

MINUTES
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Meeting Jointly
Tuesday, September 2, 2025
1:30 PM
Room A, MAC
Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Jane English, Chair; Dan Sullivan, Vice Chair; Joshua Bryant, Breanne Davis, Jim Dotson, and Stephanie Flowers; Representatives Keith Brooks, Chair; Brit McKenzie, Vice Chair; Wade Andrews, Sonia Eubanks Barker, Lincoln Barnett, Rick Beck, Karilyn Brown, Bruce Cozart, Hope Duke, Tony Furman, Denise Garner, Julie Mayberry, Jessie McGruder, Stephen Meeks, Jason Nazarenko, and Steven Walker

Other members present: Senators Scott Flippo, Mark Johnson, Fredrick J. Love, and Jamie Scott; Representatives Fred Allen, Glenn Barnes, Stan Berry, Nick Burkes, Rebecca Burkes, Denise Ennett, Jon S. Eubanks, Brad Hall, Steve Hollowell, Jack Ladyman, Tippi McCullough, Kendra Moore, Aaron Pilkington, David Ray, Jay Richardson, Johnny Rye, Joy Springer, Tracy Steele, and Jeff Wardlaw

Representative Brooks called the meeting to order.

Consideration of a Motion to Approve the June 16, 2025, Meeting Minutes [Exhibit B]

Without objection, the minutes were approved.

Consideration for Adoption of Interim Study Proposals (ISPs) [Exhibits C1-C3]

Representative Brooks moved to batch Interim Study Proposals (ISPs) 2025-049 by Senator Sullivan – Requesting the Senate Committee on Education Conduct a Study of the Costs and Student Outcomes Related to Remote Learning in Higher Education, 2025-073 by Representative Andrews – An Act to Amend Provisions of the Arkansas Code to Improve Efficiency in Student Instruction; to Create a Standardized Flexible School Calendar System for Public Schools; and for Other Purposes, and 2025-074 by Representative McAlindon – An Act to Amend the Law Concerning Higher Education; and for Other Purposes, and without objection, the motion carried.

Representative Brooks moved to adopt the batch ISPs, seconded by Representative Andrews, and the motion carried.

Overview of ATLAS Testing, School Scorecards, and Career Readiness [Exhibit D1-D2]

Jacob Oliva, Secretary, Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) presented information regarding the Arkansas Teaching, Learning & Assessment System (ATLAS) including data on student performances by subject and information on Arkansas's new accountability system.

Ross White, Director of Career and Technical Education, ADE gave a presentation on the pathway to success-ready graduates including career exploration information through grade-levels and a breakdown of the possible degree types and certificates students are able to earn.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.