

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, February 08, 2021

TIME: 9:00 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: Idaho Superintendent of Public Instruction, Sherri Ybarra; Marilyn Whitney, Deputy Superintendent Communications and Policy, Idaho State Department of Education (SDE); Quinn Perry, Policy & Government Affairs Director, Idaho School Boards Association (ISBA), Community member Kathy Dawes; Ryan Cantrell, Idaho Rural Schools Association (IRSA); Cole Cantrell IRSA; Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, State Board of Education (SBOE); Mike Keckler Chief Communications and Legislative Affairs Officer SBOE

Chairman Clow called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

RS 28367: Superintendent **Sherri Ybarra** introduced **RS 28367**, requesting support for providing school districts with the authority to respond to pandemics at the local level. Deputy Superintendent **Marilyn Whitney** requested the Committee introduce the legislation to provide the school districts with the ability to best serve the students for which they're responsible. Ms. Whitney indicated the language of the proposed legislation intentionally defined modalities of instruction to avoid the unintended consequences of misinterpretation.

ORIGINAL MOTION: **Rep. Ehardt** made a motion to introduce **RS 28367**.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. McCrostie** made a substitute motion to introduce **RS 28367** with the exception of page 1 line 27 - 30, page 2 line 12, removing the words "responsible citizenship".

AMENDED SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Boyle** made an amended substitute motion to return **RS 28367** to the sponsor for corrections.

ROLL CALL VOTE: **Amended substitute motion carried by a roll call vote of 14 AYE and 0 NAY. Voting in favor of the motion: Vice Chairman Kerby, Representatives Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Moon, Ehardt, Marshall, Wisniewski, Galloway, Shepherd, Yamamoto, McCrostie, Toone, Chairman Clow. Rep. Berch was absent/excused.**

RS 28293C1: **Quinn Perry** with the Idaho School Boards Association presented **RS 28293C1**, requesting support for the proposed legislation addressing teacher certification clarification to the State statute.

MOTION: **Vice Chairman Kerby** made a motion to introduce **RS 28293C1**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 67: **Rep. DeMordaunt** presented **H 67** which would allow the local school board to determine how a school responds to a contagious or infectious disease. Community member **Kathy Dawes** testified remotely in opposition to the bill. Rep. DeMordaunt and **Vice Chairman Kerby** answered Committee questions concerning broad school closure decisions made although individual schools were affected differently. Committee members expressed concern some health boards have less local representation in contrast with the local school boards and questioned the constitutionality of experts making decisions instead of officials elected to represent citizens.

MOTION: **Rep. Shepherd** made a motion to send **H 67** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. McCrostie** and **Rep. Berch** requested they be recorded as voting **NAY.** **Rep. DeMordaunt** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 68: **Vice Chairman Kerby** introduced **H 68** which would allow the college or university board of the educational organization to determine how a school responds to a contagious or infectious disease. Vice Chairman Kerby answered Committee questions.

MOTION: **Rep. Mendive** made a motion to send **H 68** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. McCrostie, Rep. Toone,** and **Rep. Berch** requested they be recorded as voting **NAY.** **Vice Chairman Kerby** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

Representative Clow
Chair

Christine Reynolds
Secretary