

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

February 14, 1977

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m., with all members present except Rep. Lund, who was excused.

House Bill 653 was discussed first. Rep. Estenson, chief sponsor, said the bill will allow 16 hours per year of school time to be used for staff training and development activities, which is needed in districts because several official bodies insist that it take place. The State Board of Education has in-service requirements for accreditation. PIR days are already utilized and are not flexible enough to include the 16 hours in this bill. Proponents were Louis Strand, Brad Morris, Alve Thomas, Lloyd Markell. Their testimony is attached.

House Bill 666 was discussed next. Rep. Vincent, chief sponsor, said the bill would lower the class load of kindergarten through 4th grade from a maximum of 26 to 20 children over a 6-year period. It is very difficult for children to get good basic grounding in a class that is large. A large class size means that discipline takes precedence over classwork. He said he has several studies on this subject for the information of the committee. It is also important to remember that society will pay eventually for poor education. This bill will have the greatest effect in the smaller school districts. It is the duty of the Legislature to look at long range benefits and convince the taxpayers of them because it is in the best interests of the children. Opponents of the bill were Maynard Olson, Lou Simpson, Len Sergeant and Alve Thomas, all of whom said they were in favor of the concept but that it was too expensive. Their testimony is attached.

House Bill 678 was discussed next. Rep. Meloy, chief sponsor, said the bill is in this committee because other committees were full and could not handle it. This bill provides a structure for town meetings and how their results would be presented to regional meetings. It is a way to gather the material together for the Legislature and the Governor to review. It is very flexible and does not require an appropriation. Proponents were Carl Ennis, John Lowell, JoAnn Lowell, George Calcut, Woody Wright, Phil Tawney, Nancy Leifer. Their testimony is attached.

House Bill 652 was discussed next. Rep. Kennerly, chief sponsor, said the bill excepts officials and administrators in public schools from nepotism rules and insures that tribal nepotism rules must be enforced. On reservations, unemployment is between 40-80%. The law has eliminated many people who might serve on school boards and also keeps some of our Indian people from returning to the reservation to teach because they are related to administrative personnel, etc. Also, another problem is that so many of the people on the reservations are related. The tribe has its own nepotism laws and they must be accepted and enforced.

Charles Trender, Alfred Nault, Cecelia Corcoran, Minnie Watson, Walter A. Denny, Gerald Grey and Merle Lucas testified in support of the bill. Lloyd Markell testified as an opponent. Their testimony is attached.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

ANN MARY DUSSAULT, Chairperson

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The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m., with all members present. It was a continuation of the morning meeting.

Rep. Kennerly continued on House Bill 652. He closed by submitting the attached amendment and list of school districts which would be affected by the bill.

House Bill 460 was discussed. Rep. Harrington, chief sponsor, read the attached statement in support of the bill. Proponents were Carrie Hahn, Diane Tipton, Bill Lannon, Anncke-Jan Boden, Richard Bowers, George Bandy, Pat Douglas, Rosetta Kamlowky, Bob Hoene, Joan Duncan, Fran Newton, Gary Walton. Their testimony is attached.

House Bill 348 was discussed next. Rep. Estenson, chief sponsor, said it is enabling legislation for the purpose of instituting reciprocity with other states to allow SPI to judge comparability of teacher training and enter into agreement to exchange these personnel. John Voorhis from OSPI testified in support of the bill. His testimony is attached.

House Bill 349 was discussed next. Rep. Estenson, chief sponsor, said the bill is an amendment to 75-6008 regarding the number of years a class 5 certificate is valid. Mr. Voorhis presented testimony to support the bill, which is attached.

The Committee went into Executive Session to consider several bills.

House Bill 348 - Rep. Estenson moved to amend the bill by striking lines 1 and 2 on page 1. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Gunderson moved that the bill DO PASS AS AMENDED. The motion passed unanimously.

House Bill 349 - Rep. Barrett moved that the bill DO PASS. The motion passed 12-3.

House Bill 460 - Rep. Lory moved to send the bill to the Appropriation Committee. He withdrew his motion after discussion. The Chairperson said Rep. Bardanouve wants the Education Committee to consider the philosophy of the bill and then it will go to the Appropriations Committee from second reading. She moved to pass the bill for the day. The motion passed unanimously.

House Bill 571 - Rep. Gunderson moved that the bill DO NOT PASS. The motion passed 11-4.

House Bill 596 - Rep. Barrett moved that the bill DO PASS. The motion passed unanimously.

House Bill 619 - Rep. Lory moved to amend in an immediate effective date; and also to amend page 2, line 4, by striking "section 68-603, R.C.M. 1947" and inserting "68-1704." The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Gunderson then moved that the bill DO PASS AS AMENDED. The motion passed unanimously.

HJR 33 - Rep. Hand moved that the resolution DO NOT PASS. The motion passed 13-2.

HJR 44 - Rep. Estenson moved that the resolution DO NOT PASS. The motion passed unanimously.

HJR 45 - Rep. Estenson moved that the resolution DO PASS. Rep. Kvaalen made a substitute motion that it DO NOT PASS. The substitute motion failed 6-9. Without objection, the vote was reversed for the original motion and it passed 9-6.

House Bill 652 - Rep. Kennerly moved to amend the bill as shown on the attached sheet. After long discussion, the motion to amend passed unanimously. Rep. Gunderson moved that the bill DO PASS AS AMENDED. The motion passed with 13-2.

House Bill 653 - Rep. Estenson moved that the bill DO PASS. The motion passed unanimously.

House Bill 666 - Rep. Lory moved that the bill DO NOT PASS. The motion failed 6-8. Rep. Hand moved that the bill DO PASS. Without objection, the vote was reversed and the motion passed 8-6.

House Bill 678 - Rep. Hand moved that the bill DO PASS. Rep. Estenson made a substitute motion to pass the bill for the day. The substitute motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

	HB 349 Barrett DP	HB 571 Gunderson DNP	HJR 33 Hand SNP	HJR 45 Kvaalen DNP	HJR 45 Estenson DP	HB 652 Kennerly DPAA	HB 666 Lory DNP	HB 666 Hand DP
Dussault	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Gilligan	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Courtney	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Estenson	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Gunderson	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Hand	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Kennerly	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Kessler	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Uhde	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Barrett	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
Eudaily	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Kvaalen	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Lory	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Lund	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Abstain	Abstain
Meyer	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
	12 Yes 3 No	11 Yes 4 No	13 Yes 2 No	6 Yes 9 No	9 Yes 6 No	12 Yes 3 No	6 Yes 8 No 1 abs.	8 Yes 6 No 1 abs.