

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Thursday, February 06, 2014
- TIME:** 9:00 A.M.
- PLACE:** Room EW41
- MEMBERS:** Chairman DeMordaunt, Vice Chairman Nielsen, Representative(s) Shepherd, Wills, Bateman, Boyle, Clow, Gestrin, Harris, Horman, Mendive, VanOrden, McDonald, Pence, Kloc, Rubel
- ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** Ryan Gravette, Director of Technology, and Sherawn Reberry, Director of Education Programs, Idaho Digital Learning Academy; Fernando Castro, Department of Health and Welfare; Dawn Peck and Leila McNeill, Idaho State Police; Becky Schroeder and Jeff Anderson, Idaho Lottery Commission; Marilyn Whitney, Amy Nelms and Tracie Bent, SBOE; Phil Homer and Rob Winslow, IASA
- Chairman DeMordaunt** called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- RS 22705:** **Jason Hancock**, Deputy Chief of Staff, State Department of Education (SDE), appeared before the committee to present **RS 22705**. Mr. Hancock said the legislation will allow the State Department of Education to pass along the Idaho State Police fee increase for fingerprinting background checks in the public schools. He explained rather than establish the fee in code, the Idaho Code has been changed from showing a specific charge for fingerprinting to stating: "The state department of education shall charge all such individuals a fee equal to any processing fees charged to the state department of education."... Mr. Hancock also said SDE funds set aside for the program were due to run out in FY15.
- MOTION:** **Rep. VanOrden** made a motion to introduce **RS 22705**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- Chairman DeMordaunt** and **Vice Chairman Nielsen** asked **Mr. Hancock** to provide more information at the bill hearing explaining the funding history and specifying those individuals who are required to be fingerprinted. Chairman DeMordaunt said the legislative intent may be for "anyone who has unsupervised contact with children" to be fingerprinted, those words do not appear in the document. He expressed concern that parents coming into the schools to assist the classroom teacher are being unnecessarily charged for fingerprinting.
- RS 22706:** **Mr. Hancock** presented **RS 22706** which allows the state to continue to distribute funding from the Idaho State Lottery proceeds. These funds help defray the cost of the public schools' Bond Levy Equalization program. He said in 2009, the Legislature provided that one-fourth of all future increases in State Lottery distributions go to the Bond Levy Equalization program. He explained the 2009 legislation has a sunset clause that will expire in September 2014, and he stated the current legislation will provide for continuation of existing law.
- In response to a request from **Chairman DeMordaunt**, **Mr. Hancock** explained the property value index plus the concept and distribution of the Bond Levy Equalization program.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Horman** made a motion to introduce **RS 22706**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Mike Rush, Executive Director, State Board of Education (SBOE) said the SBOE, as established by the Constitution, is the policy-making body for all public education in Idaho and provides general oversight and governance for public K-12 education, including public community colleges. He said the Office of the State Board of Education (OSBE) provides administrative support in the areas of: governance, oversight, coordination, and policy-oriented agendas. In addition, OSBE administratively supports strategic planning and performance data.

Mr. Rush indicated the confusion following the 60 percent goal is based on statistics from different data sources. He said the goal of 60 percent of Idaho citizens between the ages of 25 and 34, attaining an advanced degree is well-founded when according to **Anthony Carnevale**, with Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce, "Nearly two-thirds of the future 46.8 million jobs—some 63 percent—will require workers with at least some college education. About 34 percent will require a Bachelor's degree or better, while 30 percent will require at least some college or a two-year Associate's degree. Only 36 percent of total jobs will require workers with just a high school diploma or less, and those will be clustered toward the low end of the wage scale."

Mr. Rush explained the 60 percent goal is a measure of educational attainment for Idaho citizens irrespective of where they did or did not get their education. The data is gathered from the community survey and based on the 2005-2006 Census. He said our institutions are obviously the key players in increasing Idaho's educational inventory, but they are not the only player. He said, further exacerbating our challenge is that people moving into the state are less educated than those moving out of the state.

Dr. Sherawn Reberry, Director of Education Programs, and **Ryan Gravetter**, Director of Technology, IDLA, SDE, demonstrated the web portal created by IDLA entitled "idtransfer." Dr. Reberry said the objective is to provide a website, and resources for prospective transferring students. She said the data, in Idaho, lists transferring between institutions and double cost for nontransferable credits when changing schools, as key factors for non-completion of higher education. Dr. Reberry stated the data driven task was to find a solution. Using a responsive design, and developing a mobile device product, the transfer of credits across all Idaho state-sponsored postsecondary institutions has been simplified in www.idtransfer.org. The web portal targets high school students, who are dually enrolled, and college students, who change schools or majors, and helps them navigate transfer of credits across Idaho institutions.

Making a clarification on differing credit transfers for what appears to be equal math classes, **Mr. Gravetter** said, if the class has a lab connected to it, the number of credits will be more. **Chairman DeMordaunt** asked the IDLA to provide additional information on the web portal. He said students should be able to access the earning potential of a degree. Mr. Gravetter said the Department of Labor has those statistics and the transfer of that data onto the website should be doable.

Mr. Rush completed his annual report to the House Education Committee with a budget request for FY 15. He explained the Governor's budget for higher education and spoke specifically to the needs of education and the line item requests by the Board of Education. (See Attached.)

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:22.

Representative DeMordaunt
Chair

Jean Vance
Secretary