

MINUTES  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, January 28, 2025

**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW41

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Pickett, Vice Chairman Hawkins, Representatives Clow, Mendive, Ehardt, Wisniewski, Garner, Nelsen, Sauter, Harris, Marmon, Tanner(13), Mathias, Church

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** None

**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.

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

**RS 32040:** **Rep. Furniss** presented **RS 32040**, proposed legislation which would create a fund to support public education facilities. He said funds would be distributed as a need-based grant to school districts for the purposes of financing construction, remodel, and maintenance of school facilities. **Rep. Galaviz** spoke about rural community bond capacity, the application process, and fund distribution.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Sauter** made a motion to introduce **RS 32040**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Dr. Cynthia Pemberton**, President, Lewis-Clark State College, spoke about College institutions in Idaho and introduced University Presidents. She said Lewis-Clark is a small, private school experience at an affordable school price. She mentioned a prison education program, CTE, Idaho Launch, and apprenticeship programs.

**Dr. Marlene Tromp**, President, Boise State University, spoke about enrollment, administrative costs, graduation, and economic impact. She said BSU is an institute for advancing American values and touched on civil discourse, free speech, and Idaho voices. In response to committee members questions, Dr. Tromp explained details of a lawsuit against BSU and addressed Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) certification.

**C. Scott Green**, President, University of Idaho, spoke about practical, quality education, Idaho Launch, extension programs, and research enterprise. He touched on enrollment growth, alumni, and associate degrees. In response to committee questions he commented on animal pollution, and federal grants.

In response to committee questions, **Dr. Pemberton**, clarified the Complete College America framework considers fifteen course credits per semester, full time. She addressed work force training and Launch programs.

**Dr. Robert Wagner**, President, Idaho State University, said ISU is the Health Science leader for Idaho and touched on enrollment growth, workforce outcomes, and Idaho Launch, He pointed out affordable certifications and degrees, dual enrollment, rural mental health, administrative efficiency, and the importance of partner institutions. Committee members asked him to address mental health, graduation, and employment in Idaho.

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

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Representative Pickett  
Chair

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Amy Bengtzen  
Secretary