

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.

**CONVENED:** **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**S 1018** **Relating to Education: Repeal Outdated School Accountability Report Cards.** **Chairman Mortimer** introduced Blake Youde, Chief communications and Legislative Affairs Officer, State Board of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 Youde** concluded his presentation by affirming that the SBE believes the School Accountability Report Card is outdated and worthy of repeal.

**Vice Chairman Thayn** asked if the program being repealed had been successful and, if not, why not.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 Patrols: 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 date.

**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.

**DOCKET NO. 08.0202.1603** **Rules Governing Uniformity, Incorporated by Reference: Professional Standards Commission Revisions.** **Chairman Mortimer** welcomed Tim McMurtrey, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, State Department of Education (SDE).

**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.

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Senator Dean M. Mortimer

Chair

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LeAnn Mohr  
Secretary

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Jeanne Clayton  
Secretary