

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, March 02, 2020

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:** Reps. DeMordaunt and Marshall

GUESTS: Misty Swanson, ISBA; Tracie Bent, OSBE; Harold Ott, Rural Schools
Chairman Clow called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

MOTION: **Rep. Raymond** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2020 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 27860: **Rep. Raymond** presented **RS 27860**, which combines elements of **H 481** and **H 470**. The proposed legislation does not add new monies, it simply changes the distribution process of the "Content and Curriculum" education line item. It creates a digital content and curriculum fund in the state treasury, with the dollars distributed on a first-come, first-served basis to local education agencies (LEA). The maximum distribution amount is \$50,000. The monies will be used to provide digital content and curriculum that impacts student achievement and improves performance; funds may also be spent on academic text support systems. One or more LEAs may apply to receive funding and must show they have the necessary technology infrastructure in place and explain how the distribution will be used.

MOTION: **Rep. McCrostie** made a motion to introduce **RS 27860**.
In response to Committee questions, **Rep. Raymond** clarified that under the current formula, some districts receive more than \$50,000, but the average amount is \$3,000-4,000. The proposed legislation will improve opportunities for more districts to get more funding. He stated the application process will not require technical training, making it more accessible to rural and remote districts. He said he would further discuss "character education" mentioned in the proposed legislation.
Vice Chairman Kerby and **Rep. McCrostie** spoke in support of the motion.
Rep. Berch spoke in opposition to the motion, saying he did not support the shifting of dollars among LEAs, rather than increasing investment.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote. Reps. Moon and Berch** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 8:48 am.

Representative Clow
Chair

Erica McGinnis
Secretary