

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, February 11, 2022

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Clow, Vice Chairman Kerby, Representatives Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Moon (Beiswenger), Ehardt, Marshall, Wisniewski, Galloway, Yamamoto, McCann, McCrostie, Berch, Toone

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of the session the sign-in sheet will be retained in the Legislative Library.

Chairman Clow called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

MOTION: **Rep. McCann** made a motion to approve the minutes of February 7, 2022. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

S 1238: **Sen. Thayn** introduced **S 1238** and shared how this legislation would enable self-directed learners to have more flexibility. He explained how the student, teachers, and parents must all agree upon the student's assignments. Sen. Thayn discussed how there would be basic framework which would apply to all students.

In response to Committee questions, **Sen. Thayn** clarified that all students may enroll in this program anytime. He shared how there are time requirements for students to be in class.

Chairman Clow introduced **Rep. Beiswenger**.

Dale Layne, Lobbyist, Idaho Rural School Association, shared how some schools are doing similar to what **S 1238** proposes. He explained how **S 1238** provides clarifying language to those schools and allows more students to have control over their education.

Layne McInelly, President, Idaho Education Association, discussed how his organization supports **S 1238** and how it will encourage students to have more control over their education.

MOTION: **Rep. DeMordaunt** made a motion to send **S 1238** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. DeMordaunt** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 545: **Rep. Yamamoto** introduced **H 545** and shared how this legislation would create a revolving loan fund to help charter schools build schools.

Emily McClure, Lobbyist, Idaho Charter School Network, discussed how because charter schools cannot bond or levy, this legislation would create a revolving loan fund for charter schools. She shared how this loan would be repaid and the requirements for charter schools to apply for this loan.

In response to Committee questions, **Ms. McClure** discussed where this money can be spent and discussed the varying amounts of money schools could borrow. She shared how this loan does not charge the schools interest and what would happen if schools defaulted.

Marc Carignan, Chief Financial Officer, BLUUM, discussed how there are similar revolving loan funds which have had success. He compared two different schools and explained the impact this fund could make. He voiced his support for **H 545**.

Monica White, Cofounder, Elevate Academy, discussed how the revolving loan fund would help Elevate Academy reach more students. She voiced her support for **H 545**.

Marv Lasnick, Cofounder, Treasure Valley Classical Academy, discussed how the revolving loan fund would help with challenges faced with opening new charter schools. He voiced his support for **H 545**.

Rep. Boyle and **Yamamoto** declared Rule 80, a possible conflict of interest.

MOTION: **Rep. DeMordaunt** made a motion to send **H 545** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Yamamoto** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Chairman Clow turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Kerby**.

RS 29374: **Chairman Clow** presented **RS 29374** to the committee. He shared how this proposed legislation would change the Average Daily Attendance (ADA) formula to Full Time Equivalent Enrollment (FTE-E). Chairman Clow shared how during the pandemic both ADA and FTE-E were being tracked and it would not be hard for schools to make the transfer to only FTE-E. Chairman Clow discussed the amendments proposed to **RS 29374**.

MOTION: **Rep. Galloway** made a motion to introduced **RS 29374** as amended. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Vice Chairman Kerby turned the gavel over to **Chairman Clow**.

Bill Foxcroft, Executive Director, Idaho Head Start Association, discussed how Head Start is a federally funded program and how they serve 39 out of 44 counties. He discussed how each Head Start program is locally operated by community board and parents policy councils. Mr. Foxcroft explained how Head Start programs use high-quality research based curriculum. He voiced his support of American Rescue Plan Act funding going to this program. He discussed how Head Start uses the whole family model to ensure the whole family succeeds.

Dr. Noreen Womack, Idaho Chapter of American Academy Pediatrics, shared how they support the full family model within Head Start.

MOTION: **Chairman Clow** asked unanimous consent for the committee to adjourn at 10:55 am. **Rep. Berch** objected, there being an objection, the request was not granted.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:49 am.

Representative Clow
Chair

Elbia Christensen
Secretary