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EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE

67th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

Carlie Boland
Edith (Edie) McClafferty
Daniel Salomon
Russel (Russ) Tempel

HOUSE MEMBERS

Fred Anderson
Moffie Funk
Bruce Grubbs
Connie Keogh
Sue Vinton
Tom Woods

COMMITTEE STAFF

Pad McCracken - Research Analyst
Bri Nordhagen - Secretary
Laura Sankey - Attorney

MINUTES LOG

March 27, 2020

8:36 AM

137

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides annotation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video recording of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of the meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

Access to an electronic copy of these minutes and the audio or video recording is provided from the Legislative Branch home page at <http://leg.mt.gov>. From the home page, select the "Committees" drop down menu at the top, then select Administrative or Interim, and the appropriate committee. The written minutes log can be located by expanding the accordion menu for the date of the meeting. Links to the audio/video files can be located by selecting the Video/Audio button on the same page, then the "past/current recordings" button. From there, use the calendar to select the date of the meeting you wish to view/listen to. The written Minutes Log, along with links to the audio and video recordings, is listed by meeting date on the interim committee's web page. Each of the Exhibits is linked and can be viewed by clicking on the Exhibit of interest. All Exhibits are public information and may be printed.

Please contact the Legislative Services Division at 406-444-3064 for more information.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Fred Anderson, Chair (R)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Carlie Boland (D)
Rep. Moffie Funk (D)
Rep. Bruce Grubbs (R)
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)

Sen. Daniel Salomon (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)
Rep. Bedey (R)
Rep. Jones (R)
Sen. Ellis (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Tom Woods (D)
Rep. Hamlett

Members Absent:

Staff Present:

Pad McCracken, Research
Analyst
Bri Nordhagen, Secretary
Laura Sankey, Attorney

Committee Business Summary

08:41:29 Overview of Emergency Declaration and Governor's powers.

Questions from the committee

08:46:56 none

08:47:05 OCHE updates on COVID - 19 and the Montana University System

Questions from the committee

08:58:46 Rep. Grubbs asked Mr. Trevor about MSU Bozeman, the new dining hall/dorms and how bond payments were going to be covered.

09:00:09 Rep. Funk asked what percentage of students remained on campus and how were they looking at what might be needed over the summer regarding housing for students who don't have another place to go.

09:02:16 Rep. Vinton asked Mr. Trevor about the 26 million to Montana institutions - and whether it's in addition to or part of the \$1.5 billion dollar minimum contained in the current bill before congress.

09:04:08 Sen. Salomon asked about the summer programs being done online and if degrees could be accomplished through those online programs. Sen. Salomon asked about recruitment and the number of applications.

**OPI updates on
COVID - 19 and
public schools**

09:09:35

Questions from the committee

- 09:14:55 Rep. Bedey asked Mr. Klapmeier for a one-page summary of federal funding programs to be sent to Mr. McCracken from OPI.
- 09:15:21 Rep. Funk asked how the discretionary funds were going to be allocated by the Governor to be used for education. Rep. Funk asked about figures on what the approximate value or amounts Montanan's are getting.
- 09:18:41 Sen. Tempel asked if information regarding what would be happening to schools would be made available.
- 09:19:46 Rep. Bedey asked about the federal stimulus money that comes in three packages and for clarification on where money is going.
- 09:21:36 Rep. Jones stated \$1.25 billion dollars would be coming to each state.
- 09:23:09 Rep. Vinton asked for clarification regarding the \$41 million to OPI and for the word "primarily" to be defined.
- 09:24:30 Sen. Salomon asked about the waver to not have the testing this spring, would that be delayed for a year or until next fall. Sen. Salomon asked if kids will have to go back to school for a couple weeks or be done for the year.
- 09:28:08 Rep. Vinton asked for information regarding transportation funds as it relates to paying school bus drivers/mechanics. Rep. Vinton asked why those funds weren't being allocated in those areas.
- 09:32:02 Rep. Funk asked if there was anything the committee could do to honor those contracts. Rep. Funk asked if anything could be done when districts weren't honoring the budget. Rep. Funk asked if money could be used for transportation or does it come from the general fund.
- 09:38:55 Rep. Bedey asked Mr. Klapmeier for a one-page report on existing statutes and rules regarding the sandbox.
- 09:40:31 Rep. Funk asked for updates on how MSU-B was doing.
- 09:41:33 Rep. Bedey asked Mr. Klapmeier for a summary on how community colleges were doing.
- 09:42:31 Rep. Vinton asked about the direction for revenue and if there was any information about relaxing the timelines of delaying taxes for small businesses.

ADJOURNMENT

09:47:35