

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 04, 2015

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman DeMordaunt, Vice Chairman VanOrden, Representatives Shepherd, Wills, Boyle, Clow, Gestrin, Harris, Mendive, McDonald, Dixon, Kerby, Pence, Kloc, Rubel

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Stephanie Camarillo, Idaho Coalition of Charter Schools; Annika Camarillo, Georgia Puscha, Wash. Co.; Sabrina Young, Wash. Co.; Donna Peterson, Payette Co.; Robin Nettinger, IEA; Matt Compton, IEA; Clark Corbin, Idaho Ed News; Rob Winslow, IHSH; Harold Ott, Rural Schools; Chuck Zimmerly, SDE; Ryan Struyk, Associated Press; Dwight Johnson, Professor - Tech. Ed.; Sherri Ybarra, State Department of Education

Chairman DeMordaunt called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M.

RS 23414: **Rep. Luker** presented **RS 23414**. He said this proposed legislation provides for a task force to study student data collection as well as the extent to which federal funding is contingent upon the collection and reporting of the data. The proposed legislation creates a forum for legislators and the public to voice their concerns relative to data collection issues.

MOTION: **Rep. Wills** made a motion to introduce **RS 23414**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 23425: **Rep. Kerby** presented **RS 23425**. The purpose of this proposed legislation is to provide scholarships to students who earn college credits while in high school. The intent is to encourage graduates of Idaho high schools to attend post-secondary schools in Idaho. A matching academic merit-based scholarship from the private sector would be required. The expectation is these students will enroll in fields of study/careers where there are good paying jobs provided by Idaho companies. Concerns were expressed that the scholarships would exclude home school and private school students. Rep. Kerby stated the legislature has a constitutional responsibility to public school students. He said there are provisions for home school students who attend public school their senior year to be eligible for the scholarship.

MOTION: **Rep. Pence** made a motion to introduce **RS 23425**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
Mike Rush, Executive Director, Office of the State Board of Education (OSBE), stated the OSBE provides for the general supervision, governance and control of all state educational institutions, public schools and public community colleges. The Board is also responsible for Professional-Technical Education, Public TV and Vocational Rehabilitation. Mr. Rush said the Board is committed to increase the number of Idaho students who go on to college. As Idaho education institutions become more effective and efficient, they will be better equipped to prepare people to work in the new economy.

Mr. Rush addressed the Governor's recommended change in employee compensation, the budget for the Public Charter School Commission and issues relative to the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA). He requested additional spending authority for the federal GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs). In closing, Mr. Rush stated the Board recognizes the critical role the legislature will play in implementing the Governor's Task Force for Improving Education. Education is critical for the Idaho economy, and he looks forward to continuing a collaborative and productive process.

Stephanie Camarillo, Board Member of the Coalition of Idaho Charter School Families, addressed the committee regarding the Coalition and issues of importance to its members. The mission of the Coalition is to promote and advocate for Idaho public policy that furthers the advancement of charter schools and the innovations in education they represent. The Coalition supports policy provisions for funding that follows the child, increased facilities funding for schools of choice and creation of a revolving loan fund to assist with facilities costs. Other items of concern are the right to participate in school bond elections alongside other public schools and renewal of the current Museums, Schools and Libraries tax credit.

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

Representative DeMordaunt
Chair

Joyce McKenzie
Secretary