

**MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) FINANCE AND CLAIMS**

Call to Order: Chair Carl Glimm-R, on April 24, 2023 at 5:06 PM, in 317 - upon Adjournment of Senate Floor

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. John Esp, Chair (R)
Sen. Janet Ellis, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Dan Bartel (R)
Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)
Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)
Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)
Sen. John Fuller (R)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)
Sen. Daniel Salomon (R)
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)
Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. Carl Glimm (R)
Sen. Dennis Lenz (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Sen. Tom McGillvray (R)
Sen. Shane Morigeau (D)

Staff Present: Julie Johnson, Research Analyst
Joe Triem, Fiscal Analyst
Cy Walsh, 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 393 04/22/2023

HB 549 04/22/2023

HB 562 04/22/2023

Executive Action:

HB 817 TO TABLE

HEARING ON HB 549 - Authorizing establishment of public charter schools

Opening Statement:

17:07:09 Rep. Fred Anderson (R), HD 20, opened the hearing on HB 549, Authorizing establishment of public charter schools.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230424FCSb1\)](#)

17:07:45 Sen. Ryan Lynch joined the meeting.

17:08:35 Sen. Pat Flowers joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

17:10:13 Lance Melton, Coalition of Advocates for Montana's Public Schools (CAMPS)

Opponent Testimony:

17:11:23 Jami Woodman, self

17:12:32 Sen. Shane Morigeau joined the meeting.

17:13:39 Ray Curtis, self

17:14:27 Vice Chair Carl Glimm joined the meeting.

17:15:44 Sen. Tom McGillvray joined the meeting.

Informational Witness Testimony:

17:16:31 McCall Flynn, Board of Public Education (BPE)

17:16:46 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee:

17:17:12 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

17:17:16 Sen. Dennis Lenz joined the meeting.

17:17:51 Rep. Fred Anderson-R

17:18:41 Sen. Pat Flowers

17:19:13 Paul Taylor, OPI

Closing Statement:

17:21:55 Rep. Fred Anderson (R), HD 20, closed the hearing on HB 549.

HEARING ON HB 562 - Authorize establishment of community choice schools

Opening Statement:

17:23:45 Rep. Sue Vinton (R), HD 56, opened the hearing on HB 562, Authorize establishment of community choice schools.

Proponent Testimony:

17:25:39 Trish Schreiber, self

17:27:59 Sen. Dennis Lenz left the meeting.

17:28:16 Russ Simnick, National Alliance for Public Charter Schools

17:29:07 Lisa Bennett, self

17:29:30 Sen. Dan Bartel left the meeting.

17:30:36 Sen. Dan Bartel joined the meeting.

17:31:15 Nicole Bennett, self

17:31:57 Alex Bennett, self

17:32:35 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity (AFP)

17:33:37 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation (MFF)

17:34:27 Chip Lindenlaub, self

17:36:41 Melina Pyron, self

Opponent Testimony:

17:38:57 Lance Melton, Coalition of Advocates for Montana's Public Schools (CAMPS)

17:40:22 Jasmine Krotkov, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

17:41:15 Amanda Curtis, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

17:41:56 Jami Woodman, Brand MT (Brand)

17:43:42 Amanda Frickle, Montana American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)

17:45:29 Jenny Murane-Butcher, Montanans Organized for Education (MOE)

17:46:10 Sen. Dennis Lenz joined the meeting.

17:46:45 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe

17:48:43 Ray Curtis, self

17:49:36 Sen. Ryan Lynch left the meeting.

17:50:13 Tal Goldin, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)

Informational Witness Testimony:

17:52:01 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

17:52:16 McCall Flynn, Board of Public Education (BPE)

Questions from Committee:

17:52:49 Sen. Christopher Pope

17:52:59 Lance Melton, CAMPS

17:54:45 Sen. John Fuller

17:55:13 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe

17:56:19 Chair John Esp left the meeting.

