

MINUTES
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Meeting Jointly
Monday, August 8, 2022
1:30 PM
Room A, MAC
Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Missy Irvin, Chair; Joyce Elliott, Vice-Chair; Linda Chesterfield, Jane English and Colby Fulfer; Representatives Bruce Cozart, Chair; Brian S. Evans, Vice-Chair; Rick Beck, Ken Bragg, Karilyn Brown, Charlene Fite, Megan Godfrey, Lee Johnson, Fredrick J. Love, John Maddox, Gayla H. McKenzie, Stephen Meeks, Reginald Murdock, Stu Smith, Nelda Speaks and DeAnn Vaught

Other members present: Senators Kim Hammer and Ben Gilmore; Representatives Mary Bentley, Mark Berry, Harlan Breaux, Nicole Clowney, Cameron Cooper, Jim Dotson, Denise Ennett, Jon Eubanks, David Fielding, Denise Garner, Jack Ladyman, Julie Mayberry, Austin McCollum, Jay Richardson, Johnny Rye and Joy Springer

Senator Irvin called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes for June 6, 2022, and June 7, 2022, Meetings [Exhibits C1-C2]

Representative Evans made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Senator English, and without objection, the motion carried.

Presentation of Equity Report [Handouts D1-D2]

Ms. Lori Bowen, Legislative Analyst, Policy Analysis and Research Section, Bureau of Legislative Research (BLR); Ms. Adrienne Beck, Legislative Analyst, Policy Analysis and Research Section, BLR; and Ms. Julie Holt, Administrator, Policy Analysis and Research Section, BLR; presented the adequacy study report on Equity in Public School Funding and Expenditures.

Discussion of ISP 2021-109 Requesting that the Senate Committee on Education Conduct an Interim Study Regarding the Factors, Costs, and Outcomes Related to the Recruitment and Retention of Speech-Language Pathologists in Public Schools [Exhibit E] and [Handouts E1-E2]

Ms. Lauren Rogers, Lead Speech-Language Pathologist, Conway Schools; Ms. Ellen Smith, Speech-Language Pathologist, Conway Public Schools; Ms. Michelle Donnell, Lead Speech-Language Pathologist, Springdale Public Schools; Ms. Wendy Roark, Lead Speech-Language Pathologist, Springdale Public Schools; and Ms. Kami Rowland, Lead Speech-Language Pathologist, Little Rock School District; presented information regarding the factors, costs, and outcomes related to the recruitment and retention of speech-language pathologists in public schools.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.