

April 9, 2015

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**SUBJECT**

Legislative Update

**APPLICABLE STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY**

N/A

**BACKGROUND**

Idaho's 2015 legislative session is nearing its close. Legislative activity related to charter schools and the PCSC was minimal.

**DISCUSSION**

PCSC staff will provide and update on the status of legislation directly pertinent to public charter schools and the PCSC:

S1021 amends existing law to revise provisions relating to the authorizer fee formula and to revise the payment deadline for the authorizer fee. The bill was signed by Governor Otter on 2/24/15.

S1087 amends existing law to provide an additional enrollment lottery preference for public charter schools. The bill was signed by Governor Otter on 2/26/2015.

H122 amends existing law with regard to continuous improvement plans, formerly referred to as strategic plans. Charter schools were not made exempt from this legislation. The bill was signed by Governor Otter on 3/19/2015

H126 amends salary apportionment formulas for charter and traditional public schools based on the best of either mid-year ADA or full term ADA. The bill was sent to Governor Otter on 3/24/2015.

H308 amends existing law to provide that certain code provisions relating to pupil service staff allowance do not apply to public charter schools. If passed, it would allow support staff such as counselors to be included in the ratio of students to staff. The bill passed the Senate on 3/31/2015 and will be transmitted to Governor Otter shortly.

H309 adds to existing law to create the Public Charter School Debt Reserve to assist qualified charter schools in obtaining favorable financing for new facilities or facility renovations. The bill passed the House on 3/27/2015 and has not yet been heard by the Senate.

**IMPACT**

Information item only.

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**STAFF COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Staff has no comments or recommendations.

**COMMISSION ACTION**

Any action would be at the discretion of the PCSC.