



MINUTES

HOUSE EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE

Friday, February 21, 2025 | 8:00 a.m. | 120 Senate Building

Members Present:

Rep. Candice B. Pierucci, Chair
Rep. Michael L. Kohler, Vice Chair
Rep. Tiara Auxier
Rep. Joseph Elison
Rep. Sahara Hayes
Rep. Matt MacPherson
Rep. Tracy J. Miller
Rep. Carol S. Moss
Rep. Nicholeen P. Peck
Rep. Karen M. Peterson

Rep. Douglas R. Welton

Members Absent:

Rep. Ariel Defay
Rep. Karianne Lisonbee
Rep. Jefferson Moss
Rep. Val L. Peterson
Rep. R. Neil Walter

Staff Present:

Finn Andrew Rose, Policy Analyst
Tisha Gibby, Committee Secretary

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

Chair Pierucci called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m.

1. H.B. 156 Education Board Amendments (*Thurston, N.*)

Rep. Norm Thurston presented the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Auxier moved to replace H.B. 156 with 1st Substitute H.B. 156. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 6.

Yeas - 10

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. J. Elison
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. T. Miller
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. N. Peck
Rep. K. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0

Absent - 6

Rep. A. Defay
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. R. Walter

MOTION: Rep. Auxier moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 156 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 6.

Yeas - 10

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. J. Elison
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. T. Miller
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. N. Peck
Rep. K. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0

Absent - 6

Rep. A. Defay
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. R. Walter

MOTION: Rep. Auxier moved to approve the February 19, 2025 minutes. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 5.

Yeas - 11

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. J. Elison
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. T. Miller
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. N. Peck
Rep. K. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0Absent - 5

Rep. A. Defay
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. R. Walter

2. H.B. 268 Nonresident Online School Amendments (Miller, T.)

Rep. Miller presented the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Karen Peterson moved to pass H.B. 268 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 1 - 5.

Yeas - 10

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. J. Elison
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. T. Miller
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. N. Peck
Rep. K. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 1

Rep. M. MacPherson

Absent - 5

Rep. A. Defay
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. R. Walter

3. H.B. 399 School Attendance Amendments (Stoddard, A.)

Rep. Andrew Stoddard presented the bill.

Pam Vickrey, Executive Director, Utah Juvenile Defender Attorneys, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Welton moved to replace H.B. 399 with 1st Substitute H.B. 399. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 6.

Yeas - 10

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. J. Elison
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. T. Miller
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. N. Peck
Rep. K. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0Absent - 6

Rep. A. Defay
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. R. Walter

MOTION: Rep. Peck moved to amend 1st Substitute H.B. 399 with Amendment #1 and Amendment #2.

Rep. Karen Peterson asked for a division of the motion.

Rep. Peck withdrew the motion.

MOTION: Rep. Peck moved to amend 1st Substitute H.B. 399 with Amendment #1. The motion failed with a vote of 4 - 7 - 5.

Amendment 1

1 . Line 39 through 41:

39 patterns of chronic absenteeism across the state;
40 (ii)researches and identifies {evidence-based} interventions and best practices for
41 addressing chronic absenteeism, including strategies for:

2 . Line 61 through 66:

61 study described in Subsection (4).
62 (b)The {stat}state board shall include in the report:
63 (i)a summary of the data collected and analyzed;
64 (ii)an analysis of the root causes of chronic absenteeism;
65 (iii)a description of {evidence-based} interventions and best practices for addressing
66 chronic absenteeism connected to the root causes, including specific

Yeas - 4

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. N. Peck
Rep. C. Pierucci

Nays - 7

Rep. J. Elison
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. T. Miller
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. K. Peterson
Rep. D. Welton

Absent - 5

Rep. A. Defay
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. R. Walter

MOTION: Rep. Welton moved to amend 1st Substitute H.B. 399 with Amendment #2. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 5.

