MINUTES
SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, January 31, 2017
TIME: 3:00 P.M.
PLACE: Room WW55
MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Mortimer, Vice Chairman Thayn, Senators Winder, Nonini, Den Hartog, Guthrie, Crabtree, Buckner-Webb, and Ward-Engelking
ABSENT/EXCUSED: None

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENER: Chairman Mortimer called the Education Committee (Committee) to order at 3:01 p.m.

S 1018 Relating to Education: Repeal Outdated School Accountability Report Cards. Chairman Mortimer introduced Blake Youde, Chief communications and Legislative Affairs Officer, State Board of Education (SBE). Mr. Youde said the section proposed for repeal was established in 1990 as a statewide accountability system for public schools, which was prior to the establishment of federal accountability requirements. The combined State and federal requirements resulted in reporting confusion, and ultimately the federal requirements circumvented the State requirements. In 2013, the Governor's Task Force for Improving Education recommended a single statewide accountability framework through the rule-making process, which was developed with input of residents statewide. Mr. Youde concluded his presentation by affirming that the SBE believes the School Accountability Report Card is outdated and worthy of repeal.

Vice Chairman Thayn asked if the program being repealed had been successful and, if not, why not. Mr. Youde said the program had not been used when the federally mandated No Child Left Behind was enacted, because it created a dual reporting situation, which became so cumbersome school districts gradually moved to using just the federal requirements. Mr. Youde asked Tracie Bent to explain more fully.

Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, SBE, explained the system was not found to be effective as far as accountability because it focused more on inputs and was less informative on student outcomes.

MOTION: Senator Nonini moved to send S 1018 to the floor with a do pass recommendation. Senator Thayn seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote. Senator Nonini will carry the bill on the floor.

S 1019 Relating to School Safety Patrons: Repeal Outdated Language and Add a New Section. Mr. Youde explained the SBE worked with several stakeholder groups to clean up or repeal redundant or outdated sections of the Education code to make it more navigable, resulting in the recommended repeal. Mr. Youde said S 1019 moves school safety patrols section into the Motor Vehicle code, as it relates to rules of the road and moves these provisions from Chapter 18, Title 33 to a new Idaho Code § 49-652.
Senator Guthrie asked Mr. Youde for information on the punitive element. Discussion was held on the logistics of violations reported by school safety guards to patrol officers and penalties in general for violations at school crossings.

Senator Winder questioned the lack of crossing penalty specifications in the code sections of Chapter 6. Ms. Bent explained these citations fall under city codes. Senator Winder recommended that the Board research Idaho State's policy and provide recommendations at a later late.

MOTION: Vice Chairman Thayn moved to send S 1019 to the floor with a do pass recommendation. Senator Ward-Engelking seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote. Vice Chairman Thayn will carry the bill to the floor.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Mortimer passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Thayn.


Vice Chairman Thayn welcomed Mr. McMurtrey to the podium. Mr. McMurtrey presented the docket and introduced Lisa Colon Durham, Director, Staff Certification and Professional Standards, SDE.

Ms. Durham referred the Committee to page 36 of the Legislative Reviews Rule Book and explained that Docket No. 08.0202.1603 refers to the incorporated by reference document. She said the updated approval date replaces the current incorporated reference document as a result of the revisions to the Idaho Educator Publishing Standards. She referred the Committee to the Idaho Standards for the Initial Certification of Professional School Personnel and distributed hard copies of the summary page (see attachment 1).

Ms. Durham explained the Professional Standards Commission (PSC) is tasked with recommending revisions to 20 percent of the educator standards annually to ensure current Idaho teaching standards and best practices are imbedded in each preparation area. Ms. Durham referenced examples in the handouts and emphasized that the knowledge and performance standards affect all areas: elementary education, mathematics, pre-service technology, science, biology, chemistry, earth and space science, physics, visual and performing arts, theater arts, music, and visual arts.

Chairman Mortimer asked who made the changes in content and if the departments of education and universities were involved in the development of these standards. Ms. Durham said that universities and colleges are required to meet these standards for certification. Regarding content, area experts include faculty members and educators to ensure content is equally represented by the experts in each field. Chairman Mortimer asked if the new standards provide students with adequate notice. Ms. Durham answered in the affirmative. She explained there is a two-year matriculation for the universities to prepare students.

Senator Guthrie questioned what appeared to be redundancies in the wording, which was explained by Ms. Durham as making sure every institution understands clearly the intent behind the standards.

Senator Den-Hartog asked for information about the reference to pedagogy. Ms. Durham explained the wording focuses on making sure educators are culturally responsive to specific race and ethnicity interactions.
MOTION: Senator Ward-Engelking moved to accept Docket No. 08.0202.1603. Senator Den Hartog seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Vice Chairman Thayn passed the gavel to Chairman Mortimer.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business, Chairman Mortimer adjourned the meeting at 3:31 p.m.

__________________________________________
Senator Dean M. Mortimer
Chair

__________________________________________
LeAnn Mohr
Secretary

______________________________
Jeanne Clayton
Secretary