IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 12

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND AUTHORIZING THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO APPOINT A COMMITTEE TO UNDERTAKE AND COMPLETE A STUDY OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, the current public school funding formula was enacted in 1994 and the evolving needs of students make it desirable to review the current funding formula; and

WHEREAS, the Education School Funding Subcommittee of the Governor's Task Force concluded that, rather than focus solely on funding based on attendance or enrollment, the entire formula needs a thorough review; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the Idaho Legislature authorized the Public School Funding Formula legislative interim study committee to study the public school funding formula with HCR 33; and

WHEREAS, the Public School Funding Formula legislative interim committee held five meetings around the State of Idaho between July 2016 and December 2016, during which time it heard public testimony from stakeholders, received presentations from national, state and local experts, and oversaw a survey by the Board of Education of parents, teachers, school administrators and employees; and

WHEREAS, the issue of public school funding is highly complex and it was anticipated that the work would be a multi-year project; and

WHEREAS, the Public School Funding Formula legislative interim committee has preliminary recommendations to report to the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to reauthorize the committee in order to allow it to complete its study of the public school funding formula.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of the Sixty-fourth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislative Council is authorized to appoint a committee to undertake and complete a study of and make recommendations for the state's public school funding formula. The Legislative Council shall determine the number of legislators and membership from each house appointed to the committee and shall authorize the committee to receive input, advice and assistance from interested and affected parties who are not members of the Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Public Instruction and another member of the Idaho State Board of Education shall serve as voting nonlegislative members of the committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Services Office, Office of the State Board of Education including the Public Charter School Commission, State Department of Education, Office of the Governor and Division of Financial Management shall provide staff support to the committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the committee is also authorized to retain the services of a consultant or analyst, with the prior approval of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who is familiar with education funding policy and who can provide necessary economic or other research that can assist the committee and the Legislature in making an informed decision on this important topic. With the exception of a consultant approved by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, nonlegislative members shall not be reimbursed from legislative funds for per diem, mileage or other expenses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall report its findings, recommendations and proposed legislation, if any, to the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-fourth Idaho Legislature.