

MINUTES
MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (H) EDUCATION

Call to Order: Chair Rep. Fred Anderson-R, on February 08, 2023 at 3:31 PM, in 137

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Fred Anderson, Chair (R)
Rep. Linda Reksten, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Tyson Running Wolf, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. James Bergstrom (R)
Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R)
Rep. Lee Deming (R)
Rep. Sherry Essmann (R)
Rep. Eric Matthews (D)
Rep. Melissa Romano (D)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)
Rep. Mark Thane (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Brandon Ler (R)
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)

Staff Present: Rose Harmon, Secretary
Amanda Persons, Remote Meeting Coordinator
Laura Sankey Keip, Research Analyst

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 346 02/07/2023

HB 396 02/06/2023

Executive Action:

HB 334 DO PASS

HB 352 DO PASS

HEARING ON HB 346 - Revise the tribal computer programming scholarship program

Opening Statement:

15:33:28 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D), HD 32, opened the hearing on HB 346, Revise the tribal computer programming scholarship program.

Proponent Testimony:

15:36:00 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe

15:36:57 Dylan Klapmeier, Governor's Education Advisor, Montana Governor's Office (GOV)

15:39:51 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe left the meeting.

15:39:58 Colleen Rahn, National Alliance on Mental Illness - Montana (NAMI-MT)

15:41:30 Rob Watson, School Administrators of Montana (SAM), Coalition of Advocates for Montana's Public Schools (CAMPS)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:43:59 Barb Wagner, Interim Division Administrator, Workforce Services Division, Montana Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

15:44:06 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe joined the meeting.

Questions from Committee:

15:44:18 Rep. James Bergstrom

15:44:48 Barb Wagner, DLI

15:45:10 Rep. Linda Reksten

15:45:42 Barb Wagner, DLI

Closing Statement:

15:47:08 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D), HD 32, closed the hearing on HB 346.

HEARING ON HB 396 - Require school trustees to admit resident children on a part-time basis

Opening Statement:

15:49:36 Rep. Naarah Hastings (R), HD 50, opened the hearing on HB 396,
Require school trustees to admit resident children on a part-time basis.

Proponent Testimony:

15:52:04 Doug Reisig, Executive Director, Montana Quality Education Coalition (MQEC), Coalition of Advocates for Montana Public Schools (CAMPS)

15:53:56 Charles Denowh, YES Every Kid

15:55:28 Wyatt Lapraim, Americans for Prosperity

15:57:31 Dylan Klapmeier, Governor's Education Advisor, Montana Governor's Office (GOV)

15:58:59 Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association (MSBA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:59:56 Paul Taylor, Budget Analyst, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee:

16:00:25 Rep. Marta Bertoglio

16:01:04 Lance Melton, MSBA

Closing Statement:

16:02:31 Rep. Naarah Hastings (R), HD 50, closed the hearing on HB 396.

16:03:17 Recessed
16:06:08 Reconvened

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 334 - Revise school attendance laws to address student mental health needs

16:06:23 **Motion:** Rep. Linda Reksten moved that **HB 334 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:06:40 Laura Sankey Keip

16:07:02 Rep. Eric Matthews

16:06:23 **Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 2 by voice vote with Rep. Bertoglio, Rep. Essmann, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 352 - Provide targeted interventions to support 3rd grade reading proficiency

16:09:02 **Motion:** Rep. Linda Reksten moved that **HB 352 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:09:17 Laura Sankey Keip

16:09:34 Rep. Mark Thane

16:10:01 Rep. Fred Anderson

16:09:02 **Vote:** Motion carried 12 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Essmann, voting no.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:14:09

Rose Harmon, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230208EDHaad\)](#)