



# DRAFT 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](http://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.