

MINUTES
MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (H) EDUCATION

Call to Order: Chair Fred Anderson-R, on March 31, 2023 at 11:59 AM, in 152

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Fred Anderson, Chair (R)
Rep. James Bergstrom (R)
Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R)
Rep. Lee Deming (R)
Rep. Sherry Essmann (R)
Rep. Brandon Ler (R)
Rep. Eric Matthews (D)
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)
Rep. Melissa Romano (D)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)
Rep. Mark Thane (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Linda Reksten (R)
Rep. Tyson Running Wolf (D)

Staff Present: Rose Harmon, Secretary
Amanda Persons, Remote Meeting Coordinator
Laura Sankey Keip, Research Analyst

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:

Executive Action:

HB 837

12:00:43 Rep. Mark Thane-D, Point of Personal Privilege

12:04:45 Vice Chair Reksten has arrived

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 837 - Require curriculum transparency in K-12 education

12:05:10 **Motion:** Vice Chair Linda Reksten moved that **HB 837 TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE.**

12:05:42 **Vote:** Motion carried 9 - 3 by roll call vote with Rep. Matthews, Rep. Romano, Rep. Thane, voting no.

12:07:01 **Motion:** Vice Chair Linda Reksten moved that **HB 837 DO PASS.**

12:07:24 **Motion:** Vice Chair Linda Reksten moved that **HB 837 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

12:07:36 Rep. Eric Matthews

12:07:52 Laura Sankey Keip

12:09:22 Rep. Lee Deming

12:07:42 **Vote:** Motion carried 7 - 6 by roll call vote with Rep. Anderson, Rep. Bertoglio, Rep. Matthews, Rep. Romano, Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Thane, voting no.
Rep. Running Wolf, By Proxy

12:11:13 **Motion:** Vice Chair Linda Reksten moved that **HB 837 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

12:11:28 Laura Sankey Keip

12:12:28 Rep. Mark Thane

12:11:42 **Vote:** Motion failed 7 - 6 by roll call vote with Rep. Anderson, Rep. Bergstrom, Rep. Deming, Rep. Ler, Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Seekins-Crowe, voting yes.

12:14:51 **Motion:** Vice Chair Linda Reksten moved that **HB 837 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

12:14:01 Rep. Lee Deming

12:15:38 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Eric Matthews moved that **HB 837 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

12:15:25 Laura Sankey Keip

12:18:51 Rep. Eric Matthews

12:20:05 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe

12:21:04 Vice Chair Linda Reksten

12:22:23 Rep. Eric Matthews

12:22:56 Rep. Sherry Essmann

12:23:20 Rep. Eric Matthews

12:23:40 Lance Melton, Executive Director, Montana School Boards Association,
Coalition of Advocates for Montana's Public Schools (CAMPS)

12:24:27 Rep. Sherry Essmann

12:25:03 Rep. Eric Matthews

12:26:21 Rep. Mark Thane

12:26:43 Rep. Lee Deming

12:26:50 Chair Fred Anderson

12:15:42 **Vote:** Substitute Motion carried 8 - 5 by roll call vote with Rep. Anderson,
Rep. Deming, Rep. Ler, Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Seekins-Crowe, voting no.

12:28:15 **Motion:** Vice Chair Linda Reksten moved that **HB 837 DO PASS AS
AMENDED.**

Discussion:

12:28:31 Rep. Mark Thane
[EXHIBIT\(230331EDHa1\)](#)

12:33:09 Rep. Marta Bertoglio

12:35:19 Rep. Eric Matthews

12:36:17 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Eric Matthews moved that **HB 837 TO TABLE.**

12:36:39 **Vote:** Substitute Motion failed 7 - 6 by roll call vote with Rep. Bertoglio, Rep.
Matthews, Rep. Reksten, Rep. Romano, Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Thane,
voting yes.
Rep. Running Wolf, By Proxy

12:37:31 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Braxton Mitchell moved that **HB 837 DO PASS AS
AMENDED.**

12:37:01 **Vote:** Substitute Motion failed 7 - 6 by roll call vote with Rep. Bergstrom, Rep.
Deming, Rep. Essmann, Rep. Ler, Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Seekins-Crowe, voting

yes.
Rep. Seekins-Crowe, By Proxy

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:38:49

Rose Harmon, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230331EDHaad\)](#)