

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, March 03, 2017

TIME: 8:30 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman VanOrden, Vice Chairman McDonald, Representatives Shepherd, Boyle, Clow, Mendive, Kerby, Cheatham, Amador, DeMordaunt, Moon, Syme, Kloc, McCrostie, Toone

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Amanda Cox, Future Public School; Brad Petersen, Future Public School; Stacey Walker, Gem Prep:Nampa; Suzanne Metzgar, Future Public School; Josh Femreite, Gem Innovation School; Anthony Warn, Bluum; Jane Wittmeyer, Coalition Charter School; Marg Carianan, ICSN; Blake Youde, SBOE; Chris Yorgason, ICSN; Emily McClure, ICSN; Clark Corbin, Idaho Ed News; Karen Echeverria, ISBA; Paul Stark, IEA; Harold Ott, IRSA and IASA;

Chairman VanOrden called the meeting to order at 8:38 am.

HCR 14: **Rep. Zollinger** presented **HCR 14** relating to the questions for civics test given to secondary school students starting with the 2017-2018 school year. He explained this bill will add 25 questions regarding Idaho history to the civics test of 100 questions. The test questions can be spread from 7th to 12th grade or taken at one time, depending on the school district. There is no burden to the schools or cost to the state of Idaho.

Rep. Linden Bateman explained the importance of honoring Idaho by including Idaho history in the civics test and reviewed 25 questions that he created for the test. He said that it is reasonable that the test includes knowledge of government and history for both the United States and the great sovereign state of Idaho. Idaho children deserve to be taught about Idaho's history beyond the 4th grade where it is part of the curriculum. He spoke of the rich Idaho history when it was a territory, and how it almost went to Washington and Nevada instead of becoming a state. Due to the heroic efforts of **Idaho Territory Governor Edward Stevenson**, the territory was saved and became the state of Idaho on March 4, 1863.

MOTION: **Rep. Kloc** made a motion to send **HCR 114** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Toone** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY.** **Rep. Zollinger** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 241: **Rep. DeMordaunt** presented **H 241** relating to streamlining the opening procedures for new charter schools by simplifying the process, compressing the time-line and clarifying expectations for schools and authorizers.

Chris Yorganson, ICSN, **Emily McClure**, ICSN, **Brad Petersen**, Future Public School, and **Stacey Walker**, Gem Prep Nampa, spoke **in support** of **H 241** , explaining that the application process is tedious, long, and is the most regulated process in the country. It must be simplified for the applicants, and especially for parents counting on quality charter schools to open for their children's education.

Karen Echeveria, ISBA, and **Paul Stark**, IEA spoke against **H 241**, explaining that they were not given sufficient time to read and study the bill before it was presented to the committee. They asked that **H 241** be held in committee so they would have time to review it and make possible amendments.

ORIGINAL MOTION: Rep. McDonald made a motion to **HOLD H 241** in committee for time certain.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Rep. Moon made a substitute motion to **HOLD H 241** in committee for time certain, Monday, March 6, 2017.

MOTION WITHDRAWN: Rep. Moon withdrew her substitute motion to **HOLD H 241** in committee for time certain, Monday, March 6, 2017.

VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION: Chairman VanOrden called for a vote on the original motion to **HOLD H 241** in committee for time certain. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 am.

Representative VanOrden
Chair

Ann Tippetts
Secretary