

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1233

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH EDUCATION; AMENDING
2 SECTION 67-823, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR THE STEM ACTION CENTER ADVI-
3 SORY BOARD, TO REVISE THE TERMS OF CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, TO PRO-
4 VIDE FOR STAGGERED TERMS, TO REVISE THE DUTIES OF THE STEM ACTION CEN-
5 TER, TO REMOVE A PROVISION REGARDING CERTAIN DUTIES OF THE STEM ACTION
6 CENTER, TO REMOVE A CERTAIN POWER OF THE STEM ACTION CENTER, TO PROVIDE
7 THAT THE ADMINISTRATOR SHALL REPORT THE PROGRESS OF THE STEM ACTION CEN-
8 TER AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AMENDING SECTION 67-824, IDAHO
9 CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR THE STEM ACTION CENTER ADVISORY BOARD; AND AMENDING
10 SECTION 67-825, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR THE STEM ACTION CENTER ADVI-
11 SORY BOARD.
12

13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

14 SECTION 1. That Section 67-823, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
15 amended to read as follows:

16 67-823. COORDINATION OF POLICY AND PROGRAMS RELATED TO SCIENCE, TECH-
17 NOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH EDUCATION IN IDAHO. (1) There is hereby created
18 in the office of the governor the "Science, Technology, Engineering and Math
19 (STEM) Action Center" and the STEM action center advisory board. The admin-
20 istrator of the STEM action center shall be the official in the state desig-
21 nated to coordinate and oversee implementation of STEM programs; to promote
22 STEM through best practices in education to ensure connection with industry
23 and Idaho's long-term economic prosperity; to produce an Idaho STEM-compet-
24 itive workforce to offer better access to competitive employment opportu-
25 nities; and to drive student experience, engagement and industry alignment
26 by identifying and implementing public and higher education STEM best prac-
27 tices to transform workforce development.

28 (2) The STEM action center advisory board shall consist of the follow-
29 ing nine (9) members:

30 (a) The director of the department of commerce, or his designee;

31 (b) The director of the department of labor, or his designee;

32 (c) One (1) member of the state board of education;

33 (d) The superintendent of public instruction, or her designee; and

34 (e) Five (5) members appointed by the governor, who shall serve at the
35 pleasure of the governor for terms of ~~four~~ three (3) years, and who
36 shall be residents of the state and represent manufacturing or STEM-re-
37 lated industries. The board's chairman will be elected annually by the
38 members of the board.

39 (3) The terms of the first board shall be staggered with three (3) ap-
40 pointments expiring July 1, 2018; three (3) appointments expiring July 1,
41 2019; and three (3) appointments expiring July 1, 2020. Thereafter, the term
42 of office for each member shall be three (3) years.

1 (4) A vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled
 2 in the same manner as the original appointment and for the balance of the un-
 3 expired term.

4 (45) The duties of the STEM action center shall include:

5 (a) Coordinate all state departments and divisions on STEM-related ac-
 6 tivities;

7 (b) Perform industry needs and education process foci on industry
 8 career talent, gap analysis and needs assessment to lead future STEM
 9 teacher professional development activities and goals;

10 (c) Align public education STEM activities with higher education STEM
 11 activities;

12 (d) Identify and coordinate best practices among public education and
 13 higher education;

14 (e) Strategically engage industry and, business and public or govern-
 15 ment entities to cooperate with the STEM action center and focus out-
 16 comes and goals on workforce needs and opportunities;

17 (f) Support high-quality professional development focused on career
 18 readiness and talent development and provide other assistance for edu-
 19 cators and students;

20 (g) Work cooperatively with the Idaho department of education and the
 21 Idaho state board of education to define and implement pilot programs
 22 and select schools to:

23 (i) Further STEM education;

24 (ii) Ensure that best practices are implemented; and

25 (iii) Integrate research and document results of that research;
 26 and

27 (h) Engage private entities to provide additional funding and/or
 28 in-kind employee time for STEM activities in schools supporting in-
 29 dustry career readiness in addition to what is currently provided by
 30 private entities.

31 (56) The duties and oversight of the STEM action center shall not inter-
 32 fere or conflict with the duties and oversight of the state board of educa-
 33 tion.

