MINUTES HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 21, 2024

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

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

ABSENT/ None EXCUSED:

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 9:00 am.

Jared Tatro, Deputy Division Manager, Budget & Policy Division, spoke about education budget recommendations to present to JFAC. He explained budget policy and negotiations, state wide impact, and demonstrated how to find budget analysis reports on the legislative website.

- **RS 31370: Rep. Furniss** presented **RS 31370**, proposed legislation regarding limitations on county and municipal indebtedness, including schools. He spoke about statewide elections and percentage requirements to approve indebtedness.
- MOTION: Rep. Lanting made a motion to introduce RS 31370. Motion carried by voice vote.
- **H 580: Rep. Bundy** presented **H 580**, legislation regarding military leave for public school district and public charter school employees. He spoke about differing policies throughout the state concerning military leave and said this legislation provides support for military members by providing a minimum of ten paid contract days.
- MOTION: Rep. Lanting made a motion to send H 580 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation. Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Bundy will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- **H 581: Rep. Erickson** presented **H 581**, legislation regarding physical restraint. He said this legislation provides updated language to clarify use of physical escort as a classroom management technique and when action is needed to terminate a physical restraint.
- MOTION: Rep. Nelsen made a motion to send H 581 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation. Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Erickson will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- HCR 25: Rep. Wheeler presented HCR 25, legislation regarding Holocaust education. He spoke about developing resources and guidance for educators and accurate curriculum material. Rep. Wheeler stated HCR 25 asks to prioritize Holocaust education in the next Idaho State Standards review.
- **MOTION: Rep. McCann** made a motion to send **HCR 25** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Norma Staaf testified in support of HCR 25 and spoke about the value of teaching accurate history and said those who do not know history will repeat it.

Pastor David McGarrah, Christians United for Israel (CUFI), testified **in support of HCR 25**. He said there is a great need for this resolution and it is greatly overdue. He said CUFI leadership reviewed and support **HCR 25**.

Committee members commented on denial of history and the importance of properly educating students. They shared support of this legislation.

- ROLL CALL VOTE: Chair Yamamoto called for a roll call vote on the motion to send HCR 25 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation. Motion carried by a vote of 16 AYE and 0 NAY. Voting in favor of the motion: Reps. Yamamoto, McCann, Clow, Mendive, Ehardt, Wisniewski, Garner, Hawkins, Hill, Lanting, Nelsen, Price, Sauter, Berch, Galaviz, and Mathias. Rep. Wheeler will sponsor the bill on the floor
- ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:18 am.

Representative Yamamoto Chair Amy Bengtzen Secretary