

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, March 09, 2015

TIME: 8:30 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: The sign-in sheet will be retained with the minutes in the committee secretary's office until the end of the session. Following the end of the session, the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

Rep. Wills called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Kloc** made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2015, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

S 1097: **Sen. Nonini** introduced his co-sponsor, **Sen. Burgoyne**, and presented **S 1097**. He stated the legislation is to repeal Idaho Code Section 33-1006A which stated the State Department of Education (SDE) shall audit the transportation operations of any school district with more than twenty enrolled students per square mile. He said the Section was put into statute in 2009 and has burdened some school districts. He indicated SDE supports **S 1097**.

Rep. Wills turned the gavel over to **Chairman DeMordaunt**.

Responding to questions, **Sen. Nonini** said there will be no follow-up bill next year. He said only **Reps. Wills, Pence** and **Shepherd** were serving on the Education Committee in 2009 when the section was added. He remarked it has shown to be unnecessary and burdensome; and, is more a matter of auditing than funding.

MOTION: **Rep. Harris** made a motion to send **S 1097** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Kloc** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1088: **Karen Echeverria**, Executive Director, ISBA, presented **S 1088**. She said the legislation is a combination of two bills which have contained sunset clauses for two years. After collecting data and working with the Idaho Education Association, she stated consensus has been reached in **S 1088**. She said Section 1 contains new language dealing with Reduction in Force (RIF), setting out clear parameters and defining RIF. Ms. Echeverria said Section 2 will give the locally elected school board members the ability to increase or decrease salaries of certificated staff; or, shorten or lengthen the term of teachers' contracts under certain conditions. She indicated **S 1088** also allows school districts and charter schools to issue letters of intent for employment by July 1 of each year.

MOTION: **Rep. VanOrden** made a motion to send **S 1088** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. VanOrden** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

RS 23774: **Rep. Rubel** referenced **RS 23521** which was previously before the committee addressing the enhancement of Idaho's anti-bullying law. She listed the changes made in **RS 23774**: (1) Removal of words which were previously added to the penalty provision, leaving the Code to state: "bullying may be found to be an infraction." (2) The word all was removed and the words reasonable efforts will be inserted in the portion regarding dissemination of information on bullying. (3) In subsection 3, the list of graduated consequences is now a suggested list as opposed to required list.

MOTION: **Rep. Kloc** made a motion to introduce. **RS 23774. Motion carried by voice vote.**

In response to questions, **Rep. Rubel** said all personnel should currently be protected from liability. She said in the case of a lawsuit, only the school district can be sued, not the individual. She indicated the student reports filed by teachers and administrators would become part of anonymized aggregate data to show a school's ability to create a safe environment, not a mark on a student which follows him/her permanently.

RS 23595: **Rep. VanOrden** presented **RS 23595** saying the legislation would allow foreign exchange students to enroll in postsecondary courses, such as dual credit courses, while attending Idaho high schools.

MOTION: **Rep. Wills** made a motion to introduce **RS 23595. Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Representative DeMordaunt
Chair

Jean Vance
Secretary