

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 11, 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:** Representative Ehardt

GUESTS: Dr. Mary Barinaga, University of Washington School of Medicine; Jeff Seegmiller, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences, University of Washington; Matt Freeman, Executive Director for the Idaho State Board of Education (SBOE); Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, SBOE.

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

Dr. Mary Barinaga, University of Washington School of Medicine presented the cooperative public education program for students from Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho (WWAMI). The program offers clinical rotations between multiple types of medical facilities during the four-year instructional period. Integrated specialties are offered after the first eighteen months. Residency is offered in only three areas within Idaho, forcing many students to leave the state to fulfill their residency requirements.

Dr. Barinaga answered Committee questions regarding student and practitioner retention efforts and the current doctor shortage in Idaho. WWAMI ten-year goals include serving Idaho citizens by increasing the percentage of doctors per capita. In 2021, there were 207 Idaho applicants, 170 completed second application, 111 received an interview, 40 positions were filled in WWAMI, and 10 were filled at the University of Utah Medical School.

Jeff Seegmiller, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences, University of Washington, discussed the student data tracking, the amount of students who stay within the program through graduation, and students who become practitioners in the WWAMI states. Data has been collected for the past forty years. Part of the program, Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO), connects a panel of experts with rural clinicians to provide better care for rural patients.

Matt Freeman Executive Director, Idaho State Board of Education, stated the State buys 40 seats a year in order to keep the tuition at the in-state tuition rate level for the University of Washington program. The State also purchases 10 seats at the University of Utah School of Medicine.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

Representative Clow
Chair

Christine Reynolds
Secretary