

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE

68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON (S) EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Sen. Daniel Salomon-R, on January 09, 2023 at 2:32 PM, in 422 - Meeting 15 min. after Senate floor adjourns

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Daniel Salomon, Chair (R)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Daniel Emrich (R)
Sen. John Fuller (R)
Sen. Greg Hertz (R)
Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D)
Sen. Andrea Olsen (D)
Sen. Keith Regier (R)
Sen. Susan Webber (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)

Staff Present: Pad McCracken, Research Analyst
Lynnette Sena, Secretary

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 1 01/04/2023
SB 10 01/04/2023
SB 69 01/04/2023
SB 70 01/04/2023

Executive Action:

Committee Discussion:

14:32:42 Sen. Daniel Salomon

14:33:07 Sen. Keith Regier

14:33:48 Sen. Daniel Salomon

HEARING ON SB 10 - Clarify school finance laws related to general fund levies

Opening Statement:

14:33:59 Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D), SD 46, opened the hearing on SB 10, Clarify school finance laws related to general fund levies.

Proponent Testimony:

14:36:10 Emily Dean, Coalition of Advocates for Montana Public Schools

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

14:37:37 Sen. Daniel Emrich

14:38:47 Sen. Shannon O'Brien

14:38:56 Sen. Daniel Salomon

Closing Statement:

14:39:05 Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D), SD 46, closed the hearing on SB 10.

HEARING ON SB 1 - Align payment schedule of school block grants

Opening Statement:

14:40:04 Sen. Daniel Salomon (R), SD 47, opened the hearing on SB 1, Align payment schedule of school block grants.

Proponent Testimony:

14:40:55 Emily Dean, Coalition of Advocates for Montana Public Schools

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

14:41:50 Sen. Keith Regier

14:42:04 Sen. Daniel Salomon

14:42:22 Sen. John Fuller

Closing Statement:

14:42:50 Sen. Daniel Salomon (R), SD 47, closed the hearing on SB 1.

HEARING ON SB 69 - Clarify school transportation laws related to passenger vehicles

Opening Statement:

14:43:23 Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D), SD 46, opened the hearing on SB 69, Clarify school transportation laws related to passenger vehicles.

Proponent Testimony:

14:44:49 Emily Dean, Coalition of Advocates

[EXHIBIT\(230109EDSa1\)](#)

14:46:45 Dennis Parman, Montana Rural Education Association

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

14:47:42 Becky Belling, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee:

14:48:09 Sen. John Fuller
14:48:43 Becky Belling, OPI
14:48:54 Sen. John Fuller
14:49:13 Becky Belling, OPI
14:49:20 Sen. John Fuller
14:49:32 Dennis Parman

Closing Statement:

14:50:11 Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D), SD 46, closed the hearing on SB 69.

HEARING ON SB 70 - Revise the Quality Educator Loan Assistance Program

Opening Statement:

14:50:54 Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D), SD 46, opened the hearing on SB 70, Revise the Quality Educator Loan Assistance Program.

Proponent Testimony:

14:54:25 Emily Dean, Coalition of Advocates for Montana Public Schools
14:55:16 Ray Curtis, self
14:58:06 Quint Nyman, Deputy Executive Director of Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFE)
14:58:46 Dan Farr, self

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:00:50 Jay Phillips, Chief Financial Officer for the Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
15:01:03 McCall Flynn, Executive Director of the Board of Public Education (BPE)

Questions from Committee:

15:01:33 Sen. John Fuller

15:02:29	Ray Curtis
15:03:42	Sen. John Fuller
15:03:53	Sen. Greg Hertz
15:06:14	Jay Phillips, OPI
15:06:23	Sen. Keith Regier
15:07:18	Sen. Shannon O'Brien
15:07:26	Sen. Daniel Salomon
15:08:09	Sen. Keith Regier
15:09:07	Sen. Shannon O'Brien
15:09:47	Sen. Keith Regier
15:10:05	Sen. Daniel Salomon
15:10:10	Jay Phillips, OPI
15:10:45	Sen. Keith Regier
15:10:53	Jay Phillips, OPI
15:11:25	Sen. Daniel Salomon
15:11:39	Sen. Daniel Emrich
15:12:33	Sen. Keith Regier left the meeting.
15:12:42	Dan Farr
15:14:34	Sen. Daniel Emrich
15:15:35	Jay Phillips, OPI
15:15:40	Sen. Daniel Emrich
15:17:22	Dan Farr
15:21:45	Sen. Daniel Emrich
15:21:49	Sen. Daniel Salomon

15:22:15 Emily Dean, Coalition of Advocates

15:23:53 Sen. John Fuller

15:24:40 Dan Farr

15:27:29 Sen. Greg Hertz

15:28:44 Jay Phillips, OPI

15:28:58 Sen. Greg Hertz

15:29:10 Sen. Daniel Salomon

Closing Statement:

15:29:38 Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D), SD 46, closed the hearing on SB 70.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 15:32:14

Lynnette Sena, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230109EDSaad\)](#)