Chairman Clow called the meeting to order at 9:27 a.m.

Tracie L. Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Office, Idaho State Board of Education, presented the docket which addresses a new chapter in Idaho Code passed in 2016 regarding the Postsecondary Credit Scholarship. The chapter outlines the various levels of scholarships and how they function and addresses the needed matching scholarships from industry and businesses. Much of the details are in Idaho Code, therefore not outlined in the rules. Ms. Bent added that a person may apply for the scholarship at anytime during the year, but there is a June 1 deadline for Fall semesters. Continuing eligibility is for no more than 4 years post high school, but breaks in schooling are allowed.

In response to questions from the committee, Ms. Bent addressed concerns regarding the academic merit based scholarship. She identified that they need to see how the program works before more strict definitions are added as they may limit potential scholarships from businesses and industry. Ms. Bent also clarified the only scholarships that do not qualify for consideration are from post secondary institutions.

Rep. Syme made a motion to recommend the full committee approve Docket No. 08-0102-1601. Motion carried by voice vote.

Ms. Bent presented the next docket which addresses requirements for residency regarding tuition levels. This change makes the rules uniform and simplifies the current requirements. The biggest change is anyone who attended six years of elementary or high school in Idaho is eligible for 10 years post high school to declare Idaho residency. If that requirement is not met, a person must live in state for one year for purposes other than education. If a person starts at a private school and wishes to move to a public school, they are considered a resident after a year.

Ms. Bent addressed concerns from the committee regarding definitions of the Armed Forces and added they were looking into adding the Merchant Marines in the future. She also clarified the reason for allowing more that 30 days away during the 12 month residency period. This was a requested change and is intended to look at the bigger picture of whether a person owns a home, pays taxes and has assets, not just the length of time a person physically resides in the state.

Rep. Amador made a motion to recommend the full committee approve Docket No. 08-0104-1601. Motion carried by voice vote.

Ms. Bent presented the rule that will repeal the GEAR UP Idaho scholarship. This scholarship was a state/federal partnership that is now fully federal and the rules are no longer needed.
MOTION: Rep. Kloc made a motion to recommend the full committee approve Docket No. 08-0109-1601. Motion carried by voice vote.

DOCKET NO. 08-0201-1604: Ms. Bent presented details on the docket that will establish a definition for statewide classroom size in response to statute regarding staffing allowances. Instead of one average for the state, it takes into account the size of the school district and classroom size when establishing an average.

MOTION: Rep. Amador made a motion to recommend the full committee approve Docket No. 08-0201-1604. Motion carried by voice vote.

DOCKET NO. 08-0202-1607: This rule contains many changes due to inconsistencies in certification. Ms. Bent detailed the comprehensive changes which include, a definition of a paraprofessional, combination of instructional type certificates, technical changes and amendments regarding evaluations dealing with the ratio of professional practice and student achievement.

Concerns were raised regarding section 22(3), deaf/hard of hearing, that indicated more text should be included, but was not apparent. In response to further questions from the committee, Ms. Bent clarified that there is no more subject level endorsement for middle school and they are no longer needed in the new language. Many sections were moved to make the rules more easily understood.

MOTION: Rep. Kloc made a motion to recommend the full committee approve Docket No. 08-0202-1607.

Due to time constraints, Chairman Clow asked that Docket No. 08-0202-1607 be carried over to the subcommittee meeting being held on Monday, January 23, 2017.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

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Representative Clow           Michele Jarvis
Chair                          Secretary

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
CLOW SUBCOMMITTEE
Wednesday, January 18, 2017—Minutes—Page 2