

MINUTES
SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Thursday, March 01, 2012
- TIME:** 3:00 P.M.
- PLACE:** Room WW55
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Vice Chairman Mortimer, Senators Pearce, Fulcher, Winder, Toryanski and Malepeai
- ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Chairman Goedde, Senators Andreason and LeFavour
- NOTE:** The sign-in sheet, testimonies, and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.
- MINUTES:** **Vice Chairman Mortimer** called the meeting to order at 3:03 PM. **Vice Chairman Mortimer** reminded the committee the Chairman is out of town for an educational conference.
- INTRODUCTION:** **Vice Chairman Mortimer** introduced **Doyle Beck** from District 32. **Mr. Beck** is running for a House position in November and was at the committee to see the workings of the legislature.
- PRESENTATION:** **Vice Chairman Mortimer** introduced and welcomed **Ann Stephens**, State Administrator of Idaho Professional Technical Education (PTE). Ms. Stephens introduced PTE staff that joined her at the meeting: Dr. Vera McCrink, Kurt Dennis, Kristi Enger, Tracy English, Micheal Page, and Dr. Dick Ledington.
- Ms. Stephens** began her presentation by saying that the legal authority for their agency comes from Idaho Code which establishes the State Board for Professional Technical Education. The Board appoints the State Administrator whose responsible for coordinating all efforts in professional technical education.
- Ms. Stephens** continued her presentation speaking from the Point Power slides. Supporting documents related to this testimony have been archived and can be accessed in the office of the Committee Secretary (see Attachment #1).
- Vice Chairman Mortimer** asked **Ms. Stevens** what is the greatest challenge that PTE will have over the next four to six years. **Ms. Stevens** said it will be the ability to keep up with the needs of the programs and making sure the programs meet the labor market needs. Critical needs are to reintegrate adults that are in the workplace or are out of work to get them back into workplace and have the academic skills needed in order to successfully complete programs.
- Senator Toryanski** asked **Ms. Stevens** about the PTE that is in the high schools obviously has an investment that is required. Whose budget does that come from? **Ms. Stevens** replied PTE pays a percentage of the added costs for PTE in the high schools; which goes towards equipment, supplies, and other things that are the additional costs of running a PTE program. **Senator Toryanski** said offering these programs does not cost the school districts more. **Ms. Stevens** replied that is not the case. The local district does pay from a great deal of the program. There is more expensive equipment in the programs and they do cost the districts more. **Vice Chairman Mortimer** thanked **Ms. Stevens** saying that he is very proud of the work that her staff does.
- Vice Chairman Mortimer** welcomed **Jason Hancock** from the State Department of Education to present three house bills.

H 499 **Mr. Hancock** presented **H 499** which deals with the school district facility maintenance plans. In H 743, of 2006, this was the legislature’s primary response to the school facilities law suit. One of the requirements with that legislation has been school districts to put together a school’s ten year maintenance plan and revise it every year and resubmit every year to the State Department of Education (DOE). This legislation shifts these plans from the DOE to the Department of Building Safety. There is no one in DOE that has any expertise in maintenance inspections. The other change is rather than having to redo the plans every year, plans will be done in years ending in zero and five. Finally, the school districts will have more time to get the square footage report into the state. There were no questions from the committee and no testimony from the audience.

MOTION: **Senator Winder** moved, seconded by **Senator Fulcher**, that **H 499** be sent to the Senate floor with a do pass recommendation. The motion carried by **voice vote**. **Senator Toryanski** will carry **H 499** on the floor.

H 521: **Mr. Hancock** presented **H 521** to the committee. **Mr. Hancock** said this is a simple piece of legislation that deletes the sentence stating the DOE by law will maintain a curriculum library at their site. The rationale is no one has used the library in the last year. BSU and all the other colleges around the state have more complete libraries. This is a waste of space in the department and there are better uses for that space. This is efficiency in government trying to eliminate unnecessary duplication.

Vice Chairman Mortimer asked **Mr. Hancock** if this is for space and money savings? **Mr. Hancock** said this is more for cost avoidance of having to house people working on special projects in other spaces.

Senator Fulcher said there are several libraries all over the state. Are they mandated by law that they maintain the library. **Mr. Hancock** replied he was not aware of any requirements but curriculum is part and parcel of teacher education programs and colleges have them up to date.

MOTION: **Senator Fulcher** moved, seconded by **Senator Pearce**, that **H 521** be sent to the Senate floor with a do pass recommendation. The motion carried by **voice vote**. **Senator Fulcher** will carry **H 521** on the floor.

H 534 **Mr. Hancock** introduced **H 534** to the committee. This bill deals with the pay for performance program. This strikes some wording in regards to teacher leadership. It currently states that teachers with less than three years of experience cannot be awarded a leadership award. The problem is the youngest teachers may be the ones providing the training for technology as they are more experienced in that area and should be awarded a leadership position.

Senator Pearce asked **Mr. Hancock** if this is only for new teachers and is it the only tweak for pay for performance. **Mr. Hancock** said S 1329 also addressed pay for performance and that has moved through .

MOTION: **Senator Pearce** moved seconded by **Senator Fulcher**, that **H 534** be sent to the Senate floor with a do pass recommendation. The motion carried by **voice vote**. **Senator Pearce** will carry **H 534** on the floor.

ADJOURN: Having no more business, **Vice Chairman Mortimer** adjourned the meeting at 3:38 P.M.

Senator Goedde
Chairman

LeAnn South
Secretary