



MINUTES

HOUSE EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 2, 2021 | 8:00 a.m. | 2110 State Office Building

Members Present:

Rep. V. Lowry Snow, Chair
Rep. Susan Pulsipher, Vice Chair
Rep. Melissa G. Ballard
Rep. Kera Birkeland
Rep. Craig Hall
Rep. Dan N. Johnson
Rep. Karen Kwan
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss
Rep. Adam Robertson
Rep. Steve Waldrip

Rep. Christine F. Watkins
Rep. Elizabeth Weight

Members Absent:

Rep. Bradley G. Last
Rep. Jefferson Moss
Rep. Val L. Peterson

Staff Present:

Micah Ann Wixom, Policy Analyst
Daniel Ryan, Committee Secretary

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

Chair Snow called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

1. H.B. 417 Charter School Authorization Amendments (Robertson, A.)

Rep. Robertson presented the bill.

Royce Van Tassel, Executive Director, Utah Association of Public Charter Schools, spoke in favor of the bill.

John Dougall, State Auditor, spoke to the bill.

Amber Shill, President, Utah School Boards Association, spoke against the bill.

Jay Blain, Utah Education Association, spoke to the bill.

Rita Heagren, American Federation of Teachers of Utah, spoke against the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Robertson moved to pass H.B. 417 out favorably. The motion failed with a vote of 4 - 7 - 4.

Yeas - 4

Rep. K. Birkeland
Rep. S. Pulsipher
Rep. A. Robertson
Rep. V. Snow

Nays - 7

Rep. C. Hall
Rep. D. Johnson
Rep. K. Kwan
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. S. Waldrip
Rep. C. Watkins
Rep. E. Weight

Absent - 4

Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. B. Last
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson

MOTION: Rep. Pulsipher moved to approve the minutes of February 26, 2021. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 11

Rep. K. Birkeland
Rep. C. Hall
Rep. D. Johnson
Rep. K. Kwan
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. S. Pulsipher
Rep. A. Robertson
Rep. V. Snow
Rep. S. Waldrip
Rep. C. Watkins
Rep. E. Weight

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. B. Last
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson

2. 1st Sub. S.B. 193 Higher Education Performance Funding (*Millner, A.*)

Sen. Ann Millner presented the bill with the assistance of David Woolstenhulme, Commissioner, Utah System of Higher Education (USHE).

[SB193 Chart](#)

MOTION: Rep. Kwan moved to pass 1st Substitute S.B. 193 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 12 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 12

Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. K. Birkeland
Rep. C. Hall
Rep. D. Johnson
Rep. K. Kwan
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. S. Pulsipher
Rep. A. Robertson
Rep. V. Snow
Rep. S. Waldrip
Rep. C. Watkins
Rep. E. Weight

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Rep. B. Last
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson

3. H.B. 402 School Transportation Funding Amendments (*Johnson, D.N.*)

Rep. Johnson presented the bill.

Lexi Cunningham, Utah Schools Superintendents Association, spoke in favor of the bill.

Scott Jones, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, Utah Board of Education, spoke to the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Pulsipher moved to pass H.B. 402 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 11

Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. C. Hall
Rep. D. Johnson
Rep. K. Kwan
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. S. Pulsipher
Rep. A. Robertson
Rep. V. Snow
Rep. S. Waldrip
Rep. C. Watkins
Rep. E. Weight

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. K. Birkeland
Rep. B. Last
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson

4. H.C.R. 22 Concurrent Resolution Celebrating the Contributions of Multilingual and Multicultural Families to Utah Schools (*Johnson, D.N.*)

Rep. Johnson presented the resolution with the assistance of Stephanie Hunt, teacher, Clayton Middle School, Vivian Gil-Naravez, student, Pray Mo, student, Hadjerra Assad, student, Tha Da Aye, student, and Myint Mon, student.

Beverly Herrmann, Alternative Language Services Administrator, Canyon School District, spoke in favor of the resolution.

Ciriac Valle, Policy Analyst, Voices for Utah Children, spoke in favor of the resolution.

Brian Yazzie, Diversity and Equity Coordinator, Provo City School District, spoke in favor of the resolution.

Charlene Lui, Director of Educational Equity, Granite School District, spoke in favor of the resolution.

MOTION: Rep. Ballard moved to pass H.C.R. 22 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 5.

Yeas - 10

Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. C. Hall
Rep. D. Johnson
Rep. K. Kwan
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. S. Pulsipher
Rep. A. Robertson
Rep. V. Snow
Rep. S. Waldrip
Rep. E. Weight

Nays - 0

Absent - 5

Rep. K. Birkeland
Rep. B. Last
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. C. Watkins

5. H.B. 426 Therapy Animals Amendments (*Judkins, M.*)

Rep. Marsha Judkins presented the bill.

[HB 426 Handout](#)

Abby Benesh, Attorney, Humane Society of Utah, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Waldrip moved to amend H.B. 426 with Amendment #1.

Amendment 1
H.B. 426

1. Page 2, Line 53:

53 (3) This section does not require a school to allow the use of a therapy animal.

The motion to amend passed with a vote of 9 - 0 - 6.

Yeas - 9

Rep. C. Hall
Rep. D. Johnson
Rep. K. Kwan
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. S. Pulsipher
Rep. A. Robertson
Rep. V. Snow
Rep. S. Waldrip
Rep. E. Weight

Nays - 0

Absent - 6

Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. K. Birkeland
Rep. B. Last
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. C. Watkins

MOTION: Rep. Waldrip moved to pass H.B. 426 out favorably as amended. The motion passed with a vote of 9 - 0 - 6.

Yeas - 9

Rep. C. Hall
Rep. D. Johnson
Rep. K. Kwan
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. S. Pulsipher
Rep. A. Robertson
Rep. V. Snow
Rep. S. Waldrip
Rep. E. Weight

Nays - 0

Absent - 6

Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. K. Birkeland
Rep. B. Last
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. C. Watkins

MOTION: Rep. Robertson moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 8 - 0 - 7.

Yeas - 8

Rep. C. Hall
Rep. D. Johnson
Rep. K. Kwan
Rep. S. Pulsipher
Rep. A. Robertson
Rep. V. Snow
Rep. S. Waldrip
Rep. E. Weight

Nays - 0

Absent - 7

Rep. M. Ballard
Rep. K. Birkeland
Rep. B. Last
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. C. Watkins

Chair Snow adjourned the meeting at 10:01 a.m.