

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Call to Order: Chair Seth Berglee, on February 15, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 303
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Seth Berglee, Chair (R)
Rep. Jeff Essmann, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Moffie Funk, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Fred Anderson (R)
Rep. Jacob Bachmeier (D)
Rep. Becky Beard (R)
Rep. Bryce Bennett (D)
Rep. Amanda Curtis (D)
Rep. Edward Greef (R)
Rep. Jean Price (D)
Rep. Casey Schreiner (D)
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway (R)
Rep. Scott Staffanson (R)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)
Rep. Peggy Webb (R)

Members Excused:

Rep. Greg Hertz (R)
Rep. Susan Webber (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jessica Riffel, Committee Secretary
Laura Sankey Keip, Legislative Branch

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 375, 2/9/2017; HB 376, 2/9/2017; HB 423, 2/9/2017

00:01:33 Chair Berglee relinquished the Chair to Vice Chair Essmann

HEARING ON HB 423

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:54 Rep. Seth Berglee (R), HD 58, opened the hearing on HB 423, Create special needs education savings accounts.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:07:08 Brent Meed, Montana Policy Institute
00:08:15 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation

EXHIBIT(edh33a01)

00:13:19 David Herbst, Americans for Prosperity (AFP)
00:18:48 Jerry Bennett, Self
00:20:04 Matt Brower, Montana Catholic Conference
00:21:30 Kris Hansen, Self

Opponents' Testimony:

00:29:52 Siri Smillie, Governor's Office
00:32:40 Eric Feaver, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT)
00:36:16 Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)

EXHIBIT(edh33a02)

EXHIBIT(edh33a03)

00:41:16 Dennis Parman, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)

EXHIBIT(edh33a04)

EXHIBIT(edh33a05)

00:44:05 Rep. G. Hertz joined the meeting
00:47:49 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana (SAM)

EXHIBIT(edh33a06)

00:59:42 Diane Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition (MQEC)
01:01:16 Steve Engebretson, Dawson County Superintendent of Schools
01:02:38 Kathryn Pfister, Musselshell County Superintendent of Schools

Informational Testimony:

01:04:23 Frank Podobnik, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:04:49 Rep. Bachmeier
01:06:28 Lance Melton, MTSBA
01:08:03 Rep. Staffanson
01:08:37 Steve Engebretson, Dawson County Superintendent of Schools
01:08:57 Rep. Staffanson
01:09:12 Steve Engebretson, Dawson County Superintendent of Schools
01:09:36 Rep. Schreiner
01:10:39 Rep. Berglee

01:12:15 Rep. Vinton
01:13:36 Rep. Berglee
01:15:15 Rep. B. Bennett
01:15:59 Rep. Berglee
01:16:13 Rep. Curtis
01:17:19 Dennis Parman, MREA
01:17:48 Rep. Schreiner
01:19:55 Rep. Berglee
01:21:07 Rep. Schreiner
01:21:52 Rep. Berglee
01:22:05 Rep. Schreiner
01:23:20 Rep. Berglee
01:24:27 Rep. Price
01:25:05 Rep. Berglee
01:25:58 Rep. Price
01:26:16 Rep. Berglee
01:26:31 Rep. P. Webb
01:26:54 Kris Hansen, Self
01:27:02 Rep. P. Webb
01:27:19 Kris Hansen, Self
01:28:38 Rep. P. Webb
01:28:46 Kris Hansen, Self

Closing by Sponsor:

01:29:32 Rep. Berglee

01:31:01 Rep. Berglee resumes the Chair

HEARING ON HB 375

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:31:10 Rep. Greg Hertz (R), HD 12, opened the hearing on HB 375, Provide state funding for tribally controlled schools.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:36:26 Rodney Bird, Two Eagle River School
01:43:42 Teresa McMakin, Northern Cheyenne Tribal School
01:49:48 Rebekah Knudsen-Dalbuy, Two Eagle River School
01:53:55 Danielle Adler, Two Eagle River School
01:55:45 Fay Bigcrane, Two Eagle River School
01:58:53 Mars Sandoval, Two Eagle River School
02:00:27 Talia Knudsen, Two Eagle River School
02:01:54 Carrie Antoine, Two Eagle River School
02:03:20 LeRoy Black, Two Eagle River School
02:05:37 Shelly Foyant, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)
02:12:22 Victoria Wind, Northern Cheyenne Tribal school
02:12:40 Norma Bixby, Northern Cheyenne Tribal School
02:13:13 Sheldon Keene, Northern Cheyenne Tribal School
02:13:29 Vernon Finley, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)

