

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Scott Reichner, on January 31, 2011 at 3:00 PM, in Room 137  
Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Scott Reichner, Chair (R)  
Rep. Kris Hansen, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Edith (Edie) McClafferty, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Mark Blasdel (R)  
Rep. Joanne G. Blyton (R)  
Rep. Christy Clark (R)  
Rep. Lila Walter Evans (R)  
Rep. Sue Malek (D)  
Rep. Jean Price (D)  
Rep. Daniel R. Salomon (R)  
Rep. Bob Wagner (R)  
Rep. Jeffery W. Welborn (R)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** Rep. Bryce Bennett (D)  
Rep. Jonathan McNiven (R)  
Rep. Ted Washburn (R)  
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)

**Staff Present:** Marissa Stockton, Committee Secretary  
Dan Whyte, Legislative Services Division

**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: HJ 7, 1/26/2011; HB 347, 1/26/2011

00:00:08 Chairman Reichner

**HEARING ON HJ 7**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:54 Rep. Derek Skees (R), HD 4, opened the hearing on HJ 7, Study how to cut size of OPI and reduce number of school districts.

**EXHIBIT(edh24a01)**

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:15:08 Dennis Parman, Deputy Superintendent, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)  
00:24:43 Chairman Reichner  
00:25:02 Joe Cohenour  
00:29:25 Nell O'Neilson  
00:32:35 Elaine Wood, Parent, District 95  
00:35:33 Rep. Blasdel left.  
00:35:57 Terry Clark, Teacher  
00:39:17 Steve Meloy, Board of Public Education (BPE)

**EXHIBIT(edh24a02)**

00:42:08 Cynthia Clary, Superintendent, Big Fork School District

**EXHIBIT(edh24a03)**

00:45:56 Rep. Wagner left.  
00:45:59 Rep. Washburn arrived.  
00:46:10 Dave Puyear, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)

**EXHIBIT(edh24a04)**

**EXHIBIT(edh24a05)**

00:52:36 Lance Melton, Montana School Board Association (MTSBA)  
00:55:53 Marco Ferro, Montana Education Association- Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:57:50 Rep. Clark  
00:59:06 Dennis Parman, OPI  
01:01:21 Rep. Clark  
01:01:26 Lance Melton, MTSBA  
01:02:05 Chairman Reichner  
01:02:08 Lance Melton, MTSBA  
01:05:19 Rep. Clark  
01:05:46 Lance Melton, MTSBA  
01:06:46 Rep. Clark

01:06:56 Rep. McClafferty  
01:07:03 Rep. Skees  
01:07:05 Rep. McClafferty  
01:07:23 Rep. Skees  
01:08:17 Rep. McClafferty  
01:08:33 Rep. Skees  
01:10:01 Rep. McNiven  
01:10:56 Rep. Skees  
01:11:29 Rep. McNiven  
01:11:43 Lance Melton, MTSBA  
01:13:01 Rep. McNiven  
01:14:58 Rep. Reichner  
01:15:38 Dennis Parman, OPI  
01:17:20 Rep. McNiven  
01:17:54 Dennis Parman, OPI  
01:18:24 Rep. McNiven  
01:18:25 Dennis Parman, OPI  
01:18:45 Chairman Reichner  
01:19:12 Rep. Welborn  
01:20:16 Dennis Parman, OPI  
01:20:54 Rep. Wagner  
01:21:08 Rep. McClafferty left.  
01:22:27 Rep. Welborn left.  
01:22:55 Chairman Reichner  
01:23:00 Rep. Wagner  
01:23:46 Chairman Reichner  
01:23:53 Lance Melton, MTSBA  
01:25:10 Rep. Wagner  
01:26:33 Rep. McClafferty returned  
01:26:41 Lance Melton, MTSBA  
01:27:36 Rep. Wilmer  
01:28:26 Steve Meloy, BPE  
01:28:33 Rep. Hansen left.  
01:28:50 Rep. Wilmer  
01:29:05 Steve Meloy  
01:29:12 Chairman Reichner  
01:29:30 Rep. Wilmer  
01:29:41 Lance Melton, MTSBA  
01:31:53 Chairman Reichner  
01:32:01 Rep. Malek  
01:32:21 Cynthia Clary  
01:32:32 Rep. Welborn returned.  
01:32:42 Rep. Blasdel returned.  
01:34:30 Rep. Malek  
01:34:48 Dennis Parman, OPI  
01:35:20 Rep. Malek  
01:35:41 Dennis Parman, OPI  
01:35:50 Rep. Malek  
01:36:04 Dennis Parman, OPI  
01:36:30 Rep. Malek

01:37:01 Dennis Parman, OPI  
01:37:05 Rep. Malek  
01:37:16 Dennis Parman, OPI  
01:38:15 Rep. Blasdel left.  
01:38:21 Chairman Reichner  
01:38:34 Rep. Salomon  
01:38:51 Rep. Wilmer  
01:38:57 Rep. Salomon  
01:39:16 Lance Melton, MTSBA

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:40:27 Rep. Skees  
  
01:40:40 Chairman Reichner  
01:40:47 Rep. Skees  
  
01:47:58 Chairman Reichner

**HEARING ON HB 347**

01:56:00 Chairman Reichner

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:56:31 Rep. Alan Hale (R), HD 77, opened the hearing on HB 347, Revise education laws to provide for civics from kindergarten through 12.

01:57:15 Chairman Reichner  
01:57:25 Rep. Hale

[EXHIBIT\(edh24a06\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:00:54 Roger Nummendor  
[EXHIBIT\(edh24a07\)](#)  
02:03:40 Harris Himes, Montana Eagle Forum  
02:04:18 Tim Ravndal, Montana 10th Amendment Center  
02:05:58 Alan Wright, Lewis and Clark Conservative Tea Party  
02:07:45 Clarence Getz

**Opponents' Testimony:**

02:11:40 Steve Meloy, BPE  
02:14:35 Joe Cohenour  
02:15:52 Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:16:47 Rep. Wilmer  
02:17:47 Rep. Hale  
02:17:58 Rep. Wagner  
02:18:11 Rep. Hale  
02:18:31 Rep. Wilmer  
02:19:07 Rep. Hale  
02:19:25 Rep. McNiven  
02:19:37 Rep. Hale  
02:20:09 Rep. McNiven  
02:20:15 Rep. Wagner  
02:20:25 Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT  
02:20:27 Rep. Wagner  
02:20:40 Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT  
02:21:08 Rep. Wagner  
02:21:48 Steve Meloy, BPE  
02:22:00 Rep. Wagner  
02:22:08 Rep. Malek  
02:24:26 Rep. Hale  
02:25:26 Rep. Price  
02:26:00 Steve Meloy, BPE  
02:28:11 Chairman Reichner

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:28:19 Rep. Hale  
02:28:41 Chairman Reichner

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 02:29:12

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Marissa Stockton, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([edh24aad.pdf](#))**