

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

STUDY COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION WEIGHTS AND FUNDING FOR GIFTED PUPILS

Minutes of the Meeting
September 30, 2019
10:00 a.m., House Hearing Room 1

Members Present:

Senator Sylvia Allen, Vice Chair
Senator Lela Alston
Senator Heather Carter
Senator Andrea Dalessandro
Senator Sine Kerr

Representative Shawna Bolick, Chair
Representative Walter Blackman
Representative Arlando Teller

Members Excused:

Representative Leo Biasiucci
Representative Alma Hernandez

Staff:

Chase Houser, House Research Staff
Jeffrey Ong, Senate Research Staff

Chairman Bolick called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and attendance was noted.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Representative Bolick asked the Committee members to introduce themselves.

CHARGE OF THE COMMITTEE

Chase Houser, House Research Staff, outlined the purpose of the Study Committee on Special Education Weights and Funding for Gifted Pupils.

CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

Representative Bolick gave a brief overview on HB 2670 and shared an article from the Wall Street Journal regarding gifted children by Chester Finn, who served as Assistant Secretary of Education in the Reagan Administration. The article stated that "we should be focused on our high-achieving students" and Mr. Finn believes that "we should be focused on gifted and talented programs; our education system should be able to simultaneously raise the ceiling for those who are exceptionally gifted and lift the floor for others who are struggling."

Representative Bolick stated that she agrees with both of Mr. Finn's statements and made opening remarks.

PRESENTATION

Special Education Weights and Gifted Funding - Patrick Moran, JLBC

Patrick Moran, Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) Staff, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Special Education Weights and Funding for Gifted Pupils, September 30, 2019" (Attachment A) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Mr. Houser answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee discussed their concerns and shared comments for the presentation mentioned above.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Representative Bolick asked the Committee for any further discussion. No further discussion took place.

Representative Bolick made closing remarks and announced the next scheduled meeting would be held on October 21st at 1:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Imee L. Andrew
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)