

House Committee

COMMITTEE MINUTES for APPROPRIATIONS

Date: *February 26, 2020*

Location: *RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber*

Convened: *2:05 PM*

Adjourned: *3:00 PM*

Attendance Roll Call:

Present: Representatives Mohr, G.-CH, Brink-VC, Hall-RM, Bearinger, Bennett, Best, Bossman, Deyoe, Dolecheck, Forbes, Fry, Kerr, Landon, Mascher, McKean, Mommsen, Oldson, Running-Marquardt, Sexton, Sorensen, Thede, Williams, Wills, Winckler, Worthan

Absent:

Excused:

Chairman Mohr called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM.

The Committee dispensed with Roll Call.

Next, Chairman Mohr assigned the following bills to subcommittee:

[HF 2406](#) (Landon-CH, Mommsen, Running-Marquardt)

[HF 2419](#) (Dolecheck-CH, Brink, Winckler)

[HF 2487](#) (Best-CH, Brink, McKean)

[HF 2490](#) (Kerr-CH, Wills, Hall)

[HF 2532](#) (Dolecheck, Kerr, Winckler)*

*Following the meeting, Representative Mascher replaced Representative Winckler on the [HF 2532](#) subcommittee.

[HF 2533](#) (Fry-CH, Sorensen, Forbes)

Chairman Mohr subsequently introduced the meeting's presenters:

-Dr. Mark Wiederspan, Executive Director - Iowa College Aid

-Dr. Mark Nook, President - University of Northern Iowa

-Dr. Mark Putnam, President - Central College

-Dr. Liang Chee Wee, President - Northeast Iowa Community College

Dr. Wiederspan presented first. Dr. Wiederspan discussed future enrollment projections and the factors that impact enrollment statistics. Dr. Wiederspan indicated enrollment decline could be greater than the projections. Dr. Wiederspan answered questions from Legislators.

Dr. Nook presented second. Dr. Nook discussed the increase in technological requirements of jobs and how the economy is evolving to become more technical. Dr. Nook also discussed the relationship between available jobs and enrollment numbers. Dr. Nook indicated that when there are more jobs available, enrollment numbers typically fall, and conversely, when there are fewer jobs available, enrollment numbers typically increase. Dr. Nook answered questions from Legislators.

Dr. Putnam presented third. Dr. Putnam discussed the importance of collaboration between Iowa schools. Dr. Putnam next outlined three partnership imperatives. The first imperative is to attract and retain students. The second imperative is to increase participation rates in the educational system. The third imperative described by Dr. Putnam is economic and business development. Dr. Putnam answered questions from Legislators.

Dr. Wee presented fourth. Dr. Wee discussed the importance of improvisation, driving business success, and helping the community. Dr. Wee emphasized the importance of broadband internet access. Dr. Wee next explained the importance of focusing on more than just enrollment. Dr.

Wee described various issues that impact access to education such as child care and internet access. Dr. Wee next described how the school seeks to embed credentials into the student's education so that they can better connect with businesses and be better prepared for life after graduation. Dr. Wee answered questions from Legislators.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

With no further business to come before the House Appropriations Committee, Representative Bennett moved we arise at 3:00 PM.

Representative Gary M. Mohr

Henry Widen, Committee Secretary