17:57:17 Sen. Pat Flowers

17:57:52 Lance Melton, CAMPS

18:00:46 Sen. Kenneth Bogner

18:01:06 Trish Schreiber, self

18:01:16 Chair John Esp joined the meeting.

18:01:40 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn

18:02:20 Rep. Sue Vinton-R

18:02:48 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn

18:03:12 Trish Schreiber, self

Closing Statement:

18:04:06 Rep. Sue Vinton (R), HD 56, closed the hearing on HB 562.

HEARING ON HB 393 - Establish the Students with Special Needs Equal Opportunity Act

Opening Statement:

18:05:24 Rep. Sue Vinton (R), HD 56, opened the hearing on HB 393, Establish the Students with Special Needs Equal Opportunity Act.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230424FCSb2\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230424FCSb3\)](#)

18:06:29 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn left the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

18:07:12 Dylan Klapmeier, Governor's Office

18:07:55 Sen. Forrest Mandeville left the meeting.

18:09:48 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity (AFP)

18:10:19 Trish Schreiber, self

18:10:54 Chelsea Culpon, self

18:12:44 Melina Pyron, self

18:13:02 Sen. Kenneth Bogner left the meeting.

Opponent Testimony:

18:13:23 Lance Melton, Coalition of Advocates for Montana's Public Schools (CAMPS)

18:15:28 Amanda Curtis, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

18:15:53 Jenny Murane-Butcher, Montanans Organized for Education (MOE)

18:16:24 Sen. Kenneth Bogner joined the meeting.

Informational Witness Testimony:

18:17:59 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee:

18:18:30 Chair John Esp
18:18:34 Dylan Klapmeier, Governor's Office
18:19:29 Sen. Tom McGillvray
18:20:02 Dylan Klapmeier, Governor's Office
18:21:02 Sen. Tom McGillvray
18:21:20 Amanda Curtis, MFPE
18:22:57 Vice Chair Janet Ellis
18:23:19 Rep. Sue Vinton-R
18:23:44 Sen. Dennis Lenz
18:25:53 Rep. Sue Vinton-R

Closing Statement:

18:25:57 Rep. Sue Vinton (R), HD 56, closed the hearing on HB 393.

Discussion:

18:26:02 Sen. Ryan Lynch joined the meeting.
18:26:11 Sen. Shane Morigeau left the meeting.

18:29:00 **Committee Discussion:** HB 817 Discussion

18:29:08 Julie Johnson
18:30:10 Chair John Esp
18:30:22 Julie Johnson

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 817 - Provide for capital projects

18:30:44 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 817 BE CONCURRED IN.**

18:30:48 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 817 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

18:31:18 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

18:31:20 Sen. Shane Morigeau joined the meeting.

18:31:25 Sen. Forrest Mandeville joined the meeting.

18:31:27 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn joined the meeting.

18:31:56 Chair John Esp

18:32:48 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

18:33:41 Sen. Ryan Lynch

18:34:20 Sen. Ellie Boldman

18:34:37 Chair John Esp

18:34:57 Sen. Ellie Boldman

18:30:48 **Vote:** Motion carried 16 - 3 by voice vote with Sen. Bogner, Sen. Lang, Sen. Mandeville, voting no.

18:35:59 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 817 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

18:36:14 Sen. Ryan Lynch

18:35:59 **Vote:** Motion failed 11 - 8 by roll call vote with Sen. Cuffe, Sen. Esp, Sen. Fuller, Sen. Glimm, Sen. Lenz, Sen. McGillvray, Sen. Salomon, Sen. Vance, voting yes.

18:37:15 **Motion:** Vice Chair Carl Glimm moved that **HB 817 TO TABLE.**

18:37:15 **Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 8 by voice vote with Sen. Cuffe, Sen. Esp, Sen. Fuller, Sen. Glimm, Sen. Lenz, Sen. McGillvray, Sen. Salomon, Sen. Vance, voting no.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 18:37:36

Cy Walsh, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230424FCSbad\)](#)