

Thank you Mister Chairman and committee, for the record my name is Quinn Perry and I'm the policy and government affairs director for the Idaho School Boards Association.

HB293
ISBA thinks that ~~this bill~~ is an appropriate step in switching to a new funding formula and we applaud the ALL the good senators and representatives who have worked on getting something done this year.

However, we'd like to go on record with a few concerns we would like to make the committee aware of so if they become issues that we can hopefully address them as a team in coming years.

Page 1, line 40, it see it appropriate to include the full k-12 population. I know that both Kansas and Colorado, who are on a student-based funding formula and were used as examples thorough the PSFF discussions, track this beginning at kindergarten.

Page 7, October 1 will be considered the first reporting date. Especially for reporting the special populations, October 1 is likely too soon to capture accurate data. Some schools up north don't even start school until after Labor day, and this doesn't give enough time for districts to properly identify students using the specified criteria. We do know there is an assumption that this may capture data from last year, but it does not explicitly say so.

Same page, line 34, what do you mean when you say 2020? If it's FY2020, then our schools and districts are not prepared to do this. If it's January 1, 2020, then we will have a lot of work to do, but it is doable with a lot of training. Still, it seems to be unclear and we seek your guidance.

Page 7, subsection 2, we're glad to report the discretionary expenditures, and if you did not know every school district and charter school is required to post their expenditures online.

Schools and districts have two "pots" of money they oversee – one that is used only for specific line items, and one that is for discretionary or levy dollars.

Let's say you and your spouse's paychecks go into one account, and you go

to buy groceries using your joint debit card, how do you determine whose paycheck the groceries come out of? We only point this out because the data we are going to get from districts and schools will be widely varied. One may say its salaries and insurance, one may say its building maintenance. That said, we are not opposed to this additional transparency, though it may be more burdensome for our small and rural districts whose business managers may play one or two roles in the district.

Again, lastly, our legal counsel does believe that the definition of salary schedule would require a minimum salary for professional endorsement, but believe if we sought clarification in the statement of purpose and a letter of intent, that we could address that issue.

I believe that is all mister chair, and committee. Thank you and I stand for questions.