

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 16, 2022

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

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

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Ehardt

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of the legislative session the sign-in sheet will be retained in the legislative library.

Chairman Clow called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Lex Godfrey, Board Member, Career Technical Educators of Idaho, discussed their group and shared how they are advocating for educators.

S 1255: **Rep. Horman** introduced **S 1255** and shared how it builds off **Governor Little's** budget recommendation. She discussed how this legislation gives parents access to resources to customize their child's education. Within this bill the Empowering Parents Fund is created.

In response to Committee questions, **Rep. Horman** shared how **S 1255** is different from previous legislation. She discussed how there is an approved vendor list and how people can be added to the list. She explained the process if money was spent on items not on the approved vendor list. Rep. Horman shared this legislation will only release one round of funding and there will be two years to spend this money.

Andy Grover, Executive Director, Idaho Superintendent Association, voiced his support for **S 1255** and shared how this program will empower parents.

Karen Pyron, Trustee, Butte County School Board, voiced her support for **S 1255**. She shared how **S 1255** will give parents and students access to resources they might not normally have access to.

Alex LeBeau, President, Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry, voiced his support of **S 1255**. He shared how the pandemic has impacted students and this program would help parents close the gaps within their child's education. He explained how it will help prepare the future workforce.

Blake Youde, Lobbyist, Idaho Charter School Network, voiced his support for **S 1255**. He shared how this legislation will expand upon previous legislation to support students and parents.

MOTION: **Rep. Mendive** made a motion to send **S 1255** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Horman** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 505: **Tracie Bent**, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, State Board of Education, explained how **H 505** will be replaced with new legislation and will include a new section. This section would ensure a student will not receive a scholarship from a relative.

In response to Committee questions, **Ms. Bent** explained the scholarship application process is rigorous even without the merit based requirement. Ms. Bent explained the time and effort a student must put in when applying for this scholarship.

MOTION: **Rep. Marshall** made a motion to **HOLD H 505** in Committee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:48 am.

Representative Clow
Chair

Elbia Christensen
Secretary