

CAPITOL



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“It ain't over till it's over.”
– Yogi Berra

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I decided to use this Yogi Berra quote for two reasons. First, because growing up, my father always used “yogi-isms” as a way to bring light to any dark or unfortunate scenario. Second, because while we see the light at the end of the tunnel, we have to remain diligently cautious as the Legislature is gearing up for adjournment. Almost all of our legislation based on resolutions have made it out of committee and are working their way through the other side of the rotunda.

There are still two pieces of legislation that would have negative impact to School Districts and Charters are floating out there – **HB 590** and **HB639**. Keep an eye on your inbox for any urgent alerts.

HB590 – The GEM Act. Unfortunately, this legislation passed the House of Representatives on Monday with a 39-31 vote. We have been told it will heard in Senate Education on Wednesday, March 14th. [Please reach out to members of the Senate Education committee to tell them your concerns.](#) As a reminder, this is the bill that sets the stage for tax credits to private and religious schools. This legislation is also opposed by the IASA, IEA, Idaho Business for Education, ACLU of Idaho, Idaho PTA, The State Board of Education and The Idaho Superintendent of Public Instruction.

HB487-NOW HB639 – Ability to Run a Bond Only Once Every 11 Months.

This legislation passed the House of Representatives on March 1st and has yet to be scheduled a hearing in the Senate. We are hopeful that Senator Siddoway, Chairman of Senate State Affairs, sees the negative impact on School Districts and will keep it in his drawer to die.

HB580 – Ability to Hire Spouses of Board Members. This legislation removes a sunset clause on the law that allows school districts and charter schools to hire the spouse of a Board member under certain circumstances. The law has been in place now for three years. While it

is not used very often, we do know that a few school districts have used this provision. This legislation passed the Senate Education committee and will be considered by the full Senate on Monday.

HB620 – Educate vs. Advocate. This is legislation we drafted to help clarify what school districts can and cannot do when it comes to bonds and levies. This bill passed the Senate State Affairs committee on Friday and heads to the full senate for final consideration. If it passes there, it will head to the Governor’s desk for signature.

HB647 – Card Check. This is legislation based on our resolution that will require the local education organization to show proof of representation that has been obtained in the last two years. In other words, the signatures must be current. This bill passed the Senate Education committee unanimously on Thursday and heads to the Senate floor for final consideration.

SB1280 – Trustee Elections. This is the bill that moves trustee elections to November of odd years. I know that our members are split on this resolution. The ISBA membership passed a resolution that supported this move in an effort to compromise and keep elections off the November ballot in even years. This legislation did pass the Senate and was then referred to House Education committee. Despite opposition from the Idaho Association of Counties and the Secretary of State, it did pass that committee and will be considered by the House of Representatives by Monday.

SB1291 – School Turnaround Act. This legislation would provide additional resources to non-Title 1 schools that are in the lowest 5%. Under the new statewide ESSA plan, Title 1 schools will have some additional assistance so this bill will complement that. The original bill had some mandatory language, and we worked with Senator Mortimer, who is sponsoring the bill, to make this optional. Thus, if a school wants to participate they may, but there is not requirement. It did pass the Senate with amendments and now heads to the House of Representatives.

ISBA LEGISLATION BASED ON RESOLUTIONS

Below is our progress on each of the ISBA Resolutions.
Anything in italics is new information from last week.

Retention of Retired Teachers (2017) – HB113

Status: Became law last year.

Funding School Construction (2017) – Legislation Needed

Status: We sent a survey out to all superintendents this year. We hope you take the time to complete the survey.

Reducing the Supermajority for School District Bonds (2017) – Constitutional Amendment Needed

Status: We have been unable to find a sponsor for this legislation.

Reduce the 2/3 Majority Vote Requirement to go into Executive Session – Legislation Needed (2017)

Status: We are going to work with the Newspaper Association and possibly the Idaho Press Club over the interim and we hope to come to consensus on language before next legislative session.

Opposition to Amending Article IX Section V of the Idaho Constitution (Blaine Amendment) (2017) – HB590

Status: See explanation above related to the GEM Act.

Rural School Centers (2017), HB630

Status: Unfortunately, this legislation failed to pass the House of Representatives. We'll continue to work with the Superintendent of Public Instruction to accomplish this resolution.

Salary Based Apportionment for Classified Employees (2017) – Legislation Needed

Status: There are many ways to address an increase in funding for classified staff. That could include changing the factor or simply increasing the total dollars in this line item. Because of the significant amount that will likely be placed in teachers' salaries this year, this legislation will likely not be heard. Should any district wish to pursue this, we would encourage them to bring another resolution.

Revision of Idaho Code on Excision (2018) – Legislation Needed

Status: We have drafted legislation, and the sponsoring district is working with their local legislator in hopes of finding a sponsor.

Education Allocation for Out of State Teachers (2018) – Legislation Needed

Status: We don't believe that this legislation will move forward this year. We believe that we have come to consensus on what this legislation should look like. Unfortunately, it is too late in the year.

Card Check for Negotiations (2018) – Legislation Needed – HB647

Status: See the explanation above.

CTE Teachers Experience Factor (2018) – Legislation Needed

Status: We don't believe that this legislation will move forward this year. We believe that we have come to consensus on what this legislation should look like. Unfortunately, it is too late in the year.

Contracts for Teachers Holding an Interim Certification Under an Alternate Route (2018) – Legislation Needed, SB1293

Status: Although it passed the Senate unanimously, this legislation failed to pass the House Education committee. We'll be working over the interim to see if we can come to another solution, otherwise we'll bring similar legislation next year.

