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Education Interim Committee

65th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

EDIE MCCLAFFERTY--Chair
TOM FACEY
DANIEL SALOMON
RUSSEL TEMPEL

HOUSE MEMBERS

FRED ANDERSON--Vice Chair
JACOB BACHMEIER
MOFFIE FUNK
DONALD JONES

COMMITTEE STAFF

PAD MCCRACKEN, Lead Staff
LAURA SANKEY KEIP, Staff Attorney
JENNI CARR, Secretary

MINUTES LOG

August 6, 2018
Room 137, Capitol Building
Helena, Montana

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides a notation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video record of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

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Please contact the Legislative Services Division at 406-444-3064 for more information.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

SEN. TOM FACEY, Chair
SEN. EDIE MCCLAFFERTY
SEN. DANIEL SALOMON
REP. FRED ANDERSON (by phone)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED

REP. JACOB BACHMEIER

STAFF PRESENT

PAD MCCRACKEN, Lead Staff
LAURA SANKEY KEIP, Staff Attorney
JENNI CARR, Secretary

VISITORS' LIST (Attachment 1)

AGENDA (Attachment 2)

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

00:00:03 Sen. Facey called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. The subcommittee secretary took roll ([Attachment 3](#)).

Subcommittee member introductions

00:00:49 Ron Muffick, Operations and Administration/Student Affairs Director, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (CHE)
00:00:57 Tyler Trevor, Deputy Commissioner, CHE
00:01:05 Shauna Albrecht, Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
00:01:12 Ms. Sankey Keip
00:01:15 Siri Smillie, Education Policy Advisor, Governor's Office
00:01:26 Christine Hultin, Lead Budget Analyst, Governor's Budget Office
00:01:34 Jason Harlow, Senior Budget Analyst, Governor's Budget Office

WORKING SESSION WITH INTERESTED PARTIES TO DETERMINE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EDIC REGARDING STATE FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

Review Previous work and materials and EDIC discussion/direction from June - Mr. McCracken

00:03:15 Mr. McCracken reviewed previous work and materials, and the EDIC discussion and committee direction, from the June 14-15, 2018, meeting. ([Exhibit 1](#))

Overview of bill draft "building blocks" - Ms. Sankey Keip

00:06:59 Ms. Sankey Keip gave an overview of the different policy perspectives the subcommittee can take on LCFAID. ([Exhibit 2](#)) ([Exhibit 3](#))

Committee questions

00:11:08 Sen. Facey asked about the Financial Aid Subcommittee's intent, and asked for more information on how to incentivize students.
00:14:14 Sen. Facey asked about relationships between community colleges and tribal colleges and asked for clarification on some of the data and its availability to students.
00:17:59 Sen. Salomon asked for Mr. Trevor's opinion on Section 9.

Overview of STEM scholarship financial model - Ms. Albrecht

00:45:35 Ms. Albrecht went over the STEM model with the committee. ([Exhibit 4](#))

Committee questions/discussion

00:51:00 Sen. Facey asked if more community scholarship money is awarded to high school freshman rather than junior or seniors.
00:51:38 Sen. Facey asked Mr. Trevor and Mr. Muffick what incentive programs are available to retain non-STEM major student and how the programs work.
00:53:37 Sen. Facey asked if for clarification of the money in STEM and the selection process of the STEM program.
00:55:17 Sen. Facey asked the incentive and merit-based programs are being combined and if the MSU Merit program is a waiver program.
00:56:30 Sen. Facey asked the subcommittee how they wished to move forward.
00:57:10 Committee discussion on STEM funding source.

01:00:12 Ms. Albrecht continued her presentation.

Committee questions/discussion

- 01:00:35 Sen. Facey commented on the importance of a long term funding model for the STEM program.
- 01:02:12 Ms. Sankey Keip continued her overview of the different policy perspectives the subcommittee can take on LCFAID. (see Exhibit 2) (see Exhibit 3)

Committee questions/discussion

- 01:02:41 Sen. Facey commented on moving LCFAID forward and asked Sen. Salomon to comment on the starting STEM balance and long term funding source.
- 01:04:52 Rep. Anderson joined the meeting by phone and Sen. Facey gave a brief overview of the subcommittee discussion.
- 01:06:44 Ms. Sankey Keip continued her presentation, focusing on the long term funding source of the STEM program.

