

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Daniel Salomon-R, on March 27, 2023 at 3:24 PM, in 422

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. Shannon O'Brien (D)
Sen. Andrea Olsen (D)
Sen. Keith Regier (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)
Sen. Greg Hertz (R)
Sen. Susan Webber (D)

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:

HB 36 03/21/2023
HB 707 03/22/2023
HB 811 03/22/2023
HJ 9 03/22/2023

Executive Action:

HB 91 BE CONCURRED IN AS
AMENDED
HB 377 BE CONCURRED IN
HB 531 BE CONCURRED IN
HB 458 BE CONCURRED IN
HJ 9 BE CONCURRED IN

HEARING ON HB 36 - Revising school funding laws related to enrollment increases

Opening Statement:

15:25:18 Rep. David Bedey (R), HD 86, opened the hearing on HB 36, Revising school funding laws related to enrollment increases.

[EXHIBIT\(230327EDSa1\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:31:51 Paul Taylor, Budget Analyst, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee:

15:32:09 Sen. Keith Regier

15:35:07 Paul Taylor, OPI

15:36:06 Sen. Keith Regier

15:36:15 Chair Daniel Salomon

15:36:23 Rep. David Bedey

15:38:59 Chair Daniel Salomon

Closing Statement:

15:39:23 Rep. David Bedey (R), HD 86, closed the hearing on HB 36.

HEARING ON HB 707 - Allow certain elementary districts to create new high school district

Opening Statement:

15:40:24 Rep. Jodee Etchart (R), HD 48, opened the hearing on HB 707, Allow certain elementary districts to create new high school district.

Proponent Testimony:

15:43:41 Elsie Arntzen, State Superintendent, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
15:44:55 Tobin Novasio, Superintendent, Lockwood Schools
15:45:46 Missy Jones, Co-founder, Southwest Billings SMART Growth
15:48:05 Chris Friedel, Senator, SD 26
15:50:26 Susie Layton, Co-founder, Southwest Billings SMART Growth
15:52:41 Luke Romo, Board Chair, Elder Grove School District

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:54:47 Paul Taylor, Budget Analyst, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
15:55:00 Scott Walter, Board Chairman, East Helena School District

Questions from Committee:

15:55:38 Sen. John Fuller
15:57:04 Rep. Jodee Etchart
15:57:09 Sen. John Fuller
15:57:24 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, OPI
15:58:21 Sen. John Fuller
15:59:36 Paul Taylor, OPI
15:59:50 Sen. John Fuller
16:00:45 Sen. Daniel Emrich
16:02:13 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, OPI
16:04:48 Vice Chair Edith (Edie) McClafferty
16:08:03 Scott Walter, East Helena School District
16:08:43 Vice Chair Edith (Edie) McClafferty

16:09:03 Rep. Jodee Etchart
16:09:45 Sen. Shannon O'Brien
16:10:55 Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel
16:11:47 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, OPI
16:12:01 Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel
16:14:31 Paul Taylor, OPI
16:15:35 Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel
16:16:03 Sen. Andrea Olsen
16:16:34 Doug Reisig, Former Superintendent, Hellgate Schools
16:18:54 Sen. Andrea Olsen
16:19:02 Sen. John Fuller
16:20:55 Sen. Keith Regier
16:24:56 Paul Taylor, OPI
16:25:21 Chair Daniel Salomon
16:29:48 Scott Walter, East Helena School District
16:31:02 Chair Daniel Salomon
16:33:28 Paul Taylor, OPI

Closing Statement:

16:34:12 Rep. Jodee Etchart (R), HD 48, closed the hearing on HB 707.

HEARING ON HB 811 - Create online repository for information on school district boards of trustees

Opening Statement:

16:37:34 Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R), HD 75, opened the hearing on HB 811, Create online repository for information on school district boards of trustees.

