

MINUTES  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 04, 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:** Harold Ott, Rural Schools; Tracie Bent, OSBE; Greg Wilson, Governor's Office  
**Chairman Clow** called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Abernathy** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2020 and February 27, 2020 meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**S 1304:** **Sen. Den Hartog** presented **S 1304**, which provides grandfather rights for educators who have earned an endorsement in the past, that the state no longer confers or recognizes. She provided an example of an early childhood endorsement that is no longer offered and there was no clear crosswalk to move to a new endorsement. She stated the bill recognizes the education and experience people have earned.

In response to Committee questions, **Sen. Den Hartog** explained she anticipates the hiring administrator will take some time to investigate the qualifications of the applicant. She compared this to earning her minor in college; if the college later changes the requirements to earn that minor, she would not have to go back and fill the new requirements.

**Lisa Colón Durham**, Director of Certification and Professional Standards, State Department of Education (SDE), provided a technical explanation of the bill. She noted there is interstate reciprocity for those with endorsements from another state. She said she anticipated having active and inactive endorsements. Both could be listed, but an inactive endorsement (no longer recognized by the state) could not be used to teach in that content area.

In response to Committee questions, **Ms. Colón Durham** delineated between recognizing out-of-state endorsements and certificates, and recognizing endorsements the state no longer has. She stated her understanding that the bill is meant to address the latter issue. These endorsements will always appear on their historical records, but SDE would not list it on a new certificate being issued.

**Sen. Den Hartog** confirmed the bill is only for those in Idaho. Reducing barriers to those coming from out-of-state is a separate issue; she noted SDE has committed to reviewing and reducing the teacher certification standards.

**Rep. Marshall** spoke in support of the bill. As a past administrator, he said it seems easy to implement this by listing past endorsements on the teaching certificate. It will recognize what the educator has accomplished and will only have a positive impact.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Raymond** made a motion to send **S 1304** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**Sen. Den Hartog** clarified that in her mind, the bill is only necessary in a limited manner, when a crosswalk to a current endorsement isn't readily available. It will allow educators to show what they have earned, even if the requirements have now changed.

**Vice Chairman Kerby** and **Rep. McCrostie** spoke **in support** of the motion, but also reiterated the need to eliminate barriers for out-of-state teachers.

**Rep. Berch** spoke **in opposition**, stating this bill lowers standards which should not be the way to fill vacant positions.

**VOTE ON  
MOTION:**

**Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Berch** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY. Rep. Boyle** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:43 am.

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Representative Clow  
Chair

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Erica McGinnis  
Secretary