also speaking on behalf of Scott Mickelson, president, Dawson Community College; Ron Slinger, president, Miles Community College

Public Comment:

15:20:44 Diane Fladmo, Montana Federation of Public Employees
15:22:16 Emily Dean, Montana School Boards Association

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:22:49 Sen. Keenan
15:23:34 Mr. Christian, OCHE
15:25:22 Sen. Boldman
15:25:48 Mr. Christian
15:26:49 Sen. Boldman
15:26:54 Mr. Christian

Montana School for the Deaf and Blind

15:27:36 Rep. Bedey
15:29:17 Paul Furthmyre, interim superintendent, Montana School for the Deaf and Blind

Public Comment:

15:32:01 McCall Flynn, executive director, Montana Board of Public Education
15:32:44 Diane Fladmo, Montana Federation of Public Employees

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:33:18 Sen. Keenan
15:33:51 Sen. Ellis
15:34:21 Rep. Bedey

Montana Arts Council

15:35:05 Rep. Bedey
15:36:01 Tatiana Grant, executive director, Montana Arts Council (MAC)

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

15:36:40 Sen. Ankney
15:37:07 Rep. Bedey
15:37:23 Ms. Grant, MAC
15:38:46 Sen. Ankney

Montana State Library

15:39:01 Rep. Bedey
15:42:11 Jennie Stapp, state librarian, Montana State Library

Public Comment: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Montana Historical Society

15:43:34 Rep. Bedey

15:45:18 Molly Kruchenberg, director, Montana Historical Society (MHS)

Public Comment:

15:47:05 Diane Fladmo, Montana Federation of Public Employees

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:47:52 Sen. Ellis

15:48:25 Rep. Bedey

15:48:42 Katie Guenther, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

15:49:51 Sen. Cuffe

15:50:15 Rep. Bedey

15:50:31 Ms. Kruchenberg, MHS

15:51:07 Rep. Bedey closed on Section E

15:51:21 Chair Osmundson

15:51:42 Kris Wilkinson, LFD

15:52:02 Chair Osmundson

15:52:37 Ms. Wilkinson

15:52:39 Chair Osmundson

15:52:43 Sen. Cuffe

15:53:14 Ms. Wilkinson

15:53:26 Recessed

RECESS

Adjournment: 3:53

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fcs62bad.pdf](#))