Proponent Testimony:

16:38:35 Ronda Wiggers, Montana Broadcasters Associations

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:39:46 Sen. Andrea Olsen
16:40:28 Rep. Marta Bertoglio
16:40:46 Sen. Shannon O'Brien
16:41:14 Rep. Marta Bertoglio
16:41:44 Vice Chair Edith (Edie) McClafferty
16:42:03 Rep. Marta Bertoglio

Closing Statement:

16:42:31 Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R), HD 75, closed the hearing on HB 811.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 91 - Revise laws related to public library state aid

16:45:15 **Motion:** Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel moved that **HB 91 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

16:45:23 Chair Daniel Salomon
16:45:37 Pad McCracken
16:45:58 Chair Daniel Salomon
16:46:49 **Motion:** Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel moved that **HB 91 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

16:47:13 Chair Daniel Salomon
16:47:23 Pad McCracken
16:47:56 Sen. Daniel Emrich

16:49:10 Sen. Andrea Olsen
16:50:29 Sen. John Fuller
16:50:55 Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel
16:46:49 **Vote:** Motion carried 8 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Emrich, Sen. Fuller, Sen. Regier, voting no.
16:52:03 **Motion:** Sen. John Fuller moved that **HB 91 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

16:52:18 Sen. John Fuller
16:53:52 Sen. Andrea Olsen
16:54:31 Sen. Keith Regier
16:55:00 Chair Daniel Salomon
16:55:11 Jenny Stapp, Montana State Librarian
16:56:58 Chair Daniel Salomon
16:57:08 Sen. John Fuller
16:58:03 Sen. Daniel Emrich
16:59:05 Chair Daniel Salomon
16:59:27 Sen. Andrea Olsen
16:59:51 Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel
16:52:03 **Vote:** Motion failed 7 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Emrich, Sen. Fuller, Sen. Hertz, Sen. Regier, voting yes.
Sen. Hertz, By Proxy
17:01:02 **Motion:** Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel moved that **HB 91 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:01:16 Sen. Keith Regier
17:02:08 Sen. Daniel Emrich
17:04:21 Sen. John Fuller
17:01:02 **Vote:** Motion carried 7 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Emrich, Sen. Fuller, Sen. Hertz, Sen. Regier, voting no.
Sen. Hertz, By Proxy
17:01:02 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Jason Small

HEARING ON HJ 9 - Joint resolution for MT historical society repository of original 13th Amend

Opening Statement:

17:05:57 Rep. Joe Read (R), HD 93, opened the hearing on HJ 9, Joint resolution for MT historical society repository of original 13th Amend.

[EXHIBIT\(230327EDSa2\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230327EDSa3\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

17:15:11 Molly Kruckenberg, Director, Montana Historical Society

Questions from Committee:

17:15:45 Sen. Daniel Emrich

17:16:00 Molly Kruckenberg, Montana Historical Society

17:16:28 Vice Chair Edith (Edie) McClafferty

17:16:39 Molly Kruckenberg, Montana Historical Society

17:16:45 Chair Daniel Salomon

17:16:56 Molly Kruckenberg, Montana Historical Society

17:17:33 Sen. John Fuller

17:18:04 Rep. Joe Read

17:18:57 Sen. Andrea Olsen

17:19:49 Rep. Joe Read

Closing Statement:

17:20:52 Rep. Joe Read (R), HD 93, closed the hearing on HJ 9.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 377 - Create a 250th commission for Montana

17:22:24 **Motion:** Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel moved that **HB 377 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

17:22:33 Chair Daniel Salomon

17:22:24 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

17:22:24 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Shannon O'Brien

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 531 - Establish annual combined meeting of the board of education

17:23:54 **Motion:** Sen. Daniel Salomon moved that **HB 531 BE CONCURRED IN.**

17:23:54 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

17:23:54 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. John Fuller

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 458 - Generally revise regulations governing the eligibility of career coaches

17:24:56 **Motion:** Sen. Daniel Salomon moved that **HB 458 BE CONCURRED IN.**

17:24:56 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

17:24:56 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 9 - Joint resolution for MT historical society repository of original 13th Amend

17:26:19 **Motion:** Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel moved that **HJ 9 BE CONCURRED IN.**

17:26:19 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

17:26:19 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. John Fuller

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:26:48

Lynnette Sena, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230327EDSaad\)](#)