

Education Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

11:00 AM in Room 1E of the LOB

The meeting was called to order at 11:10 AM by Chairman, Sen. McCrory D. S02.

The following committee members were present:

Senators: Berthel E. S32; Bizzarro G. S06; Daugherty Abrams M. S13;
Kushner J. S24; McCrory D. S02

Representatives: Barry J. 031; Blumenthal M. 147; Bolinsky M. 106; Candelaria J. 095; Comey R. 102; Cook M. 065; Currey J. 011; Devlin L. 134; Farnen B. 132; Genga H. 010; Gibson B. 015; Gilcrest J. 018; Haines I. 034; Hill L. 017; Johnson S. 049; Kennedy K. 119; Kokoruda N. 101; Lavielle G. 143; Lemar R. 096; Linehan L. 103; MacLachlan J. 035; McCarty K. 038; McGee B. 005; Miller P. 145; Napoli R. 073; Pavalock-D'Amato C. 077; Rotella K. 043; Sanchez R. 025

Absent were:

Senators: Flexer M. S29; Lesser M. S09; Winfield G. S10

Representatives: Simanski B. 062

Sen. McCrory, D. S02 opened the meeting and asked members if there were any remarks.

Rep. Sanchez, R. 025 noted there were no remarks and asked Senator Berthel to go over the Hearing Room Safety Rules.

Sen. Berthel, E. S32 read the Hearing Room Safety Rules aloud to all.

Sen. McCrory, D. S02 called for a motion to draft Concept Items #s 1-12, and Sen. Berthel, E. S32 seconded.

1. AA Establishing the Process for a Removal of a Member of a Board of Education
2. AAC Funding for Agricultural Science and Technology Education Centers
3. AA Prohibiting the Transfer of School Construction from DAS to OPM and
Require the Database be made available on the department's Internet web site
4. AA Excluding School Security Grants from the Calculation of a School District's
MBR
5. AAC the Allocation of Slots for State-Funded Child Care Centers
6. AA Permitting a School District to Pay Tuition for Sending Its Elementary and
Middle School Students to Another District
7. AAC the Treasurer's Recommendations for the Inclusion of Financial Literacy in
the Public School Curriculum
8. AAC the Inclusion of Native American Studies in the Social Studies Curriculum
9. AA Prohibiting School District Policies that Discriminate Against Students Based
on Natural Hair and Hairstyles
10. AAC the Consolidation of Certain Requirements Relating to Professional
Development and In-Service Training for Educators
11. AA Establishing a Task Force to Study Issues Relating to Bullying and Sexual
Harassment
12. AAC Inclusion of Climate Change in the Public School Curriculum

Rep. McCarty, K. 038 sought clarification from the chairs on Concept 12 and whether the intention of the bill was to put the issue of climate change curriculum into statute, noting that 98% of districts are already teaching on the topic.

Rep. Sanchez, R. 025 offered clarification that the concept would be the same as a bill from the 2019 session on the same topic and that it will be put forward for a public hearing before deciding the next step.

Rep. McCarty, K. 038 thanked Rep. Sanchez, R. 025 for the clarification and stated that it was important for the committee to know that climate change is being taught in schools and creating a statute for the issue would resemble a mandate. She also remarked that it would be important for the committee to not expand the intent of the concept to encompass a larger climate change bill.

Sen. McCrory, D. S02 called for a voice vote on Item #s 1-12.

The motion passed unanimously.

Sen. Berthel, E. S32 asked to make a motion to open the agenda in order to add a new item to the list of concepts to be raised.

Sen. McCrory, D. S02 agreed to entertain the motion, it was seconded by Rep. Barry, J. 031.

A voice vote was held on the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Sen. Berthel, E. S32 made a motion to raise an act titled An Act Concerning School Counselors, the motion was seconded by Sen. Bizzarro, G. S06.

Sen. McCrory, D. S02 asked for comments by the members.

Rep. McCarty, K. 038 states her support for opening this concept to a public hearing to be able to hear what school counselors have to say on the matter, as more children may enter school with a multitude of needs.

Sen. McCrory, D. S02 agreed with Rep. McCarty, K. 038 that we are living in a new climate and counselors' roles have expanded, so hearing their input on the matter is detrimental to be on the same page as schools in order to help accurately help them.

Sen. McCrory, D. S02 called for a voice vote on the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Rep. McCarty, K. 038 stated that she wanted to recognize the chairs and fellow members of the committee on their commitment to creating a bipartisan agenda this session for the committee.

Sen. McCrory, D. S02 thanked Rep. McCarty, K. 038 and wanted to note that this committee has always worked well on both sides of the aisle and that he looks forward to a successful session.

Sen. McCrory, D. S02 announced that attendance will be held open until 2:00 PM.

A motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was recessed at 11:19 AM adjourning at 2:00 PM.

Luz Osuba
Administrator

Lauren Riley
Committee Clerk