Amendment 2

1 . Line 19 through 21:

19 Chronic absenteeism study.
20 (1)As used in this section, {"Chronic"}chronic absenteeism" means a student missing {ten-percent}10% or
21 more of school days in an academic year, regardless of whether the absences are excused

2 . Line 24 through 26:

24 the state board the following data regarding chronic absenteeism:
25 (a)the total number of students enrolled in each school within the LEA; {and}
26 (b)disaggregated by grade level, the total number and percentage of students in each

3 . Line 44 through 46:

44 (C)student re-engagement;
45 (iii)examines the root causes of chronic absenteeism, including:
46 (A)socioeconomic factors;

4 . Line 48 through 50:

48 (C)mental health factors;
49 (D)accessibility to healthcare;
50 (E)family issues; and

5 . Line 57 through 59:

57 (E)community organizations; and
58 (F)~~and~~ other relevant stakeholders as the state board determines.
59 (5)(a)No later than September 15, 2026, the state board shall submit a report to the

6 . Line 61 through 63:

61 study described in Subsection (4).
62 (b)The ~~stat~~state board shall include in the report:
63 (i)a summary of the data collected and analyzed;

Yeas - 11

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. J. Elison
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. T. Miller
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. N. Peck
Rep. K. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0

Absent - 5

Rep. A. Defay
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. R. Walter

MOTION: Rep. Welton moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 399 out favorably as amended. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 1 - 5.

Yeas - 10

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. J. Elison
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. T. Miller
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. K. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 1

Rep. N. Peck

Absent - 5

Rep. A. Defay
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. R. Walter

4. 1st Sub. S.B. 99 Excellence in Education and Leadership Supplement Amendments (*Fillmore, L.*)

Rep. Kohler assumed the chair.

[SB 99S01 handout](#)

Sen. Lincoln Fillmore presented the bill.

Elizabeth Garvey, United Way of Salt Lake, spoke in favor of the bill.

Mitch Nerdin, Chief of Staff, Granite School District, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Elison moved to replace 1st Substitute S.B. 99 with 3rd Substitute S.B. 99. The motion passed with a vote of 8 - 0 - 8.

Yeas - 8

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. J. Elison
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. T. Miller
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. N. Peck
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0

Absent - 8

Rep. A. Defay
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. K. Peterson
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. R. Walter

MOTION: Rep. Peck moved to pass 3rd Substitute S.B. 99 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 8 - 0 - 8.

Yeas - 8

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. J. Elison
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. T. Miller
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. N. Peck
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0

Absent - 8

Rep. A. Defay
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. K. Peterson
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. R. Walter

5. H.B. 325 Parent Access to Learning Materials Pilot Program (Miller, T.)

Rep. Miller presented the bill with the assistance of Amaya Mueller, and Christine Fairbanks, Sutherland Institute.

Devionare Howland, kindergarten teacher, spoke to the bill.

Laura Branch-Roach, 4th grade teacher, spoke to the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Peck moved to pass H.B. 325 out favorably. The motion failed with a vote of 2 - 7 - 7.

Yeas - 2

Rep. T. Miller
Rep. N. Peck

Nays - 7

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. J. Elison
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. D. Welton

Absent - 7

Rep. A. Defay
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. K. Peterson
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. R. Walter

6. H.B. 303 Public School Directory Sharing Amendments (Acton, C.K.)

Rep. Cheryl Acton presented the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Auxier moved to amend H.B. 303 with Amendment #1. The motion passed with a vote of 8 - 0 - 8.

Amendment 1

1. Line 22 through 25:

- 22 (1) As used in this section[.]:
23 {~~(a)"Directory information" means a student's name, address, telephone number, email }~~
24 ~~{address, and grade level.}~~
~~(a)"Directory information" means:~~
~~(i)the name and address of a parent of a student enrolled in an LEA; and~~
~~(ii)a student's grade level.~~
25 (b) [~~"school"~~]"School employee" means the same as that term is defined in Section

2. Line 54 through 56:

- 54 (b)shall share directory information with another LEA if:
~~(i) ~~{that}~~the LEA makes a request~~
54a ~~described in~~
55 ~~Subsection (6)(a){.}; and~~
~~(ii)a school within that LEA is within a 50 mile radius of the requesting LEA.~~
56 ~~(7)The provisions of this section do not affect the privacy rights of a student or the parent~~

Yeas - 8

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. J. Elison
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. T. Miller
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. N. Peck

Nays - 0Absent - 8

Rep. A. Defay
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. K. Peterson
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. R. Walter
Rep. D. Welton

MOTION: Rep. Auxier moved to pass H.B. 303 out favorably as amended. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 2 - 8.

Yeas - 6

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. J. Elison
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. N. Peck

Nays - 2

Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. T. Miller

Absent - 8

Rep. A. Defay
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. K. Peterson
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. R. Walter
Rep. D. Welton

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

Yeas - 8

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. J. Elison
Rep. S. Hayes
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. M. MacPherson
Rep. T. Miller
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. N. Peck

Nays - 0Absent - 8

Rep. A. Defay
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. K. Peterson
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Rep. R. Walter
Rep. D. Welton



Chair Kohler adjourned the meeting at 9:32 a.m.