

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 24, 2021

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Clow, Vice Chairman Kerby, Representatives Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Moon, Ehardt, Marshall, Wisniewski, Galloway, Shepherd, Yamamoto, McCrostie, Berch, Toone

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained with the minutes in the committee secretary's office until the end of the session. Following the end of the session, the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

Chairman Clow called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Galloway** made a motion to approve the minutes of February 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 2021. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 28651: **Rep. Galloway** presented legislation which allows families to utilize education funds beginning April 1st, 2021, in the event the school districts are unable to open schools for full time, in-person instruction prior to that date. She stated there would be three amendments to the language: Page 1 Line 29 "board" replaced with "State Department of Education", Page 1 Line 29 "payment" replaced with "from the public schools budget" and Page 2 Line 8 "state general fund" with "public school income fund".

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to introduce **RS 28651** with the proposed amended language. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Berch** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**.

RS 28603: **Rep. Furniss** presented legislation to standardize benefits to level the competition between school districts.

MOTION: **Rep. Yamamoto** made a motion to introduce **RS 28603**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 28221: **Rep. Ehardt** presented legislation providing families the opportunity to decide whether their student(s) are instructed about human sexuality by a public school.

MOTION: **Rep. Yamamoto** made a motion to introduce **RS 28221**. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Berch** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**.

RS 28632: **Rep. McCrostie** presented legislation to increase student access to Advanced Opportunities funding. **Rep. Horman** included that the legislation would make pre-college exam fees eligible expenses through the Advanced Opportunities fund.

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to introduce **RS 28632**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 215: **Rep. Horman** presented legislation to fund Strong Students grants and scholarships, which will provide resources for students who need additional funds to cover educational expenses.

Karen Echeverria, Idaho School Boards Association, Bonneville Superintendent **Scott Woolstenhulme**, Marsing Chairman **Jason Sevy**, Nezperce Superintendent **Shawn Tiegs**, **Nancy Gregory**, Boise School District, **Paul Stark**, Idaho Educators Association, and **David Reinhart**, Kuna School District, spoke in **opposition** to **H 215** .

Rep. Marco Erickson, **Alex LaBeau** Idaho Association Commerce and Industry, **Errika DeVall**, **Karla Ehlers**, **Kelti Baker**, **Jake Ball**, **Megan Landen**, **Natalie Tidwell**, **Tara Pugmire**, **Shonda Probst**, and **Brooklyn Probst**, spoke in **support** of **H 215**.

**UNANIMOUS
CONSENT
REQUEST:**

Chairman Clow made a unanimous consent request to extend the adjournment time beyond 10:50 a.m. **Rep. Marshall** objected.

Rep. Horman spoke in **support** of **H 215** stating the taxpayer funded program would assist rural students as much as urban students. In answer to committee questions, she agreed students with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) would be waiving their rights to public education if they left the district managing the IEP.

Sen. DenHartog spoke in favor of **H 215** in order to improve opportunities for Idaho children by placing funds back in the hands of the taxpayer parents and spoke in appreciation of students who benefitted from a grant program.

**ORIGINAL
MOTION:**

Rep. DeMordaunt made a motion to send **H 215** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**SUBSTITUTE
MOTION:**

Rep. McCrostie made a substitute motion to send **H 215** to General Orders.

**VOTE ON
SUBSTITUTE
MOTION:**

Roll call vote was requested. **Substitute motion failed by a vote of 4 AYE and 11 NAY. Voting in favor** of the motion: **Vice Chairman Kerby, Reps. Marshall, McCrostie, Toone. Voting in opposition** to the motion: **Reps. Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Moon, Ehardt, Wisniewski, Galloway, Shepherd, Yamamoto, Berch, and Chairman Clow.**

**VOTE ON
ORIGINAL
MOTION:**

Roll call vote was requested. **Original motion carried by a vote of 11 AYE and 4 NAY. Voting in favor** of the motion: **Reps. Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Marshall, Moon, Ehardt, Wisniewski, Galloway, Shepherd, Yamamoto, and Chairman Clow. Voting in opposition** of the motion: **Vice Chairman Kerby, Reps. Berch, McCrostie, Toone.**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Representative Clow
Chair

Christine Reynolds
Secretary