

FINAL REPORT

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL INTERIM COMMITTEE

MEDICAL EDUCATION

2008

FINAL REPORT

Medical Education Interim Committee SCR 135 (2008)

Members of the Committee:

**Senator Robert Geddes, Co-chair
Senator Bart Davis
Senator Dean Cameron
Senator Diane Bilyeu**

**Representative Maxine Bell, Co-chair
Representative Lawrence Denney
Representative Fred Wood
Representative John Rusche**

Ex-Officio Members:

**Dr. Steven Daley-Laursen, President, University of Idaho
Dr. Art Vailas, President, Idaho State University
Dr. Mark Rudin, Vice President for Research, Boise State University
Susie Pouliot, CEO, Idaho Medical Association
Steve Millard, CEO, Idaho Hospital Association
Milford Terrell, President, State Board of Education
Sue Thilo, Secretary, State Board of Education**

Staff: Matt Freeman, Charmi Arregui, Twyla Melton

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 135

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND AUTHORIZING THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO APPOINT A COMMITTEE TO UNDERTAKE AND COMPLETE A STUDY OF MEDICAL EDUCATION NEEDS IN IDAHO.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, in compliance with Senate Bill No. 1210, of the First Regular Session of the Fifty-ninth Idaho Legislature, the State Board of Education engaged the consulting services of MGT of America, Inc. in August 2007 to conduct a medical education study to determine the need and feasibility of increased medical education opportunities in Idaho, and to provide an analysis of potential models of medical education for the state; and

WHEREAS, \$300,000 was appropriated from the Idaho Millennium Fund to the office of the State Board of Education to engage the services of an independent consultant, of which \$269,000 was expended; and

WHEREAS, the study was completed and presented to the State Board of Education in December 2007; and

WHEREAS, it was found that:

(1) Idaho has a need for more physicians as evidenced by statistics showing that Idaho ranks extremely low in the nation, and at the bottom among states of similar population, for number of physicians per capita.

(2) Idaho's physicians are relatively older than the national average age of physicians.

(3) Many Idaho counties are designated as "health professions shortage areas."

(4) Idaho is among the fastest growing states in the nation, which means the population growth will strain access to physicians and will increase competition with other states for physicians as the national shortage develops; and

WHEREAS, the results of the study need to be thoroughly reviewed to evaluate future medical professional needs in Idaho and to formulate a state plan for medical education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Fifty-ninth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the Legislative Council is authorized to appoint a committee to undertake and complete a study of medical education needs in Idaho. The Legislative Council shall authorize the committee to receive input, advice and assistance from interested and affected parties who are not members of the legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Council is requested to appoint the following legislators and ex-officio members to the study committee. Legislative members shall include the:

- (1) President Pro Tempore of the Senate or his designee,
- (2) Senate Majority Leader or his designee,
- (3) Senate Minority Leader or his designee,

- 1 (4) Senate Finance Committee Chairman,
- 2 (5) Speaker of the House of Representatives or his designee,
- 3 (6) House Majority Leader or his designee,
- 4 (7) House Minority Leader or his designee, and
- 5 (8) House Appropriations Committee Chairman.

6 Ex-officio members shall include:

- 7 (1) The President of the University of Idaho or his designee,
- 8 (2) The President of Idaho State University or his designee,
- 9 (3) The President of Boise State University or his designee,
- 10 (4) The President of the Idaho Medical Association or his designee,
- 11 (5) The President of the Idaho Hospital Association or his designee, and
- 12 (6) Two members of the State Board of Education, or their designees as
- 13 designated by the State Board of Education.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nonlegislative members of the committee who
15 are appointed by the Legislative Council shall not be reimbursed from legisla-
16 tive funds for per diem, mileage or other expenses and shall not have voting
17 privileges regarding the committee's recommendations or proposed legislation.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the scope and purpose of the study committee
19 is to:

- 20 (1) Review and consider the findings of the Medical Education Study final
21 report submitted by MGT of America, Inc.;
- 22 (2) Identify gaps in the MGT study and determine if and how those gaps
23 should be filled;
- 24 (3) Complete and validate an Idaho inventory of medical education assets
25 existing in Idaho;
- 26 (4) Evaluate future medical professional needs in Idaho; and
- 27 (5) Initiate a state plan for medical education that includes expanded
28 opportunities at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee is encouraged to coordinate its
30 efforts with the State Board of Education's Medical Education Study Committee
31 and request that the State Board of Education Medical Education Study Commit-
32 tee present its findings to the committee.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall report its findings, rec-
34 ommendations and proposed legislation, if any, to the First Regular Session of
35 the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature.

