

COMMITTEE MINUTES for EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Date: ***February 28, 2018***

Location: ***RM 22***

Convened: ***10:10 AM***

Adjourned: ***10:50 AM***

Attendance Roll Call:

Present: Senators Kraayenbrink-CH, Carlin-VC, Danielson-RM, Quirmbach, Schultz; Representatives Dolecheck-CH, Moore, T.-VC, Winckler-RM, Kurth, McConkey, Miller, P., Mohr, G., Rogers

Absent:

Excused: Representative Fisher

Sen. Kraayenbrink called the meeting to order at 10:10am. Roll call was taken silently, absent members were excused until arrival. The minutes from the January 31st meeting were approved unanimously. Sen. Kraayenbrink requested the members refrain from questions until after the presentation.

Carly Voltz, Director of Strategic Advancement for Iowa Jobs for American Graduates (iJAG), introduced associated guests, and spoke about the remarkable success of iJAG. She noted graduation rates in some parts of the state improved by as much as twenty percent, among other metrics of success.

Nate Clark of the John Deere Foundation spoke about the return on investment that the Foundation had seen from their partnership with iJAG, and praised the Governor's budgetary proposal for iJAG, urging the members of the committee to continue to support the program.

Adam Ibrahim from Principal Financial Group also spoke in favor of the program, and urged support on the part of the members of the committee for the Governor's budgetary proposals.

Voltz introduced iJAG participant Tina Moyers, who spoke about her growth as a person and as a student through her participation and announced her intention to pursue a CNA.

Michael Sadler from Century Link urged the members of the committee to support the Governor's budgetary proposal.

Rep. Winckler inquired for further detail as to the specific appropriations planned by iJAG and the relevant school districts with the Governor's proposal. Voltz answered that iJAG had planned to extend programming in current districts into lower grade levels and partnering with more school districts altogether. Clark answered by noting the community involvement opportunities iJAG presents for John Deere. Ibrahim answered by noting the high support for iJAG among Principal employees. Sadler assured the committee of the continuation of Century Link's partnership with iJAG.

Sen. Quirmbach recognized the iJAG participants in the meeting, and asked the presenters to begin to advocate against [SF 2383](#) (tax reform), in favor of raising the minimum required education age in the state, and for changes for the school funding formula to allow for greater spending on extra educational opportunities (such as museum trips).

Sen. Kraayenbrink noted that the intention of the tax reform package was to allow job holders, including iJAG participants, to keep more of their income. Voltz elaborated on the barriers students face in their path to educational and vocational achievement, and briefly discussed iJAG's strategies for addressing them.

Rep. Winckler inquired as to other gaps in educational course and outcomes that the committee ought to examine and pursue policies to address them. Voltz answered that examining the success of programs like iJAG could pose opportunities for applying "what works" to addressing remaining gaps.

Sen. Kraayenbrink thanked Voltz and the other presenters for their time. Sen. Schultz moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50am.

Senator Tim Kraayenbrink

Kyle Day, Committee Secretary