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Legislative Oversight Committee



South Carolina House of Representatives

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Education and Cultural Subcommittee

May 19, 2016

Archived Video Available

- I. Pursuant to House Legislative Oversight Committee Rule 6.8, South Carolina ETV was allowed access for streaming the meeting. You may access archived video of this meeting by visiting the South Carolina General Assembly's website (<http://www.scstatehouse.gov>) and clicking on *Committee Postings and Reports*, then under *House Standing Committees* click on *Legislative Oversight*. Then, click on *Video Archives* for a listing of archived videos for the Committee.

Attendance

- I. The Education and Cultural Subcommittee meeting was called to order by Chairman James E. Smith, Jr., Thursday, May 19, 2016, in Room 108 of the Blatt Building. Representative Gary E. Clary and Representative Joseph H. Jefferson, Jr. were also present.

Minutes

- I. House Rule 4.5 requires standing committees to prepare and make available to the public the minutes of committee meetings, but the minutes do not have to be verbatim accounts of meetings. It is the practice of the Legislative Oversight Committee to provide minutes for its subcommittee meetings.

- II. Representative Clary moved to approve the minutes from the Subcommittee’s previous meeting on April 26, 2016. A roll call vote was held, and the motion was passed.

Rep. Clary’s motion to approve the minutes from April 26, 2016:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Clary	✓		
Rep. Jefferson	✓		
Rep. Stringer			✓
Rep. Smith	✓		

Discussion of the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind

- I. Chairman Smith administered the oath to the following who were present to testify on behalf of the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind (School): Paige McGraw (President) and Scott Ramsey (Special Assistant to the President).
- II. Chairman Smith explained the purpose of the meeting.
- III. Committee staff provided an overview of the School’s history, mission, and vision.
- IV. Chairman Smith asked for the School’s definition of a successful student, and the methods by which the School measures success.

Chairman Smith asked for Dr. McGraw to explain how children around the state can gain access to the School’s services.

Representative Jefferson shared his personal experience with having family members who were both deaf and blind, and thanked Dr. McGraw for the School’s good work. He asked if the rates of children both deaf and blind had changed over the years. Dr. McGraw testified that that School does track the rates of deafness and blindness, but that it is difficult to determine if the rates correlate with the rates of enrollment in the School.

Representative Clary asked for an explanation of how the vacancies on the School’s Board of Commissioners affects its operation and how the School is working with the Governor to fill the vacancies, and for an overview the long-term strategic plan being developed by the Board.

Representative Clary asked for an explanation of the School’s large carry forward amount.

Representative Clary asked if deaf and blind children have the same rates of autism and dyslexia as non-impaired children, and an explanation of the steps the School has taken to detect learning disabilities.

Chairman Smith asked if any alumni of the School or family members of alumni are on the Board of Commissioners.

Chairman Smith said that his goal for the Subcommittee's next meeting with the School was for the Subcommittee to consider if South Carolina was reaching all of the deaf and blind children.

Chairman Smith expressed his wish that the Subcommittee visit the School's Spartanburg campus, and Representative Clary added that he would also like to visit the Braille production facility.

- V. The meeting was adjourned.