MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, January 13, 2020
TIME: 9:00 A.M.
PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Clow, Vice Chairman Kerby, Representatives Shepherd, Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Moon, Ehardt, Goesling, Marshall, Raymond, Wisniewski, McCrostie, Abernathy, Berch

ABSENT/EXCUSED: None

GUESTS: Donna Eggers, Stephanie Bailey-White and Tammy Hawley-House, Idaho Commission for Libraries; Tracie Bent, OSBE; Liz Hatter, Veritas Advisors; Melanie Olmstead, ABCTE; Harold Ott, Rural Schools; Greg Wilson, Governor's Office

Chairman Clow called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

Chairman Clow turned the gavel over to Vice Chairman Kerby.

DOCKET NO. 30-0101-1900: Stephanie Bailey-White, State Librarian, Idaho Commission for Libraries, presented Docket No. 30-0101-1900, the omnibus rule governing the Commission. She noted all portions of the rule have been previously reviewed and over a dozen restrictions were eliminated.

MOTION: Rep. McCrostie made a motion to approve Docket No. 30-0101-1900. Motion carried by voice vote.

DOCKET NO. 08-0000-1900: Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, State Board of Education, presented Chapter 08.02.02 "Rules Governing Uniformity" from Docket No. 08-0000-1900. She first discussed the Standard Instructional Certificate, which serves all teachers. Endorsements are added which determine what grades and content areas they teach.

In response to Committee questions regarding the 20 minimum semester hours required, Ms. Bent stated this is the amount necessary for core teaching standards and is consistent across postsecondary institutions. A literacy comprehension requirement is already included in teacher preparation programs.

Ms. Bent reviewed the Pupil Service Staff Certificate, Administrator Certificate, Career Technical Educators, Postsecondary Specialists, American Indian Language teachers, Junior Reserved Officer Training Corps Instructors and the Idaho Interim Certificate. She also discussed assessments and endorsements.

In response to Committee questions about the Social Studies Endorsement, Ms. Bent yielded to Lisa Colón Durham, Director of Certification and Professional Standards, State Department of Education. She clarified the endorsement requires 56 credits. The endorsement for grades 6-12 is currently undergoing review and negotiated rulemaking. In the opinion of the Professional Standards Commission, the high credit requirement is to ensure teachers have enough content knowledge to teach all four content areas. She stated the math endorsement (20 credits) will be reviewed next year and offered to share Committee concerns about its lower requirements to the review panel.
Ms. Bent reviewed alternate routes to certification and Subsection 100, "Official Vehicle for Approving Educator Preparation Programs." The rule clarifies non-traditional educator preparation programs do not have to be reviewed against the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) standards, but must be aligned to the Idaho Standards for the Initial Certification of Professional School Personnel. Traditional programs are reviewed against both sets of standards.

Rep. Marshall stated his opposition to requiring adherence to CAEP standards because of the administrative structure required. He expressed concern about all postsecondary institutions being able to meet these standards. He also expressed concern about the complexity of the Idaho Standards, which are found in an Incorporated by Reference (IBR) document.

Ms. Durham stated 20% of the IBR document is reviewed each year by the Professional Standards Commission, which is comprised of content experts from the field. It also undergoes negotiated rulemaking, public comment and approval by the State Board and legislature.

Melanie Olmstead, Director, American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE), testified it is difficult and costly for an alternative certification program to meet the requirement to align with the Idaho Standards. She stated ABCTE has spent over $100,000 on the program review process. The program is still awaiting State Board approval, but if approved as-is ABCTE will lose the ability to certify several subjects in Idaho, including special education.

In response to Committee questions, Blake Youde, lobbying on behalf of ABCTE, stated the simplest action is the rejection of Subsection 100.04.c, removing the review process for nontraditional programs and the requirement they align with the Idaho Standards.

Ms. Bent stated the State Board requested additional materials from ABCTE for their review, which is extending the process. If the approval remains as-is, ABCTE will not have to drop certification programs, but will only be allowed to issue additional certifications in those subjects, not new certifications.

Vice Chairman Kerby reviewed the upcoming schedule and turned the gavel over to Chairman Clow.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 11:18 am.

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Representative Kerby
Chair

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Erica McGinnis
Secretary

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