EXHIBIT(edh33a07)

Opponents' Testimony: None**Informational Testimony:**

02:15:53 Ken Bailey, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:16:23 Rep. Curtis

02:17:09 Teresa McMakin, Northern Cheyenne Tribal School

Closing by Sponsor:

02:18:15 Rep. G. Hertz

02:20:27 Recessed

02:27:45 Reconvened

HEARING ON HB 376**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:28:02 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D), HD 32, opened the hearing on HB 376, Establish public charter schools.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:47:10 Sen. Thomas

02:52:56 Jonathan Eagle Man, Self

02:57:06 Jeff Laszloffy, Montana Family Foundation

03:00:25 David Herbst, Americans for Prosperity (AFP)

Opponents' Testimony:

03:00:52 Peter Donovan, Board of Public Education

03:03:59 Siri Smillie, Governor's Office

03:07:03 Dennis Parman, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)

03:13:05 Rob Watson, Bozeman Superintendent of Public Schools

03:19:23 Luke McKinley, Sun River Valley Public Schools

03:21:36 Mike Arnold, Billings School District and Montana Association of School Business Officials (MASBO)

03:22:50 David Marzolf, Sun River Valley Public Schools

03:24:07 Rep. Peppers

03:27:25 Sharla Crawford, Self

03:29:32 Eric Feaver, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT)

03:32:15 Diane Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition

03:32:30 Bob Vogel, MTSBA

[EXHIBIT\(edh33a08\)](#)

03:32:45 Kirk Miller, SAM

[EXHIBIT\(edh33a09\)](#)**Informational Testimony:**

03:33:08 Ken Bailey, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:33:33 Rep. Curtis
03:34:40 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT
03:35:01 Rep. Essmann
03:35:48 Rob Watson, Bozeman Superintendent of Public Schools
03:36:02 Rep. Essmann
03:36:21 Rob Watson, Bozeman Superintendent of Public Schools
03:36:59 Rep. Essmann
03:40:27 Peter Donovan, Board of Public Education
03:41:08 Rep. Greef
03:43:38 Peter Donovan, Board of Public Education
03:45:05 Rep. Vinton
03:45:23 Rep. G. Hertz
03:45:58 Ken Bailey, OPI
03:46:44 Rep. G. Hertz
03:46:59 Ken Bailey, OPI
03:47:15 Rep. G. Hertz
03:51:30 Siri Smillie, Governor's Office
03:52:20 Rep. G. Hertz
03:52:27 Rep. Schreiner
03:53:24 Peter Donovan, Board of Public Education
03:54:32 Rep. Schreiner
03:55:24 Rep. Windy Boy
03:58:22 Rep. Schreiner
03:58:44 Rep. Windy Boy
03:59:18 Rep. Staffanson
03:59:52 Peter Donovan, Board of Public Education
04:01:19 Rep. Staffanson
04:01:35 Dennis Parman, MREA
04:03:24 Peter Donovan, Board of Public Education

EXHIBIT(edh33a10)

04:03:37 Rep. Bachmeier
04:04:52 Rob Watson, Bozeman Superintendent of Public Schools

EXHIBIT(edh33a11)

04:06:53 Rep. Bachmeier
04:07:31 Rob Watson, Bozeman Superintendent of Public Schools
04:09:14 Chair Berglee
04:09:58 Peter Donovan, Board of Public Education
04:13:34 Chair Berglee
04:14:30 Peter Donovan, Board of Public Education
04:15:43 Rep. Curtis
04:16:16 Dennis Parman, MREA
04:18:49 Rep. Essmann
04:21:00 Peter Donovan, Board of Public Education
04:22:38 Rep. Essmann
04:22:48 Rep. Schreiner
04:23:37 Bob Vogel, MTSBA
04:23:42 Rep. Schreiner

Closing by Sponsor:
04:24:12 Rep. Windy Boy

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 04:36:51

Jessica Riffel, Secretary

jr

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([edh33aad.pdf](#))