

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

Call to Order: Chair Daniel Salomon-R, on April 14, 2023 at 3:18 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. Greg Hertz (R)
Sen. Keith Regier (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)
Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D)
Sen. Andrea Olsen (D)
Sen. Susan Webber (D)

Staff Present: Pad McCracken, Research Analyst
Jacelyn Sterling, 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 321 04/07/2023
HB 588 05/01/2023
HB 749 04/07/2023

Executive Action:

HB 332 BE CONCURRED IN AS
AMENDED
HB 382 BE CONCURRED IN
HB 587 BE CONCURRED IN
HB 949 BE CONCURRED IN AS
AMENDED
HB 588 BE CONCURRED IN
HB 749 BE CONCURRED IN

15:18:55 Sen. Fuller has left
15:19:39 Sen. O'Brien has arrived
15:19:41 Sen. Hertz has left

HEARING ON HB 588 - Revise TEACH Act incentives to increase starting teacher salary

Opening Statement:

15:18:51 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 18, opened the hearing on HB 588, Revise TEACH Act incentives to increase starting teacher salary.

Proponent Testimony:

15:22:41 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe
15:23:38 Questions from Committee:
15:23:43 Sen. Daniel Emrich
15:23:52 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe
15:24:01 Further Proponents:
15:24:05 Dylan Klapmeier, Governor's Education Advisor, Governor's Office
15:24:59 Lance Melton, Coalition of Advocates for Montana's Public Schools (CAMPS)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:26:06 Paul Taylor, Budget Analyst, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee:

15:26:26 Chair Daniel Salomon
15:27:13 Rep. Llew Jones

Closing Statement:

15:28:07 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 18, closed the hearing on HB 588.

HEARING ON HB 749 - Revise Montana digital academy laws

Opening Statement:

15:28:47 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 18, opened the hearing on HB 749, Revise Montana digital academy laws.

[EXHIBIT\(230414EDSa1\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

15:35:05 Dylan Klapmeier, Governor's Education Advisor, Governor's Office

15:35:50 Sen. Hertz has arrived

15:38:11 Lance Melton, Coalition of Advocates for Montana's Public Schools (CAMPS)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:42:20 Sharyl Allen, Deputy Superintendent, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

15:42:54 Jason Neiffer, Executive Director, Montana Digital Academy (MTDA)

Questions from Committee:

15:43:27 Sen. Keith Regier

15:46:04 Rep. Llew Jones

15:46:43 Sen. Keith Regier

15:47:08 Sen. Shannon O'Brien

15:47:48 Rep. Llew Jones

15:50:55 Vice Chair Edith (Edie) McClafferty

15:51:13 Jason Neiffer, MTDA

15:51:38 Vice Chair Edith (Edie) McClafferty

15:51:47 Chair Daniel Salomon

15:52:11 Jason Neiffer, MTDA

Closing Statement:

15:53:35 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 18, closed the hearing on HB 749.

HEARING ON HB 321 - Generally revise laws related to the coal trust

Opening Statement:

15:55:06 Rep. Linda Reksten (R), HD 12, opened the hearing on HB 321, Generally revise laws related to the coal trust.

[EXHIBIT\(230414EDSa2\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

15:59:27 Representative Llew Jones, HD 18

16:03:59 Questions from Committee:

16:04:04 Sen. Daniel Emrich

16:04:43 Rep. Llew Jones, HD 18

16:07:16 Further Proponents:

16:07:17 Lance Melton, Coalition of Advocates for Montana's Public Schools (CAMPS)

16:11:24 Mark Bostrom, Administrator of the Conservation Resource Development Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

16:13:26 Dean Rogge, President, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)

16:17:37 Jason Strouf, Commissioner, Custer County

16:18:21 Steve Wanderaas, Chair, McCone Conservation District

16:19:07 Rebecca Boslough-King, Executive Director, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)

[EXHIBIT\(230414EDSa3\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230414EDSa4\)](#)

16:21:09 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

16:22:10 Nancy Hall, Governor's Office

16:22:48 Raylee Honeycutt, Montana Stock Growers Association (MSGA)

