

MINUTES  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 18, 2015

**TIME:** 8:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Lincoln Auditorium

**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.

**Chairman DeMordaunt** called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Mendive** made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2015, A.M. meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**RS 23879C1:** **Marilyn Whitney, Sr.** Special Assistant for Education, Office of the Governor, presented **RS 23879C1**. She took the committee through the changes made to previous educational funding bill **H 222**. She explained each change chronologically by page number as follows:

Page 3: Adds to the definition of "measurable student achievement", that measures and targets shall be chosen in collaboration with teachers and applicable district staff. It also adds that only students who are enrolled in and have attended 80% of the interval of instruction will be included in the measurements.

Page 13: Adds Section 33-1004 to the "notwithstanding" clause that will put non-instructional (counselors, audiologists, etc.) on the Career Ladder if a system to address their compensation has not been identified by July 1, 2016.

Page 15: The first two levels of pay are increased. New teachers will enter the Career Ladder at \$32,700 instead of \$32,500 and the teachers in the large cohort that currently are at the \$31,750 will be moved to the ladder at \$33,200 instead of \$33,000.

Page 22: The language in subsection 4, dealing with the review of administrators' evaluations of instructional staff, has been revised. It clarifies the focus is on determining if the evaluation has been done with fidelity and is not a second evaluation of a teacher. There has been a change to stipulate that the State Department of Education (SDE) will appoint persons to conduct the reviews and also that SDE will report annually to the Legislature, the Office of the State Board of Education and the deans of the Colleges of Education on the results of the reviews.

Page 25: Repeats the language about the reviews in the Section 6, which is the "ongoing section" once the Career Ladder is fully implemented.

Page 26: A change was made to leave in place the \$2,000 allotment for both instructional and non-instructional staff who earn National Board Certification.

Page 27: In lines 42-44, a change was made to the requirement of a teacher

having eight continuous years of experience in order to qualify for the Master Premium. Teachers may now take a break to start a family or for other reasons. The requirement will still be eight years, but only the last three years will be required to be continuous.

Page 28: Language was added in subsection 3 (a) to ensure that a committee of teachers, administrators and other stakeholders will be involved in determining local criteria for the Master Premium. Subsection 6 was added to ensure charter school teachers will be eligible for the Master Premium.

Page 29: Lines 4-5 add language stating a committee of teachers, administrators and other district stakeholders will be involved in establishing criteria for the Leadership Premium.

Page 30: Section 33-1204 was added to require administrators take a three credit course on the statewide evaluation framework in order to recertify.

Page 31: Lines 20-23, adds a provision stating if the Career Ladder is not funded, a teacher will be eligible for a continuing contract, even if the teacher has not earned a professional endorsement.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Wills** made a motion to introduce **RS 23879C1. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**H 246:** **Rep. McDonald** presented **H 246**. He gave a statistical overview from Clemson University on bullying in the United States. He said bullying is any unwanted, aggressive behavior by another youth or group of youths. Bullying may inflict harm or distress including physical, psychological, social or educational. He indicated the bullying can be direct, face-to-face interaction or indirect: harmful rumors and/or communicating harmful rumors electronically.

**Rep. Rubel**, co-sponsor, **H 246**, said the bill is similar to those from other states. She said some of the states require even more extreme reporting than **H 246**, and those states have not seen an explosion in litigation. She explained within the State of Idaho, some districts are trying to create their own policy on bullying.

**Sen. Ward-Engelking** spoke in support of **H 246**. She said the legislation will assist schools in getting help for the bully as well as increased safety for victims of bullying.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Wills** made a motion to send **H 246** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**Matt McCarter**, Director, Student Engagement & Postsecondary Readiness, State Department of Education (SDE), was called upon to give a short analysis of the data received by SDE in regard to bullying. He said SDE receives three to five phone calls a month from parents. He indicated the Idaho Youth Prevention Survey is given to 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grades throughout the state. He said of those saying they had been bullied, only some have reported the incident. He stated of the 74 buildings reporting, only 22 said staff training is provided.

**Dr. Perry Brown**, pediatrician; **Jess Harrison**, Idaho School Boards Association; **Matt Compton**, Idaho Education Association; **Cheryl DenHartog**, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention; and **Wayne Rush**, Superintendent, Emmett School District, spoke in support of **H 246**.

**Brenda High, Julie Zicha, Stewart Wilder, and Carman Stagner** spoke in support of **H 246**. They are parents who have lost their young adults to suicide. Mr. Wilder is president of the #LiveWilder Foundation, named for his son's "hash tag" and working to achieve zero suicide for Idaho's youth. Ms. High is founder and co-director of Bully Police USA and has compiled a book: bullycide In America which describes the lives of bullied youth who have taken their lives. The parents urged lawmakers to understand the tragic circumstances connected with those who are bullied.

**Kathy Tolman, Tim Tranthum, Leighann Marsano, Jim Maltwood, and Ellie Giffin**, parents and grandparents of bullied children spoke in support of **H 246**.

**Carol Dixon**, Family Support Coordinator, Idaho Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health; **Stan Lupkes**, American Legion; and **Becky Woodhead**, Self Advocate Leadership Network, spoke in support of **H 246**.

**Sarah Morrison, Jacob Giffin, DW Tranthum, Rylee Driscoll, Gabriel Giffin and Ben Wilson**, spoke of their experiences with bullying in high school. Jacob Giffin said personal freedoms include the freedom from bullying and tyranny. He said Idaho must protect its most vulnerable students. Ms. Driscoll has created the Infinite Campaign Against Bullying.

**Rep. Rubel** was called upon to close testimony. She said **H 246** is focused on providing professional development for teachers in protecting Idaho's children.

**Rep. Clow** asked for assurance that all reported data be in aggregate form. It was mentioned the State Department of Education monitors student privacy statutes already in place.

**VOTE ON MOTION:**

**Chairman DeMordaunt** called for a vote on the motion to send **H 246** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. McDonald** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

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Representative DeMordaunt  
Chair

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Jean Vance  
Secretary