

**MINUTES OF THE
EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, October 29, 2015 – 8:30 a.m. – Room 30 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Ann Millner, Senate Chair
Rep. Bradley G. Last, House Chair
Sen. Jim Dabakis
Sen. Howard A. Stephenson
Sen. Stephen H. Urquhart
Rep. Bruce R. Cutler
Rep. Steve Eliason
Rep. Justin L. Fawson
Rep. Francis D. Gibson
Rep. Eric K. Hutchings
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss
Rep. Michael E. Noel
Rep. Daniel McCay
Rep. V. Lowry Snow

Members Absent:

Sen. Aaron Osmond
Rep. LaVar Christensen
Speaker Gregory H. Hughes
Rep. David E. Lifferth
Rep. Marie H. Poulson

Staff Present:

Ms. Tiffany A. Stanley, Policy Analyst
Ms. Allyson R. Goldstein, Policy Analyst
Ms. Victoria Ashby, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Tracy J. Nuttall, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Rebekah Bradway, Associate General
Counsel
Ms. Debra Hale, Legislative Assistant

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.leg.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Millner called the meeting to order at 8:41 a.m. Sen. Osmond, Rep. Christensen, and Rep. Poulson were excused from the meeting.

2. Higher Education Performance Funding

Dr. David L. Buhler, Commissioner of Higher Education, Utah System of Higher Education, reviewed a visual presentation, "Performance Funding – Utah System of Higher Education," by giving the history of performance funding and updating the committee on the metrics established by the State Board of Regents for the 2015-2016 school year and onward.

Mr. Jonathan Ball, Fiscal Analyst, Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, reviewed a visual presentation, "Performance-Based Funding in Higher Education," and discussed his observations on the design and implementation of higher education performance funding in Utah.

3. Process for Funding Higher Education Buildings

Sen. Urquhart presented a proposal to modify the current process for funding higher education buildings by providing each higher education institution a flexible, ongoing appropriation for capital projects, based on a formula.

Dr. Buhler said that at Sen. Urquhart's request, his office had modeled a formula that the Legislature could use to determine how to allocate funding for buildings for higher education institutions. He clarified that neither the Board of Regents nor the presidents of the higher education institutions have taken a position on the formula.

Mr. Rich Amon, Assistant Commissioner, Business Operations, Utah System of Higher Education, reviewed a visual presentation, "Capital Development Process," that described the current process for funding higher education buildings. He also reviewed a handout, "Funding Formula for USHE Capital Development," and said that the formula allocates funding based on:

- Current institutional enrollment
- Projected enrollment growth
- Degrees awarded
- State-funded operating budget
- Square footage of facilities

Mr. Amon said that the funding allocated to each institution by the formula is comparable to the amount of funding each institution has received under the current process over the past 20 years.

MOTION: Sen. Urquhart moved that the committee continue studying formula-based funding for higher education capital facilities. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Hutchings was absent for the vote.

4. Kindergarten (Draft Legislation)

Rep. Snow reviewed draft legislation "Optional Enhanced Kindergarten Amendments" (2016 FL-0487/011), which modifies and enacts provisions regarding early grade academic improvement.

Dr. Sydnee Dickson, Deputy Superintendent, Utah State Office of Education, spoke for the bill.

In response to a question from the committee, Ms. Stanley reviewed the estimated cost to provide optional enhanced kindergarten to all low-income students (those who qualify for free or reduced lunch) or to all students.

Dr. Richard K. Nye, Associate Superintendent, Accountability and Assessment, Utah State Office of Education, and Dr. Dickson addressed questions from the committee.

Rep. Eliason reviewed draft legislation "Fees for Supplemental Hours" (2016 FL-0486/007), which provides a local school board or charter school governing board with the authority to offer supplemental hours to students enrolled in kindergarten and to charge a fee for those hours.

MOTION: Rep. Cutler moved that the committee accept draft legislation "Optional Enhanced Kindergarten Amendments" as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Hutchings was absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Last moved that the committee accept draft legislation "Fees for Supplemental Hours" as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dabakis and Rep. Hutchings were absent for the vote.

Ms. Stanley said that the acceptance of draft legislation as a committee bill places a committee note on the bill, but the bill loses the committee note if it is amended before or during the session.

5. Educator Professional Learning (Draft Legislation)

Rep. Last addressed draft legislation "Grants for Educator Professional Learning" (2016FL-0285/006), which requires the State Board of Education to establish a professional learning grant program.

Dr. Dickson further explained the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Cutler moved that draft legislation "Grants for Educator Professional Learning" be amended, as follows, beginning on line 216:

- (i) measures student growth; { ~~and~~ }
- (ii) requires observation of educator practice; ~~and~~
- (iii) includes educator evaluation feedback;
- (e) is developed in collaboration with teachers,

The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dabakis, Rep. Gibson, and Rep. Hutchings were absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Last moved that draft legislation "Grants for Educator Professional Learning," as amended, be adopted as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dabakis, Sen. Urquhart, Rep. Gibson, and Rep. Hutchings were absent for the vote.

MOTION: Sen. Stephenson moved that the committee reconsider its action to pass out draft legislation "Grants for Educator Professional Learning," as amended, as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dabakis, Sen. Urquhart, Rep. Gibson, and Rep. Hutchings were absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Cutler moved that line 217 of draft legislation "Grants for Educator Professional Learning" be amended, as follows:

(iii) includes educator { ~~evaluation~~ } feedback;

The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dabakis, Sen. Urquhart, Rep. Gibson, and Rep. Hutchings were absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Cutler moved that draft legislation "Grants for Educator Professional Learning," as further amended, be adopted as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dabakis, Sen. Urquhart, Rep. Gibson, and Rep. Hutchings were absent for the vote.

6. State Instructional Materials Commission – Sunset Review (Draft Legislation)

Ms. Diana Suddreth, Director of Teaching and Learning, Utah State Office of Education, addressed a handout, "State Instructional Materials Commission Sunset Review," and described the history and function of the State Instructional Materials Commission.

The committee discussed draft legislation "State Instructional Materials Commission Amendments" (2016FL-0522/005).

MOTION: Rep. Eliason moved that draft legislation "State Instructional Materials Commission Amendments" be adopted as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dabakis, Sen. Urquhart, Rep. Gibson, and Rep. Hutchings were absent for the vote.

7. Statutorily Required Reports (Draft Legislation)

Chair Millner reviewed a document, "Statutorily Required Reports – Chair Recommendations," which listed the chairs' recommended amendments to agency reports required by statute to be submitted to the

committee. She presented draft legislation "Agency Reporting Requirements" (2016FL-0471/003), which is based on the chairs' recommendations and committee discussion throughout the interim.

MOTION: Sen. Stephenson moved that draft legislation "Agency Reporting Requirements" be adopted as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dabakis, Sen. Urquhart, Rep. Gibson, and Rep. Hutchings were absent for the vote.

8. School Readiness Programs for At-Risk Children

This agenda item was not addressed.

9. Other Items/Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. McCay moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dabakis, Sen. Urquhart, Rep. Gibson, and Rep. Hutchings were absent for the vote.

Chair Millner adjourned the meeting at 12:07 p.m.