Committee questions/discussion

- 01:09:54 Committee discussion on pro-rated funding approach.
- 01:12:33 Sen. Facey asked the subcommittee if they wished to amend LCFAID to allow the CHE to pro-rate the STEM program.
- 01:13:01 Mr. Trevor commented on the importance of funding flexibility.
- 01:14:00 Ms. Sankey Keip continued her presentation, focusing on excess funds carried over for the STEM program.

Committee questions/discussion

- 01:17:07 Committee discussion on STEM program funding carry-over.
- 01:20:53 Sen. Salomon asked how carry-over excess funds are spent.
- 01:22:17 Sen. Facey commented on excess funds for fine arts majors and asked Ms. Sankey Keip to comment on the access fund.
- 01:23:49 Ms. Sankey Keip continued her presentation and reviewed the effect of the bill draft. ([Exhibit 5](#))

Committee questions/discussion

- 01:26:45 Sen. Facey asked Ms. Sankey Keip for clarification on transferring funds to cover gaps in funds required to administer the STEM program for the 2019-20 academic year. (see Exhibit 2)
- 01:27:35 Rep. McClafferty asked for clarification of how the funding follows the student through the academic year.
- 01:28:19 Sen. Facey asked for clarification on how much funding would be used in the program and how it would follow the student through the academic year.
- 01:29:03 Sen. Salomon asked Ms. Albrecht what the cap is on the lottery and asked for clarification on \$1000 scholarships.
- 01:31:28 Mr. McCracken asked for clarification on the funding amounts. (see Exhibit 4)
- 01:32:14 Sen. Salomon asked if the funding amount presented would be paying the first year and funding the second year. (see Exhibit 4)
- 01:32:35 Sen. Facey asked Ms. Sankey Keip if the Governor's Postsecondary Scholarship Program is the Governor's Best and Brightest program.

- 01:34:28 Rep. Anderson commented on the discussion regarding the Governor's Best and Brightest program.
- 01:34:38 Sen. Facey asked Mr. McCracken and Ms. Albrecht for clarification of the funding for the Governor's Best and Brightest program. (see Exhibit 1).
- 01:35:40 Sen. Facey commented on repealing the Montana Promise Grant Program and asked Mr. Trevor how the CHE would administer the program through the university, college, and tribal college systems.
- 01:38:57 Ms. Smillie asked Mr. Trevor if matching funds would require state investment.
- 01:39:10 Sen. Facey commented on the incentive for donors that their donations will be state matched and asked Mr. Trevor how funds will be distributed.
- 01:40:47 Ms. Sankey Keip clarified the matching requirement.
- 01:41:59 Committee discussion on the Governor's Best and Brightest program.
- 01:43:35 Sen. Facey commented on the Montana Promise Grant Program.
- 01:44:50 Ms. Sankey Keip continued her presentation, focusing on the Quality Educator Loan Assistance Program. (see Exhibit 2)

Committee questions/discussion

- 01:45:56 Sen. McClafferty asked why the Quality Educator Loan Assistance Program would be moved from the Board of Regents to the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OPI).
- 01:46:41 Sen. McClafferty asked if OPI would need to hire additional staff to run the program.

Discussion and determination of subcommittee recommendations to EDIC for September 12-13 meeting

- 01:47:28 Sen. Facey commented on the subcommittee's options and asked the subcommittee staff what direction they need.

WRAP UP, INSTRUCTIONS TO STAFF

- 01:50:07 Ms. Sankey Keip clarified the subcommittee's direction and asked if the subcommittee wishes to move forward with building blocks or one big draft.
- 01:51:36 Ms. Smillie commented on the state investment in the various programs.

Public comment

None

ADJOURNMENT

- 01:53:14 Sen. Facey adjourned the meeting at 12:00pm.

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