

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION

Legislative Committee Meeting

LOCATION

Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska
Teleconference

Meeting Date

February 4, 2010

Attendees:

Travis Noah, Chair
Eric Gebhart
Banarsi Lal
Lucy Odden
Chris Saddler
Jackie Hill

Staff:

Patrick Reinhart
Catherine Helle

Prepared by: Paula DiPaolo
Peninsula Reporting

Call to Order – 1:30 p.m.
Roll Call

Approval of Agenda

Banarsi Lal made a **MOTION** to approve the agenda. Jackie Hill **SECONDED**. The agenda was **APPROVED**.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Banarsi Lal made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes from the January 6, 2010 meeting. Chris Saddler **SECONDED**. The minutes were **APPROVED** as written.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of January Council Meeting

Patrick Reinhart asked the committee members for any feedback regarding the full Council meeting in Juneau. He also noted that Catherine Helle is getting thank-you notes done and they are all tracking the various issues.

Catherine Helle stated that she will be sending out a legislative newsletter every other week. She also stated that they are getting the listserv set up and hopefully that will be accomplished soon. She will be moderating the listserv to prevent delivery of unwanted e-mails through the listserv. She stated that if anyone on the committee knows of people who would like to be connected to the listserv, they can send the link to them and they can sign up.

Lucy Odden stated that at the Council meeting, she had a very nice visit with Senator Bettye Davis, and she was very supportive of their education issues.

Discussion on Bills of Importance and their Progression in the Legislature

SB 109 – Exit Exam

Patrick Reinhart stated that SB 109 has moved out of the Education Committee. He stated that Teresa Holt is following it very closely.

SB 32 – Rate Review

Chris Saddler stated that it was in House Finance while they were in Juneau for the full Council meeting, and Banarsi Lal added that Finance is the last stop for this bill. Patrick Reinhart added that it has already passed the Senate. Banarsi stated that he will be in Juneau next week with the Commission on Aging so hopefully he can gather some more information about the status of this bill while he is down there.

HB 187 – Autism Insurance Reform

Chris Saddler stated that last time she looked, it had been heard in the House HSS. She stated that it looked like it had been brought up and established as a Senate bill, but she was surprised that it was held on the House side at the HSS committee level because she thought it had been substituted with a committee bill instead.

HB 206 – Career Assessment Requirement in Public Schools

No one had any updates on the bill at this time.

SB 221 – Legislative Task Force for Higher Education

It was recommended to keep tracking both HB 206 and SB 221 and then check with Fred Villa to give the committee updates on these.

SB 236 – Reversal of Frozen Medicaid Income Standard at \$1,656

Duane Mayes was not available at this meeting to give an update on this bill. Banarsi Lal stated that the Commission on Aging is also supporting this bill and he will forward their position paper to the Legislative Committee.

Other Bills of Interest

Patrick Reinhart stated that he understands there will be a bill introduced creating a statewide public transit fund to support public transit operations.

Banarsi Lal stated that he heard that SB 238 passed the Senate HSS and it has a zero fiscal note.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The group discussed deviating from their normal Thursday meeting for the next meeting as people will be traveling back from Key on March 4th. The next meeting was scheduled for Friday, March 5th at 1:30.

OTHER BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Banarsi Lal asked Catherine Helle if she could send the committee members the notes that were taken on the last day of the Council meeting during the discussion moderated by Duane Mayes. Catherine said she would send a copy out to everyone.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.