

MINUTES  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, March 05, 2024

**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW41

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Yamamoto, Vice Chairman McCann, Representatives Clow, Mendive, Ehardt, Wisniewski, Garner, Hawkins, Hill, Lanting, Nelsen, Price, Sauter, Berch, Galaviz, Mathias (Church)

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Rep. Hill

**GUESTS:** The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

**Chair Yamamoto** called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**Matt Freeman**, Executive Director, Office of the State Board of Education, spoke about the Higher Education Budget. He described maintenance budgets, line items, Change in Employee Compensation (CEC) funding, and increased enrollment demands.

Committee members discussed educational budget recommendations to present to JFAC.

**SCR 116:** **Rep. Wisniewski** presented **SCR 116**, legislation regarding civics education. He spoke about the history of human civilization and said this Concurrent Resolution would ensure students are taught the importance of Western Civilization history in applicable courses. He spoke about founding principles of our form of government and responsible participation in civic life.

**Senator Carlson** said **Superintendent Critchfield** supports this legislation and she spoke about setting parameters to promote the history of western civilization within applicable courses.

Committee members discussed history curriculum, accountability, and education standards.

**Debbie Critchfield**, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Department of Education, spoke about review process, social studies standards, and said Civics is a requirement for graduation. She spoke about refining standards and content specialists who update districts and educators.

Committee members spoke about Democracy vs. Republic and the legislative process for new curriculum.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Hawkins** made a motion to send **SCR 116** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Berch** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY.** **Rep. Wisniewski** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:14 am.

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Representative Yamamoto  
Chair

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Amy Bengtzen  
Secretary