16:23:03 Ray Beck, Yellowstone Conservation District (YCD), Cascade Conservation District (CCD)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:23:48 Sen. Keith Regier

16:24:03 Steve Wanderaas, McCone Conservation District

16:24:58 Sen. Daniel Emrich

16:25:37 Ray Beck, YCD, CCD

16:26:31 Sen. Shannon O'Brien

16:27:20 Nancy Hall, Governor's Office

16:28:36 Chair Daniel Salomon

16:30:41 Rep. Linda Reksten-R

16:30:48 Rebecca Boslough-King, MACD

Closing Statement:

16:31:41 Rep. Linda Reksten (R), HD 12, closed the hearing on HB 321.

16:33:45 **Recessed**

16:48:35 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 332 - Generally revise laws related to school employee health benefits

16:48:56 **Motion:** Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel moved that **HB 332 BE CONCURRED IN.**

16:49:14 **Motion:** Sen. Greg Hertz moved that **HB 332 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

16:49:26 Sen. Greg Hertz

16:50:01 Pad McCracken

16:50:06 Sen. Greg Hertz

16:50:47 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:51:09 **Motion:** Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel moved that **HB 332 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

16:51:21 Sen. Greg Hertz

16:52:19 Vice Chair Edith (Edie) McClafferty

16:52:40 Sen. Keith Regier

16:53:19 Chair Daniel Salomon

16:54:03 Sen. Daniel Emrich

16:54:42 **Vote:** Motion carried 8 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Emrich, Sen. Fuller, Sen. Regier, voting no.
Sen. Fuller, By Proxy

16:51:09 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Greg Hertz

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 382 - Revise education laws related to career and technology student organizations

16:55:35 **Motion:** Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel moved that **HB 382 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

16:55:44 Chair Daniel Salomon

16:56:23 Sen. Daniel Emrich

16:56:37 **Motion:** Sen. Daniel Emrich moved that **HB 382 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

16:56:48 Chair Daniel Salomon

16:57:10 Pad McCracken

16:57:47 Vice Chair Edith (Edie) McClafferty

16:58:10 Sen. Daniel Emrich

- 16:59:35 Sen. Shannon O'Brien
- 17:00:38 Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel
- 17:01:01 Chair Daniel Salomon
- 17:01:51 Sen. Daniel Emrich
- 17:02:22 Pad McCracken
- 17:03:02 Vice Chair Edith (Edie) McClafferty
- 17:03:35 **Vote:** Motion failed 7 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Emrich, Sen. Fuller, Sen. Hertz, Sen. Regier, voting yes.
Sen. Fuller, By Proxy
- 17:04:18 **Motion:** Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel moved that **HB 382 BE CONCURRED IN.**
- 17:04:34 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
Carrier Assigned: Sen. Shannon O'Brien

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 587 - Generally revise school finance laws related to property taxes

- 17:04:55 **Motion:** Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel moved that **HB 587 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

- 17:05:23 Chair Daniel Salomon
- 17:05:56 Sen. Shannon O'Brien
- 17:06:04 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
Carrier Assigned: Sen. Greg Hertz

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 949 - Generally revise education laws related to data governance

- 17:06:44 **Motion:** Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel moved that **HB 949 BE CONCURRED IN.**
- 17:07:08 **Motion:** Chair Daniel Salomon moved that **HB 949 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

- 17:07:16 Pad McCracken
- 17:07:58 Sen. Shannon O'Brien

17:08:13 Pad McCracken

17:09:07 Chair Daniel Salomon

17:09:23 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

17:09:39 **Motion:** Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel moved that **HB 949 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

17:09:51 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Carrier Assigned: Sen. Daniel Salomon

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 588 - Revise TEACH Act incentives to increase starting teacher salary

17:10:12 **Motion:** Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel moved that **HB 588 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

17:10:28 Chair Daniel Salomon

17:10:39 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Carrier Assigned: Sen. Daniel Salomon

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 749 - Revise Montana digital academy laws

17:11:14 **Motion:** Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel moved that **HB 749 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

17:11:22 Chair Daniel Salomon

17:11:59 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Carrier Assigned: Sen. Daniel Salomon

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:12:47

Jacelyn Sterling, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230414EDSaad\)](#)