34 (67) As funding allows, the administrator of the STEM action center
 35 shall:

36 (a) Support high-quality professional development for educators re-
 37 garding STEM education;

38 (b) Ensure that the STEM action center acts as a research and develop-
 39 ment center for tools and best practice in STEM education coordination
 40 and development;

41 (c) Review and acquire STEM education-related instructional materials
 42 and products for:

43 (i) Educator high-quality professional development;

44 (ii) Assessment, data collection, analysis and reporting; and

45 (iii) Public school instruction; and

46 (d) Facilitate participation in interscholastic STEM-related competi-
 47 tions, fairs, expositions, camps and STEM education student programs;

48 (e) Engage private industry in the development and maintenance of the
 49 STEM action center and STEM action center projects;

1 (f) Use resources to bring the latest STEM content, 21st century skills
2 and hands-on STEM education resources into public education classroom
3 schools;

4 (g) Annually identify at least five (5) best practice innovations used
5 in Idaho schools that have resulted in growth in interest and perfor-
6 mance in STEM by students and teachers involved in pilot programs, math
7 academies and STEM projects;

8 (h) Identify best practices being used outside the state and, as ap-
9 propriate, develop and implement selected practices through pilot pro-
10 grams;

11 (i) As appropriate, join and participate in a national STEM network and
12 collaborate with neighboring states in STEM program development;

13 (j) Identify performance changes linked to use of the best practices;

14 (k) Support best methods of high-quality professional development for
15 STEM education in kindergarten through grade 12, including methods of
16 high-quality professional development pilot programs that reduce cost
17 and increase effectiveness, implement practices that support industry
18 career readiness and talent development, and help educators learn how
19 to most effectively implement STEM best practices, 21st century skills
20 and STEM resources in classrooms;

21 (l) Support targeted high-quality professional development for im-
22 proved instruction in K-12 STEM education, including:

23 (i) Improved instructional materials and resources that are dy-
24 namic and engaging for students;

25 (ii) Targeted instruction for students who traditionally avoid
26 enrolling in STEM courses;

27 (iii) Introduction of engaging engineering and other STEM pro-
28 grams;

29 (iv) Use of applied instruction; and

30 (v) Introduction of other research-based methods that support
31 student achievement in STEM areas; and

32 (m) Provide an Idaho best practices STEM resource database, including
33 best practices from public education, higher education, informal STEM
34 partners and other STEM-related entities.

35 ~~(7) The board may prescribe other duties for the STEM action center in
36 addition to the responsibilities described in this section.~~

37 (8) The administrator shall track and compare the growth of students
38 participating in a STEM action center program to all other similarly situ-
39 ated students in the state, in the following STEM-related activities, at the
40 beginning and end of each year:

41 (a) Public education high school graduation rates;

42 (b) The number of students taking STEM courses at an institution of pub-
43 lic higher education;

44 (c) The number of students who graduate from an Idaho public school and
45 begin a postsecondary education program; and

46 (d) The number of students, as compared to all similarly situated stu-
47 dents, who are performing at grade level in STEM classes.

48 (9) The STEM action center ~~board~~ may:

49 (a) Enter into contracts for the purposes of this section; and

1 (b) Apply for, receive and disburse funds, contributions or grants from
2 any source for the purposes set forth in this section; and

3 ~~(c) Employ, compensate and prescribe the duties and powers of individu-~~
4 ~~als necessary to execute the duties and powers of the board for the STEM~~
5 ~~action center.~~

6 (10) The ~~board~~ administrator shall report the progress of the STEM ac-
7 tion center, including the information described in subsection (45) of this
8 section, to the following groups once each year:

9 (a) The house and senate education committees;

10 (b) The governor's office;

11 (c) The joint finance-appropriations committee; and

12 (d) The state board of education.

13 (11) The report described in subsection (10) of this section shall in-
14 clude information that demonstrates the effectiveness of the program, in-
15 cluding:

16 (a) The number of educators receiving high-quality STEM professional
17 development;

18 (b) The number of students receiving services from the STEM action cen-
19 ter; and the number of students participating in STEM camps, academies,
20 pilot programs and classroom STEM activities;

21 (c) A report on the STEM action center's fulfillment of its duties; and

22 (d) Student performance of students participating in a STEM action cen-
23 ter program.

24 SECTION 2. That Section 67-824, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
25 amended to read as follows:

26 67-824. STEM EDUCATION FUND. There is hereby created in the state
27 treasury the STEM education fund to support the programs and priorities of
28 the state in advancing science, technology, engineering and mathematics
29 education. The STEM education fund may accept private contributions, moneys
30 from other public agencies or moneys from any other source. The moneys shall
31 be used solely for the purposes provided in section 67-823, Idaho Code, and
32 be expended and accounted for as provided by law. All expenditures from the
33 STEM education fund must be approved by the Idaho STEM action center advisory
34 board.

35 SECTION 3. That Section 67-825, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
36 amended to read as follows:

37 67-825. STEM ACTION CENTER ADVISORY BOARD -- MEETINGS -- HONORARIUM
38 AND EXPENSES -- ORGANIZATION. (1) The STEM action center advisory board
39 shall hold no fewer than four (4) regular meetings annually at such time and
40 place as may be directed by the board. Special meetings may be called by the
41 chair at any time and place designated in such call.

42 (2) Each member shall be compensated as provided in section 59-509(c),
43 Idaho Code.

44 (3) At its first meeting after the first day of July in each year, the
45 STEM action center advisory board shall organize and shall elect from its
46 membership a chairperson and a vice chairperson.