Move School Board Trustee Elections to November of Odd Years (2018), SB1280

Status: See explanation above.

Transportation Reimbursement (2018) – Legislation Needed, SB1304

Status: This legislation was introduced in Senate Education and is now SB 1304. We think the legislators that are working on moving this have lost some momentum. Again, our GAC voted to support the bill if it remains revenue neutral, which SB1304 does accomplish.

K-12 Funding Principles (2018)

Status: This resolution addresses the work of the Funding Formula Committee. We will work closely with that committee to address these issues.

Discussion of the Sale of Public Property in Executive Session (2018) – Legislation Needed

Status: We were unable to come to terms with the Press Club on this language. This legislation will not move forward this year.

Permissible Education Activities in School Bond and Levy Elections (2018) – Legislation Needed – HB620

Status: See explanation above.

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR

In case you don't know how to contact your legislators, here is a link to the Idaho State Legislature page. It can help you find out who your legislators are and how to contact them:
<https://legislature.idaho.gov/legislators/>

REMOTE TESTIMONY

This year, the House Education Committee is conducting a Remote Legislative Testimony Pilot Project. This project allows Idaho citizens to participate in the legislative process from locations a minimum of 100 miles outside of Boise.

Under the pilot project, utilizing video teleconferencing technology, registrants will be able to testify remotely on proposed legislation scheduled for a remote testimony meeting by the House Education chair.

For more information and a list of locations that you can use this service, visit this link:

<https://legislature.idaho.gov/remote-testimony/>

STAY TUNED

You can view any bills that are moving through the Legislature at the following link:

<https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/>

If you want to listen to committee meetings or watch debate in JFAC or on the floor of either chamber, the links to do so can be found at:

<http://idahoptv.org/insession/leg.cfm>

ISBA Bill Tracker 2018

Bills highlighted in purple are based on ISBA Resolutions

Bills highlighted in red are dead

Bills highlighted in green have become law

Bill #	TITLE	POSITION
HB366	Workers' Compensation for work study students	Neutral
HB367	Resident requirements for higher education	Neutral
HB368	Updates PERSI unfunded liability requirements	Neutral
HB412	Common Core Standards	Oppose
HB413	Federal funding phase out in Education	Oppose
HB414	Sex Education Standards	Neutral
HB415	Excused Absence for a Military Funeral	Neutral
HB418	No lobbyists at school, school districts, or charter schools	Oppose
HB420	Legal publications online and not in the newspaper	Support
HB423	Firearms on school campuses	Neutral
HB425	Net Neutrality	Neutral
HB436	Elected Officials must release tax returns	Neutral
HB443	Firearm education	Neutral
HB463	Tax reduction – tax conforming	Neutral
HB469	School Safety Patrol	Neutral
HB487	Bond and Levies only every 12 months	Oppose
HB501	Remove IRI as an Assessment Tool	Neutral
HB502	More Participation in Mastery Based Education	Neutral
HB503	OT and PTs on the Career Ladder	Neutral
HB504	Education Loan Assistance Program	Neutral
HB556	Business Personal Property Tax – County Option	Oppose
HB560	Bond Elections – Ballot Language	Neutral
HB561	Income Tax, Revenue Growth Reduction	Neutral
HB565	Firearms on campus – retired law enforcement officers	Neutral
HB566	Charter School Administrators	Neutral
HB573	Campaign Finance Requirements	Neutral
HB579	Sex Education	Neutral
HB580	Repeal sunset on Hiring of Board Spouse (ISBA Legislation)	Support
HB588	Violence on School Campuses	Neutral
HB589	Mastery Based Education	Neutral
HB590	Guided Education Management (GEM) Act	Oppose
HB600	Public Integrity in Elections Act (Removed)	Support
HB611	Meeting Notices, Action Items, Posting Online	Neutral
HB620	Public Integrity in Elections Act	Support
HB626	Bond Election – Ballot Language	Neutral
HB630	Rural School Networks	Support
HB629	High School Apprenticeship – Home Building	Neutral
HB632	Counseling Support Increase	Neutral

HB633	Card Check	Support
HB634	Suicide Prevention	Support
HB626	Lobbyists, school districts	Neutral
HB639	Bond Elections Every 12 Months	Oppose
HB647	Card Check	Support
HB648	Computer Science Courses	Neutral
HB665	School Violence (formerly HB588)	Neutral
HCR049	Public School Funding Formula Committee	Neutral
SB1211	Appointment to the Professional Standards Commission	Oppose
SB1212	CTE – Adding grades 7 and 8	Neutral
SB1219	Waiver – Self-Funded Insurance	Neutral
SB1222	CTE – Funding for five new programs	Neutral
SB1227	Immunizations – no signature on a form would be required	Oppose
SB1233	STEM Action Board	Neutral
SB1243	PERSI – High 42 for retirement	Neutral
SB1266	Removal of Senior Math Requirement	Neutral
SB1267	Providing a STEM Diploma	Neutral
SB1278	Update Wireless Technology Standards	Neutral
SB1280	Trustee Elections in November	Support
SB1291	School Turnaround Act	Neutral
SB1292	Advanced Opportunities Act – Update Criteria	Neutral
SB1293	Category 1 Contracts on an Alternate Route	Support
SB1294	Tobacco Tax to benefit Idaho School for the Deaf & Blind	Neutral
SB1295	Career Technical School Funding	Neutral
SB1304	Transportation Reimbursement	Support
SB1308	Public Employees, civil actions	Neutral