MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 08, 2017
TIME: 9:00 A.M.
PLACE: Room EW41
MEMBERS: Chairman VanOrden, Vice Chairman McDonald, Representatives Shepherd, Boyle, Clow, Mendive (Mendive), Kerby, Cheatham, Amador, DeMordaunt, Moon, Syme, Kloc (Tway), McCrostie, Toone

ABSENT/EXCUSED: None

GUESTS: Harold Ott, IASA & ISBA; Blake Youde, SBOE; Nanna Hanchett, IDVR; Mark Donnellan, IDVR; Jess Harrisen, ISBA; Dennis Stevenson, Rules Coordinator; Clark Corbin, Idaho Ed News

Chairman VanOrden called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

H 73: Rep. Clow presented H 73 relating to community colleges and upper division courses and programs that are subject to certain approval. He explained the College of Southern Idaho (CSI) has been working with the State Board of Education in support of H 73 to make it possible for CSI to join the other two Idaho community colleges to share the same and equal opportunity to consider specific bachelor degrees beyond the associates degrees currently offered. Rep. Clow explained this would be accomplished by changing references to "taxing district" instead of "county."

MOTION: Rep. DeMordaunt made a motion to send H 73 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation. Motion carried by voice vote. Chairman VanOrden will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1015: Blake Youde, State Board of Education, presented S 1015 relating to the definition of who is included as the instructional staff. He explained that the definitions need to be clarified in two areas. The first clarifies the "career ladder" to show educational teachers, mentors, and leaders be considered instructional. The second clarifies the performance requirements showing teacher proficiency and evaluation.

Tracie Bent, State Board of Education, explained the staff evaluations are in several different criteria, and those scores are collected through an application that was developed in 2015. After collecting they give one total summit of the individual scores that is than reported to the Department of Education.

Chairman VanOrden explained that this is an excellent tool for teacher accountability on the career ladder to improve their trade.

MOTION: Rep. McCrostie made a motion to send S 1015 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation. Motion carried by voice vote. Chairman VanOrden will sponsor the bill on the floor.

DOCKET NO. 4701-0101-1601:
Tracie Bent, State Board of Education, presented Docket No. 4701-0101-1601 relating to Idaho Vocational Rehabilitation. The changes are added definitions and language.

Teresa Pitt, IDVR explained why the word "client" has been changed to "customer" since 2013 to be consistent with the legal language that is used.


Chairman VanOrden called for a vote on the substitute motion to HOLD Docket No. 4701-0101-1601 for time certain. Motion carried by voice vote.

Tracie Bent presented Docket No. 4701-0102-1601 relating to extended employment services within Idaho Vocational Rehabilitation.

Nanna Hanchett, IDVR explained extended services as individuals working in the community to customers of Vocational Rehabilitation and their employers, and individuals who provide services in the shelters. They want to maximize services to serve the most vulnerable, disabled individuals as possible. IDVR is another link for these individuals along with Federal Vocational Rehabilitation and the Department of Health and Welfare.

Rep. Amador made a motion to approve Docket No. 47-0102-1601. Motion carried by voice vote.

Ken Edmunds, Director Idaho Department of Labor(IDL) presented their update. He explained their biggest challenges are a shortage of skilled workforce, college and career readiness, industry expectations for training, and becoming proficient in technology. He explained that Idaho is in great shape with the amount of industry and jobs but we lack a skilled workforce to place in those jobs. IDL is primarily federally funded with a very small amount of state funding. IDL has a broad range of services and connections, including Unemployment Insurance with tax and benefits, Human Rights Commission, Disability Determination Services, Serve Idaho, Workforce Development Training Fund, The Labor Connection, which includes Apprenticeship Idaho, Hispanic Initiative, Corrections, Reemployment Service, VISTA, and AmeriCorps.

Mr. Edmunds explained that through their Unemployment Insurance Tax Relief Bill they are reducing the unemployment insurance taxes paid by businesses and expect $115 million in savings over three years, changing the formula for risk multiplier and fund adequacy, and maintaining solvency of trust fund. He reported the Workforce Development Training Fund was established in 1996. It provides short term training programs for immediate employer needs, start-up programs, and builds talent pipelines. The Workforce Development Task Force is led by 17 members appointed by Governor Otter. They are charged with studying ways to improve Idaho's funding and delivery of training programs to meet growing employer demand for skilled workers, and their recommendations will be delivered by July 1, 2017. IDL's next steps are to build collaboration among stakeholders, implement the Workforce Development Task Force's recommendations, and continue to build the Career Information System to communicate with other agencies and increase technology education.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:28 am.