

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 28, 2023

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Yamamoto, Vice Chairman McCann, Representatives Boyle, Clow, Mendive, Ehardt, Wisniewski, Garner, Hawkins, Hill, Lanting, Nelsen, Price, Sauter, Berch, Galaviz, Mathias

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Mathias

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

Chair Yamamoto called the meeting to order at 8:02 am.

Rep. Crane (12) spoke about draft legislation which would allow private school and home school students to participate in the 529 education savings account.

Sen. Den Hartog spoke about draft legislation which would amend the Empowering Parents Grant Program.

Rep. Clow spoke about draft legislation which would create the Idaho Education Opportunity Program, a savings account for students.

RS 29942C1: **Rep. Galaviz** presented **RS 29942C1**, proposed legislation which would amend teacher certification standards in rule.

MOTION: **Rep. Garner** made a motion to introduce **RS 29942C1**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 220: **Rep. Shepherd** presented **H 220**, legislation which would add to existing law to require cash to be accepted for entry into school athletic events.

MOTION: **Rep. Ehardt** made a motion to send **H 220** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Berch** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**. **Rep. Shepherd** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

RS 30367: **Sen. Lent** presented **RS 30367**, proposed legislation which would provide career exploration courses to middle school students.

MOTION: **Rep. Garner** made a motion to introduce **RS 30367** with the following changes: replace "eighth grade" with "grades 6-8."

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Sauter** made a substitute motion to return **RS 30367** to the sponsor. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 181: **Rep. Horman** presented **H 181**, legislation which would amend existing law, to revise provisions regarding advanced opportunities. She said this bill would increase the amount of money allowed per student under the advanced opportunities program. She said **H 181** would remove the spending limit cap for CTE courses. **Alisa Taylor**, student, University of Idaho, spoke about her experience with the advanced opportunities program while in high school.

MOTION: **Rep. Clow** made a motion to send **H 181** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Horman** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 204: **Rep. Alfieri** presented **H 204**, legislation which would amend existing law to provide elections for the State Board of Education members. He said in order to prevent lack of presentation, the people should have a say in choosing State Board members. He said the Governor currently appoints the members of the State Board of Education members.

Reps. Garner, Sauter, Nelsen and Galaviz spoke in **opposition** to **H 204**. They spoke about concerns over election costs and travel expenses for board members located all over the state to attend meetings and functions. They said State Board members are appointed by the Governor who is an elected official. They said they fear the focus would be on political campaigning rather than education.

Branden Durst, testified in **support** of **H 204**. He said currently there is no guarantee of demographic representation.

Rep. Clow said State Board members are not currently paid positions but **H 204** would make this a paid position.

MOTION: **Rep. Hawkins** made a motion to send **H 204** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Clow** made a substitute motion to **HOLD H 204** in committee.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Roll call vote was requested. **Substitute motion carried by a vote of 9 AYE, 3 NAY, and 5 Absent/Excused. Voting in favor** of the substitute motion: **Reps. McCann, Clow, Garner, Lanting, Nelsen, Sauter, Berch, Galaviz, and Yamamoto. Voting in opposition** to the substitute motion: **Reps. Mendive, Hawkins and Price. Reps. Boyle, Ehardt, Wisniewski, Hill and Mathias were absent/excused.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:32 am.

Representative Yamamoto
Chair

Amy Bengtzen
Secretary