MINUTES
SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, January 13, 2020
TIME: 3:00 P.M.
PLACE: Room WW55
MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Mortimer, Vice Chairman Thayn, Senators Winder, Den Hartog, Woodward, Lent, Buckner-Webb, and Ward-Engelking
ABSENT/EXCUSED: Senator Crabtree
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 Senate Education Committee (Committee) to order at 3:05 pm. He opened with a reading from the book, A Heap O 'Living Along Life's Highway, by Edgar A. Guest, the poem "The States."

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Mortimer passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Thayn, who explained that most of the dockets would not be voted on until the Committee had heard the omnibus rules, which would not be for a week or two. He asked that the Committee listen to each docket and note to themselves how they would vote in the future.

DOCKET NO. 08-0000-1900F  Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer of Idaho State Board of Education (Board), explained that the docket contained the sections of the omnibus that dealt with fees, and assured the Committee that none of the fee processes or amounts had changed from the previous rules. She explained what chapters the rule contained, and what fees each rule pertained to.

MOTION: Senator Den Hartog moved to approve Docket No. 08-0000-1900F. Chairman Mortimer seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

DOCKET NO. 55-0000-1900  Ms. Bent introduced Clay Long, Director of the Division of Career Technical Education. Ms. Bent then explained that the chapters being repealed within the docket had expired due to their redundancy and outdated purpose. She went on to explain that the docket contains no rule changes and that any changes in rules were to be presented as separate dockets. In response to Committee questions, Ms. Bent said that the hours of business and addresses of the Idaho State Board of Education were included in the chapter dealing with renewing grants for agricultural education programs to make them easily accessible to those seeking to apply for grants.

MOTION: Chairman Mortimer moved to approve Docket No. 55-0000-1900. Senator Ward-Engelking seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

DOCKET NO. 08-0201-1902  Ms. Bent presented the docket and pointed out that the deleted subsections contained requirements that were no longer up-to-date. She went on that the only text changes were re-numbers of the other sections in the docket. Ms. Bent reaffirmed that the deletions were in line with actions taken in the last legislative session, and that the information required in one of the deleted subsections was now available in the state report card.

DOCKET NO. 08-0202-1903  Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer of Idaho State Department of Education (Department), explained that two definitions had been deleted from the rule, and drew the Committee's attention to a clarifying change of wording.
Ms. Bent shared that the Board was incorporating standards for Career Technical Education into administrative rules. This docket contained the addition of three sections of standards, and the addition of one section of standards for various different areas of Career Technical Education.

In response to questions, Ms. Bent explained that the review of these standards included educators and professionals in the related industries, and that, except for the computer support standards, the standards had been previously used and were now being incorporated into rule. The Committee asked about the schedule of re-approving standards. Ms. Bent responded that the Board and the Division of Career Technical Education would work on a sensible rotation for reviewing and approving standards. In response to further questions about the necessity of the standards, Ms. Bent responded that the standards are critical for student success; Clay Long, Director of the Division of Career Technical Education, then came forward and shared with the Committee that students are evaluated to the standards with both a written test and a practical skills assessment.

Vice Chairman Thayn passed the gavel back to Chairman Mortimer.

There being no further business at this time, Chairman Mortimer adjourned the meeting at 3:42 pm.