

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Tuesday, March 09, 2021
- TIME:** 8:30 A.M.
- PLACE:** Room EW41
- MEMBERS:** Chairman Clow, Vice Chairman Kerby, Representatives Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Moon, Ehardt, Marshall, Wisniewski, Galloway, Shepherd, Yamamoto, McCrostie, Berch, Toone
- ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** Kate Haas, Kestrel West representing Bishop Kelly High School (BKHS); Sarah Quilici, Catholic Diocese of Boise (CDB); Jack Horton, BKHS; Marilyn Whitney, Deputy Superintendent, Communications and Policy, State Department of Education (SDE); Mike Keckler, Chief Communications and Legislative Affairs Officer, State Board of Education (SBOE); Jim Eisentrager, Nampa Christian School (NCS); Marc Taylor, NCS; Quinn Perry, Idaho School Boards Association (ISBA); Misty Swanson, ISBA; Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, SBOE
- Chairman Clow** called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.
- H 22AaS:** The Committee discussed the request to Concur with the Senate amendment to **H 22**.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Marshall** made a motion to Concur with the Senate amendment. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Berch** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**. **Chairman Clow** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- H 293:** **Rep. Galloway** answered committee questions regarding legislation that will allow caregivers to receive funds for educational expense reimbursement from closed schools which require caregivers to educate students. She clarified schools are considered closed if they do not offer full-time instruction in person for a minimum of four days per week.
- MOTION:** **Rep. DeMordaunt** made a motion to send **H 293** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation, stating the representatives have an obligation to support the taxpayers who are funding education with the expectation students will be educated.
- Vice Chairman Kerby** spoke in support of the legislation due to the large financial investment to fund schools which are not serving students. **Rep. Ehardt** and **Rep. Yamamoto** stated there are teachers that are in support of reopening with in-person learning to support students. Rep. Ehardt discussed the potential damage to future test scores and achievement without in-person learning.
- Rep. Marshall** and **Rep. Toone** spoke in opposition to **H 293** due to potential future complications for schools that do not operate with a traditional calendar or hours. **Rep. Berch** and **Rep. McCrostie** spoke in opposition to the legislation due to the potential for the reimbursements to go to private institutions and the lack of teacher support.
- VOTE ON MOTION:** Roll call vote was requested. **Motion carried by a vote of 11 AYE and 4 NAY.** **Voting in support** of the motion: **Vice Chairman Kerby, Reps. Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Moon, Ehardt, Wisniewski, Galloway, Shepherd, Yamamoto and Chairman Clow.** **Voting in opposition** to the motion: **Reps. Marshall, Berch, Toone and McCrostie.** **Rep. Galloway** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

- S 1045:** **Senator Thayne** presented legislation which would allow the Advanced Opportunities Grant to be applied to expanded high school opportunities, including dual credit classes.
- Jack Horton** spoke in support of **S 1045**. The legislation will aid in his dual credit fees for Advanced Placement (AP) courses through Idaho Digital Learning Academy and exam fees.
- Jim Eisentrager**, NCS, and **Marc Taylor**, NCS, spoke in support of **S 1045**.
- Kate Haas**, BKHS, and **Sarah Quilici**, CDB, testified in support of **S 1045**.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Ehardt** made a motion to send **S 1045** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. DeMordaunt** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- SCR 105:** The committee discussed the Senate Concurrent Resolution **SCR 105**.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to send **SCR 105** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Vice Chairman Kerby** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- S 1006:** **Tracie Bent**, SBOE, discussed legislation created by the legislative task force to implement a literacy intervention plan. She stated the legislation has language that identifies and better defines the Idaho Literacy Comprehensive Plan and best practices, adding a five year review. Ms. Bent testified that the updated language consolidates rule making, provides a single platform and identifies more clearly what happens with individual districts literary goals. In answer to committee questions, she stated the new language does not change current literacy programs but instead shows how they work together.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Berch** made a motion to send **S 1006** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- H 298:** **Rep. DeMordaunt** presented legislation to require schools to provide caregivers additional language with immunization notifications informing them of legal exemption options.
- Quinn Perry**, ISBA, spoke in opposition to **H 298**, stating parents should already be aware of their rights and schools work hard to have policies that protect everyone.
- Reps. Wisniewski, Ehardt, and Moon** spoke in support of **H 298**. **Rep. Wisniewski** compared the additional information to a citizen's Miranda rights; that schools should provide complete information.
- Reps. Berch and McCrostie** spoke in opposition to **H 298**. **Rep. McCrostie** stated schools need to do their best to protect all. **Rep. Berch** expressed concern that fewer students would ultimately be vaccinated.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Moon** made a motion to send **H 298** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Reps. Berch, Toone and McCrostie** requested they be recorded as voting **NAY**. **Rep. DeMordaunt** will represent the bill on the floor.
- ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Representative Clow
Chair

Christine Reynolds
Secretary