

**MINUTES OF HOUSE EDUCATION  
STANDING COMMITTEE**

February 25, 2009

Room 445, State Capitol Building

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rep. Gregory H. Hughes, Chair  
Rep. Laura Black  
Rep. Rebecca Edwards  
Rep. Craig A. Frank  
Rep. Kory M. Holdaway  
Rep. Don L. Ipson  
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss  
Rep. Merlynn T. Newbold  
Rep. Marie H. Poulson  
Rep. Kraig Powell  
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley  
Rep. Carl Wimmer

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Rep. Brad L. Dee  
Rep. Bradley G. Last  
Rep. Kenneth W. Sumsion

**STAFF PRESENT:** Constance C. Steffen, Policy Analyst  
Linda Service, Committee Secretary  
Dee S Larsen, Associate General Counsel

**Note:** List of visitors and copy of handouts are filed with committee minutes.

Chair Hughes called the meeting to order at 4:19 p.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Moss moved to approve the minutes of February 23, 2009. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Frank and Rep. Wimmer absent for the vote.

**H.B. 334 Writing Assessment and Instruction (*Rep. M. Newbold*)**

Rep. Newbold introduced the bill which modifies statewide requirements for writing assessments. Judy Park, Associate Superintendent, State Board of Education, discussed the use of online writing software.

The following spoke in support of the bill:

Leslie McLaughlin, Executive Director of Curriculum, Salt Lake City School District  
Ellen Thompson, Vice President, Utah Education Association

**MOTION:** Rep. Holdaway moved to pass the bill out with a favorable recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

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**H.B. 425 Carson Smith Scholarship Program Amendments (*Rep. M. Newbold*)**

Rep. Newbold introduced the bill which modifies the Carson Smith Scholarship Program.

Rep. Hughes relinquished the chair to Rep. Frank.

The following spoke in support of the bill:

Cheryl Smith, Carson Smith's mother

Laura Anderson, parent and outreach coordinator for the scholarship program

Robyn Bagley, Board Chair, Parents for Choice in Education

**MOTION:** Rep. Ipson moved to pass the bill out with a favorable recommendation. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Hughes absent for the vote.

**MOTION:** Rep. Wimmer moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

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Rep. Gregory H. Hughes, Chair