

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, March 16, 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:** Representative Boyle

GUESTS: Mike Vuittonet, West Ada School District; Robin Nettinga, IEA; Phil Homer, IASA; Harold Ott, Rural Schools; Clark Corbin, Idaho Ed News; Dwight Johnson, IDPTE

Chairman DeMordaunt called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

RS 23850: **Rep. Thomas Dayley**, District 21, presented **RS 23850** that proposes changes to Idaho Code, Section 33-1003. This Section has been reviewed or discussed thirteen times since 1980. The legislation proposes to have school districts automatically enrolled in a program that protects them from declining enrollment and allows school districts to opt-out from the program if they wish. The district may only opt-out once in a five year period. To maintain opt-out status, the district must send the request in writing every year by September 30th to the State Board of Education. Rep. Dayley stated large and small districts are affected, but it is especially unfair to large school districts that pay into the fund when they have a growing student population.

In response to questions from the committee, **Rep. Dayley** stated school districts that opt-out are not able to contribute, nor receive funds in the case of declining enrollment. To a question regarding the calculated impact to enrolled districts when a large district is not part of the fund, he said he will research the impact.

MOTION: **Rep. Harris** made a motion to introduce **RS 23850. Motion carried by voice vote.**

S 1086: **Senator Steven Thayn**, District 8, presented **S 1086**. It proposes to align professional technical education with high school courses for better transferability. Sen. Thayn deferred to **Dwight Johnson**, Administrator, Idaho Professional-Technical Education (PTE) for the rest of the presentation. **S 1086** seeks to address two issues: (1) is to improve transfer of dual credit for technical programs from secondary to postsecondary schools; (2) is to improve access to PTE programs in rural school districts by increasing the number of online PTE courses and programs of study available through a partnership with Idaho Digital Learning Academy (IDLA). The funding for this legislation is through the Division of PTE. The Division has unspent resources in their current budget to begin the alignment of the postsecondary PTE programs as well as resources to fund selected pilot programs for online digital PTE courses.

In response to questions from the committee, **Mr. Johnson** said the program will take three years to implement. He indicated there are 30 PTE programs available. There are currently four to five online programs coming in the next fiscal year with ten per year in following years. He also stated it is important students not need to retake classes due to curriculum not matching. In most cases, the high school PTE classes will only receive elective credits unless the courses align. It was asked of Mr. Johnson how many students will be impacted with this program. He stated he anticipates 50 students per PTE class and the number will continue to grow over time. The funds will bring together stakeholders needing to align curriculum from high school to postsecondary programs.

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to send **S 1086** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Kerby** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 a.m.

Representative DeMordaunt
Chair

Michele Jarvis
Secretary