

MINUTES
SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, February 24, 2020

TIME: 3:00 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW55

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Mortimer, Vice Chairman Thayn, Senators Winder, Den Hartog, Crabtree, Woodward, Lent, 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 Senate Education Committee (Committee) to order at 3:01 p.m. **Chairman Mortimer** read a poem from the book *A Heap O' Living Along Life's Highway* by Edgar A. Guest, entitled, "Plant a Garden."

DOCKET NO. 08-0202-1902 **Chairman Mortimer** told the Committee that **Docket No. 08-0202-1902** would be removed from the agenda for the day.

PRESENTATION: **Jenn Thompson**, Director of the Public Charter School Commission (Commission), told the Committee about the makeup of the Commission and its staff (see Attachments 1 and 2). She shared the choices in education that Idaho Charter schools offer. **Ms. Thompson** went on to share the reasons for and process by which charter schools are created and authorized. She expounded on this with an explanation of the Commission's role in reauthorization of charter schools. **Ms. Thompson** told the Committee about the Commission's priorities in the coming year. These included streamlining the communication and cooperation between charter schools, the Commissioners, and Commission staff.

DISCUSSION: In response to Committee questions, **Ms. Thompson** addressed the differences between policies addressed in administrative rules and in Idaho Code. She also discussed the recent and coming changes in data collection by the Commission. In response to Vice Chairman Thayn's question, **Ms. Thompson** explained that the Commission uses standards that are higher than those set by the State and explained some of the resources that have made Idaho charter schools successful.

H 388 **Representative Goesling** explained that **H 388** establishes a process to allow military members' students to pre-register for school and extra-curriculars by temporarily waiving the proof of residence requirement until 10 days after the start of school.

DISCUSSION: **Vice Chairman Thayn** asked what school levels this bill would apply to. **Representative Goesling** replied that **H 388** applies to kindergarten through the twelfth grade.

MOTION: **Senator Lent** moved to send **H 388** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Vice Chairman Thayn** moved to approve the Minutes of January 27, 2020. **Senator Lent** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.
Senator Winder moved to approve the Minutes of January 28, 2020. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

Senator Ward-Engelking moved to approve the Minutes of January 29, 2020.
Senator Crabtree seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Mortimer** adjourned the meeting at 3:31 p.m.

Senator Dean M. Mortimer
Chair

Morgan Howard
Secretary