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MEDICAL EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE

2008

FINAL REPORT

Charge

The Medical Education Interim Committee was formed by the adoption of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 135. The resolution authorized the Committee to:

- (1) Review and consider the findings of the Medical Education Study Final Report submitted by MGT of America, Inc.;
- (2) Identify gaps in the MGT study and determine if, and how, those gaps should be filled;
- (3) Complete and validate an Idaho inventory of medical education assets existing in Idaho;
- (4) Evaluate future medical professional needs in Idaho; and
- (5) Initiate a state plan for medical education that includes expanded opportunities at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

The Committee was directed to report its findings, recommendations and proposed legislation to the First Regular Session of the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature.

Meetings and Presenters

The Committee held meetings on August 12, September 15 and November 12, 2008, in Boise.

At its August 12 meeting, the Committee heard testimony from Dr. Kent Caruthers of MGT of America. He provided a summary of MGT's Medical Education Study Final Report. The Committee then heard from Matt Freeman, Legislative Services Office, who provided a presentation on medical education trends and statistics.

At its September 15 meeting, the committee heard presentations from Rod Jacobson of Bear Lake Memorial Hospital, Dr. Michael Patmas of Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center and Ed Dahlberg of St. Luke's Regional Medical Center on physician recruitment and retention. The Committee then heard from Governor Butch Otter regarding his vision for expanding medical education opportunities. Joyce McRoberts from the Governor's Office provided a report from the Governor's Select Committee on Health Care. Next the Committee heard from Dr. Barbara Barzansky of the Liaison Committee on Medical Education. She discussed the process and timelines for developing a new medical education program. The Committee then heard from Dr. David Schmitz of the Family Medicine Residency of Idaho. Dr. Schmitz provided an presentation on rural physician recruitment and retention. Each of the university representatives then provided the Committee an inventory of existing assets which could be used toward a medical education program. Finally, the Committee heard from Dr. Art Vailas of Idaho State University. He provided a presentation on a proposed distributive model of medical education.

At its November 12 meeting, the Committee heard from Dr. Dennis Stevens of the Boise VA Medical Center. He provided an overview of research capacity and facilities at the Boise VA, and current and potential research collaboration with Idaho universities. The Committee then heard from Dr. Paul Ramsey of University of Washington School of Medicine. Dr. Ramsey provided an overview of the WWAMI program and the feasibility of expanding access to this state supported medical education program. Next the Committee heard from Phil Stiffler of the City of Meridian on economic development opportunities related to medical education. Then the Committee heard from Dr. Joseph Williams of Idaho Urologic Institute on physician workforce needs in Idaho. Next the Committee heard from Dr. Ben Call of Pocatello Cardiology and representing Idaho State University. Dr. Call spoke to a business plan for offering a distributive model of medical education through Idaho State University. Finally the committee heard from: Dr. Jonathan Cree of ISU Family Medicine Residency, Dr. Ted Epperly of Family Medicine Residency of Idaho, and Drs. Larry Dewey and Scott Smith of the Boise VA. Each provided overview of the current residency programs currently offered in Idaho.

Recommendations

The Committee passed the following motion:

That the committee adopt the three-prong approach for expanding medical education in Idaho as adopted by the Idaho Medical Association (Resolution 01 (08)), to wit:

- (1) Development of an Idaho-based four-year medical education program.
- (2) Expansion of, and addition to, current graduate medical education programs to include family medicine, internal medicine, psychiatry, pediatrics, surgery, and obstetrics/gynecology.
- (3) Expansion of state funded medical school seats at University of Washington from 20 to 40 per year and University of Utah from 8 to 16 per year as an interim measure.

That the committee recommend to the State Board of Education that they also adopt this same approach.

That Idaho State University, WWAMI and any other model may, with their own resources, develop a business plan for the delivery of a four-year medical education program in Idaho.