

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, March 11, 2019

TIME: 8:30 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Clow, Vice Chairman Kerby, Representatives Shepherd, Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Moon, Ehardt, Goesling, Marshall, Raymond, Wisniewski, McCrostie, Abernathy, Berch

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Greg Wilson, Governor's Office; Fred Birnbaum, Idaho Freedom Foundation; Harold Ott, IRSA/IASA; Mike Keckler, Idaho State Board of Education; Matt Compton, Idaho Education Association; Jonathan Gillen, West Ada; Tim Hill, Julie Oberle and Marilyn Whitney, SDE; Shane Pratt, Rolling Hills Public Charter School; Shalene French, CSD 132; Quinn Perry and Karen Echeverria, ISBA; Rod Gramer, Idaho Business for Education

Chairman Clow called the meeting to order at 8:32 am.

**UNANIMOUS
CONSENT
REQUEST:** **Chairman Clow** made a unanimous consent request to adopt the second amended agenda for today's meeting. There being no objection, the request was granted.

MOTION: **Rep. Goesling** made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2019 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Chairman Clow turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Kerby.**

RS 27064C1: **Chairman Clow** presented **RS 27064C1**, the first version of a student-based funding formula bill. He noted per the Committee's input, "accountability" has been added to the chapter title, the definition of public charter school was added and technology was removed as a line item and incorporated into the formula. Student weights are set at 10%, with any increase subject to appropriation. The change from tracking average daily attendance to enrollment will begin in 2020, so there is data when the formula goes into effect in 2021. Payments to local education agencies will be made in August, October, December, February, April and June; all except the June payment will be based on the previous period's enrollment counts and June will be a catch up payment.

**ORIGINAL
MOTION:** **Rep. Mendive** made a motion to introduce **RS 27064C1**. He stated this is the first RS he has seen with major input from a committee, in addition to stakeholders.

**SUBSTITUTE
MOTION:** **Rep. Boyle** made a substitute motion to return **RS 27064C1** to the sponsor. She stated **S 1186** more closely resembles the work of the interim committee.

Rep. McCrostie spoke **in support** of the original motion. He was a member of the interim committee and said stakeholders were unable to have substantive involvement in crafting the other bill. He stated this RS reflects the combined efforts of the work of the Committee and stakeholder input.

Rep. DeMordaunt spoke **in support** of the substitute motion due to last-minute changes made to the proposed legislation.

Rep. Berch spoke **in support** of the original motion. He said since the entire Committee was unable to review **S 1186** they could not have determined it was better than the proposed legislation.

Rep. Goesling stated he would support the substitute motion.

Rep. McCrostie stated no Democrats were involved in producing the Senate bill, therefore it was not a bipartisan effort.

Chairman Clow noted the public has not had an opportunity to give input and introducing the RS would allow the Committee to hold a public hearing with testimony.

**ROLL CALL
VOTE ON
SUBSTITUTE
MOTION:**

Rep. McCrostie requested a roll call vote. **Motion carried by a vote of 8 AYE and 7 NAY. Voting in favor** of the motion: **Reps. Boyle, DeMordaunt, Moon, Ehardt, Goesling, Marshall, Raymond and Wisniewski. Voting in opposition** to the motion: **Chairman Clow, Vice Chariman Kerby, Reps. Shepherd, Mendive, McCrostie, Abernathy and Berch.**

Vice Chairman Kerby turned the gavel over to **Chairman Clow.**

H 218:

Superintendent Sherri Ybarra presented **H 218**, which creates tools for rural school districts to recruit and retain qualified teachers. These tools incorporate research-based strategies being used in other states to address teacher shortages. Three different programs are included: Grow Your Own, which would provide funding for a paraprofessional or classified staff member already working in a rural district to earn their teaching certificate; a Rural Teacher Fellowship, for teacher preparation students who commit to teach in a geographic or content area where shortages exist; and a Certification and Retention Bonus, which would provide a stipend for rural teachers or other professional providers who are pursuing additional education or another certification for a hard-to-fill need in a rural school. In consideration of budget constraints, the bill has an effective date of July 1, 2020 and includes a five year sunset clause. The superintendent stated she would return next year with an appropriation request.

Marilyn Whitney, Deputy Superintendent of Communications and Policy, State Department of Education, also presented **H 218**. She noted the state formerly had a Grow Your Own program, but at the time there were not very many online class offerings, which limited its usefulness. One of the reasons identified for new teachers leaving the profession is a lack of mentoring and support; this bill requires districts to provide this. She stated these programs could easily include nontraditional teacher preparation programs. She also noted districts have the ability to waive part of the required three year commitment.

Fred Birnbaum, Idaho Freedom Foundation, spoke **in opposition** to the bill. He stated rural schools would be better served by creating economic development in their communities, rather than by adding three new programs.

Mike Keckler, Chief Communications and Legislative Affairs Officer, State Board of Education, stated the Board does not have a formal position on the bill, but is supportive of pipeline initiatives. He stated the Grow Your Own and Rural Teacher Fellowship programs are creative ideas to train community members.

Matt Compton, Director of Public Policy, Idaho Education Association (IEA), spoke **in support** of the bill and noted IEA has long supported Grow Your Own programs to utilize existing school staff members.

Shane Pratt, Charter school administrator, spoke **in support** of the bill and noted he and his colleagues welcome any additional tools to address teacher retention.

Rod Gramer, President and CEO, Idaho Business for Education, spoke **in support** of the bill. He agreed economic development is important to attract teachers to rural communities, but stated a quality education system is one of the major reasons businesses locate to an area.

Superintendent Ybarra was recognized to close testimony on **H 218**. She stated the bill focuses on keeping teachers by attracting them to rural areas for three years, in the hopes they will put down roots. The sunset clause is included if the programs do not work.

ORIGINAL MOTION:

Rep. Moon made a motion to **HOLD H 218** in committee. She stated it was too late in the session to consider this bill and encouraged focus on reciprocity agreements to bring in more teachers.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Rep. McCrostie made a substitute motion to send **H 218** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Roll call vote was requested. **Motion failed by a vote of 6 AYE and 9 NAY. Voting in favor** of the motion: **Chairman Clow, Vice Chairman Kerby, Reps. Raymond, McCrostie, Abernathy and Berch. Voting in opposition** to the motion: **Reps. Shepherd, Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Moon, Ehardt, Goesling, Marshall and Wisniewski.**

VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION:

Motion carried by voice vote.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:53 am.

Representative Clow
Chair

Erica McGinnis
Secretary