

SUBJECT

2018 Legislative Update

APPLICABLE STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

N/A

BACKGROUND

During the 2018 legislative session, several bills that directly affect public charter schools passed and will come into effect July 1, 2018.

DISCUSSION

PCSC staff will provide an overview of three new laws and resolutions that are directly pertinent to public charter schools and the PCSC:

S1267a adds a new section in code to allow, but not require, school districts and public charter schools to offer a STEM diploma to students who meet specific requirements in science and mathematics.

HCR49 authorizes, for the third year, the legislative council to appoint a committee to conduct a study of the public school funding formula and make recommendations.

The K-12 Budget increases general funding spending on public schools by 5.9%, including \$41.7 million to fund the third year of the career ladder.

HB566a, which would have created a charter administer certificate, was vetoed by Idaho's Governor.

IMPACT

Information item only.

STAFF COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff has no comments or recommendations.

COMMISSION ACTION

Any action would be at the discretion of the PCSC.

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1267, As Amended

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO STEM EDUCATION; AMENDING CHAPTER 5, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE
2 ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-523, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS
3 REGARDING A STEM DIPLOMA; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
4

5 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

6 SECTION 1. That Chapter 5, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is
7 hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-
8 ignated as Section 33-523, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

9 33-523. STEM DIPLOMA. (1) For purposes of this section, "STEM" means
10 science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

11 (2) A public school student who successfully completes all graduation
12 requirements established by the state board of education may receive a high
13 school diploma designated as a STEM diploma if the student earned at least:

14 (a) Eight (8) credits in mathematics;

15 (b) Eight (8) credits in science; and

16 (c) In addition to the credits listed in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this
17 subsection, five (5) credits in the student's choice of any or all sub-
18 jects of science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

19 (3) This section does not require a student to complete more than the
20 total credits required to graduate as determined by the state board of educa-
21 tion.

22 (4) A student who has completed eight (8) or more credits in mathemat-
23 ics that include algebra II or a higher-level mathematics class before the
24 student's senior year is not required to take a mathematics class in the stu-
25 dent's senior year.

26 (5) Each school district and public charter school may create a diploma
27 with a special STEM designation for students who meet the requirements of
28 this section.

29 (6) The state board of education may promulgate rules necessary to im-
30 plement the provisions of this section.

31 SECTION 2. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
32 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after its
33 passage and approval.