

MINUTES  
**SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, January 29, 2024

**TIME:** 3:00 P.M.

**PLACE:** Room WW55

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Lent, Vice Chairman Toews, Senators Den Hartog, Nichols, Carlson, Herndon, Lenney, Ward-Engelking, and Egbert (Semmelroth)

**ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None

**NOTE:** The sign-in sheet, testimonies, and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

**CONVENED:** **Senator Lent** called the meeting of the Senate Education Committee (Committee) to order at 3:04 p.m.

**PRESENTATION: Introduction and Vision for Idaho State University.** **Dr. Linda Clark**, President, Idaho State Board of Education, introduced Dr. Robert Wagner, President, Idaho State University (ISU). **Dr. Wagner** introduced himself and shared that it was his first day on the job as the new president of ISU. **Dr. Wagner** spoke about continuing the momentum at ISU, maintaining a student-centric university, increasing access for students, and meeting Idaho's workforce needs.

**PRESENTATION: 9th Annual Idaho Public Policy Survey.** **Dr. Matthew May**, Survey Research Director, School of Public Service, Boise State University (BSU), and **Lantz McGinnis-Brown**, Research Associate, Idaho Policy Institute, BSU, shared an overview of the 9th Annual Idaho Public Policy Survey results. They explained that the intent of the survey was to provide objective research to inform decision makers. The survey involved over 1,000 interviews with Idaho residents addressing topics such as policy preferences, education, growth, housing, and elections.

**S 1239 SCHOOL DISTRICT TRUSTEES - Amends existing law to revise the quorum requirements for meetings of school district boards of trustees.** **Senator Herndon** explained that a quorum was currently defined as a majority of the five members of a school board. **S 1239** changed the quorum to a majority of the filled seats on a school board which allowed boards to continue to conduct business when not all trustees were in attendance or if trustee seats were unfilled.

**DISCUSSION:** **Senator Den Hartog** asked what the potential timeframe was for school district board trustee seats to be unfilled which allowed a reduced board to operate. **Senator Herndon** explained the timeframe was about two months until seats were filled.

**MOTION:** **Senator Nichols** moved to send **S 1239** to the floor with a do pass recommendation. **Senator Carlson** seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote.

**ADJOURNED:** There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Lent** adjourned the meeting at 3:51 p.m.

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Senator Lent  
Chair

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Lisa Stein  
Secretary