

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA SENATE**

**68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON (S) EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES**

**Call to Order:** Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel-R, on April 26, 2023 at 4:27 PM, in 422

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Daniel Emrich (R)  
Sen. Greg Hertz (R)  
Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D)  
Sen. Andrea Olsen (D)  
Sen. Keith Regier (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)  
Sen. John Fuller (R)  
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)  
Sen. Daniel Salomon (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:

SJ 35 04/21/2023

Executive Action:

HB 913 BE CONCURRED IN  
SJ 35 DO PASS AS AMENDED

16:28:30 Sen. Hertz has left

**HEARING ON SJ 35 - Study of education opportunities for certain inmates**

**Opening Statement:**

16:28:45 Sen. Brad Molnar (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SJ 35, Study of education opportunities for certain inmates.

**Proponent Testimony:**

16:35:53 Lance Four Star, Director, Montana American Indian Caucus (MAIC)

[EXHIBIT\(230426EDSa1\)](#)

16:37:59 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe

16:38:47 Maggie Bornstein, American Civil Liberties Union of Montana (ACLU-MT)

16:39:34 Brian Thompson, Montana Contractors Association (MCA)

16:40:21 Amanda Frickle, Montana American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (MT AFL-CIO)

16:41:30 Jade Bahr, Montana Budget and Policy Center (MBPC)

16:42:49 Sen. Greg Hertz joined the meeting.

16:42:59 Austin Aisenbrey, self

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

16:44:27 Sen. Shannon O'Brien

16:45:44 Sen. Brad Molnar

16:48:32 Sen. Shannon O'Brien

16:48:54 Pad McCracken

16:49:44 Sen. Andrea Olsen

16:50:11 Sen. Brad Molnar  
16:51:03 Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel  
16:51:18 Sen. Brad Molnar

**Closing Statement:**

16:52:45 Sen. Brad Molnar (R), SD 28, closed the hearing on SJ 35.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 913 - Revise school library collection selection and reconsideration processes**

16:55:20 **Motion:** Sen. Keith Regier moved that **HB 913 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

16:55:28 Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel  
16:55:35 Sen. Greg Hertz  
16:55:45 Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel  
16:55:52 Sen. Shannon O'Brien  
16:55:58 Pad McCracken  
16:56:52 Sen. Andrea Olsen  
16:57:19 Sen. Keith Regier  
16:57:45 **Vote:** Motion carried 6 - 5 by roll call vote with Sen. Emrich, Sen. Fitzpatrick, Sen. Fuller, Sen. Hertz, Sen. Regier, voting no.  
Sen. Fitzpatrick, Sen. Fuller, By Proxy

**Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Shannon O'Brien

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 35 - Study of education opportunities for certain inmates**

16:58:37 **Motion:** Sen. Keith Regier moved that **SJ 35 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

16:58:51 Sen. Keith Regier  
16:58:57 Pad McCracken  
16:59:06 Sen. Keith Regier  
16:59:22 **Motion:** Sen. Keith Regier moved that **SJ 35 BE AMENDED.**

16:59:49 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

17:00:13 **Motion:** Sen. Keith Regier moved that **SJ 35 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

17:00:24 Sen. Greg Hertz

17:01:15 Sen. Andrea Olsen

17:01:50 Vice Chair Russel (Russ) Tempel

17:02:19 Sen. Shannon O'Brien

17:03:23 **Vote:** Motion carried 7 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Fuller, Sen. Hertz, Sen. Regier, Sen. Tempel, voting no.  
Sen. Fuller, By Proxy

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 17:04:35

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Lynnette Sena, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230426EDSaad\)](#)