

MINUTES  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, March 03, 2020

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

**PLACE:** Room EW41

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Clow, Vice Chairman Kerby, Representatives Shepherd, Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Moon, Ehardt, Goesling, Marshall, Raymond, Wisniewski, McCrostie, Abernathy, Berch

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Rep. Ehardt

**GUESTS:** Tracie Bent, OSBE

**Chairman Clow** called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Abernathy** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2020 and February 25, 2020 meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**RS 27783C1:** **Rep. Marshall** presented **RS 27783C1**, concerning nonpublic teacher preparation programs, which include alternative routes to certification and teacher preparation courses at private higher education institutions. He said this topic has been worked on for a long time, including consultations with the State Board and State Department of Education. The proposed legislation allows these programs to grant teaching certificates to graduates who hold a bachelor's degree, submit to a criminal history check, pass required content training in the areas in which they seek to be endorsed and pass pedagogical training. Both required trainings must be in substantive alignment with the state standards in the initial standards for teacher certification. The certificates granted would be equivalent to any from a public higher education institution. Programs that do not have a student teaching component will have mentoring requirements instead. Reviews of these programs will be limited to verifying these criteria. He stated no teacher preparation program can meet all of the state standards, because they are currently so complex. The proposed legislation will still uphold standards, while allowing nonpublic programs to be more creative and flexible.

**ORIGINAL MOTION:** **Rep. Moon** made a motion to introduce **RS 27783C1** and recommend it be sent directly to the Second Reading Calendar. She said the Committee discussed this issue in detail during administrative rules review.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** **Rep. McCrostie** made a substitute motion to introduce **RS 27783C1**, saying he had additional questions and preferred to hold a public hearing and have more time to research the issue.

**Rep. DeMordaunt** spoke in support of the original motion, noting nonpublic teacher preparation programs have existed in Idaho for decades.

**Rep. Berch** spoke in support of the substitute motion, stating the Committee has not held any debate on the issue.

**VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** **Motion failed by voice vote. Reps. McCrostie, Abernathy and Berch** requested to be recorded as voting **AYE**.

**Chairman Clow** stated that because the motion before the Committee included the recommendation to send directly to the Second Reading Calendar, he would allow a deeper dive into the proposed legislation than technical questions only, including public testimony and questions for the State Board of Education.

**Blake Youde**, on behalf of American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE), presented on the proposed legislation, saying multiple stakeholder groups have had the opportunity to weigh in. He said this would not diminish the quality of nonpublic program candidates and it gives direction to the review of these programs.

**Tracie Bent**, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, State Board of Education, was called upon to clarify the Board's position on the proposed legislation. She stated the Board as a whole has not met and taken a position, but **Mr. Youde** and **Rep. Marshall** shared drafts and made some requested changes. One such addition was the language requiring the content training to "be in substantive alignment with knowledge or equivalent standards set forth in the initial standards for teacher certification." She stated nonpublic teacher preparation program candidates would still need to meet the standards, but the process whereby they're educated could be vastly different than traditional, public teacher preparation program candidates.

In response to Committee questions regarding the Praxis test, **Ms. Bent** cited a requirement in administrative rule that candidates must pass a board-approved content assessment, of which the Praxis is one. This requirement is in the rules for each specific endorsement. With regard to mentoring requirements, she noted the current process to earn an interim certificate allows for the same level of mentoring to replace the student teaching requirement.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:**

**Rep. Berch** made a substitute motion to **HOLD RS 27783C1** in Committee for time certain, March 5, 2020. He expressed concern about receiving the State Board's input before sending the proposed legislation to the floor and advocated for following the typical legislative process.

**Rep. McCrostie** spoke **in support** of the substitute motion, agreeing that the original motion goes around the typical process. He noted while the Committee has discussed the issue, it has not discussed the proposed legislation and said he would not support this as a bill without a full hearing.

**Rep. Moon** spoke **in opposition** to the substitute motion. She stated a Subcommittee discussed this issue, as did the full Committee, with the State Board and State Department of Education in attendance at the meetings.

**VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION:**

**Motion failed by voice vote. Reps. McCrostie, Abernathy and Berch** requested to be recorded as voting **AYE**.

**Rep. Marshall** was recognized to close his remarks. He stated **State Superintendent Ybarra** told the Senate Education Committee that the State Department of Education will conduct a thorough review of teacher certification standards and the germane committees will be tasked with reviewing and reducing them to increase flexibility and innovation. He stated public and nonpublic teacher preparation programs do not need to be equivalent and the proof will be in the candidates they produce.

**Rep. McCrostie** noted he has not seen such a letter and the proposed legislation does not need to move through the process so quickly.

**VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION:**

**Motion carried by voice vote. Reps. McCrostie, Abernathy and Berch** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**. **Rep Marshall** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**Chairman Clow** reminded the Committee the recommendation to send directly to the Second Reading Calendar is a final decision of the Speaker.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:46 am.

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Representative Clow  
Chair

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Erica McGinnis  
Secretary