

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 132

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND AUTHORIZING THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO APPOINT A COMMITTEE TO UNDERTAKE AND COMPLETE A STUDY OF THE IDAHO CONTENT STANDARDS.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, the Idaho Constitution requires that the Legislature establish and maintain a general, uniform, and thorough system of public schools; and

WHEREAS, as part of this responsibility, the Legislature should from time to time review the content standards for Idaho schools in order to ensure that the educational needs of Idaho students are being met; and

WHEREAS, Idaho has adopted mathematics and English language arts standards based on the original recommendations developed under the Common Core State Standards Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Content Standards for Science were developed under the Next Generation Science Standards and adopted with modifications in 2018; and

WHEREAS, the role of local school boards in setting curriculum and content should be respected in developing any new content standards; and

WHEREAS, the local school boards are responsible and accountable to parents and students; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Content Standards for Mathematics and English Language Arts/Literacy are scheduled for review in 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature currently has concerns regarding certain aspects of Idaho's content standards; and

WHEREAS, some members of the general public have expressed concerns about the content standards as well, with parents and others wanting to understand the content standards in order to cooperate in the instruction of students; and

WHEREAS, any new content standards should set high standards for Idaho students with the support of the community; and

WHEREAS, Idaho students deserve an education that prepares them for a competitive future; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature desires to improve the proficiency of Idaho students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-fifth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the Legislative Council is authorized to appoint a committee to undertake and complete a study of the Idaho Content Standards and to consider and recommend new content standards for Idaho schools. The Legislative Council shall determine the number of legislators and membership from each house appointed to the committee and shall autho-

1 rize the committee to receive input, advice, and assistance from interested
2 and affected parties who are not members of the Legislature.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in considering the Idaho Content Standards,
4 the committee should hear from standards experts, education professionals,
5 parents, students, and other interested parties on how standards differ from
6 curriculum and make specific recommended changes for standards.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee should consider and recommend
8 a process for adopting new content standards, which process should take into
9 account the time necessary for standards review and implementation, includ-
10 ing the preparation of instructional materials and testing of the new stan-
11 dards.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nonlegislative members of the committee may
13 be appointed by the cochairs of the committee who are appointed by the Leg-
14 islative Council. Nonlegislative members of the advisory committee shall
15 not be reimbursed from legislative funds for per diem, mileage, or other ex-
16 penses and shall not have voting privileges regarding the committee's recom-
17 mendations or proposed legislation.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall report its findings,
19 recommendations, and proposed legislation, if any, to the First Regular
20 Session of the Sixty-sixth Idaho Legislature.