

MINUTES  
**HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, March 08, 2016

**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW20

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Wood, Vice Chairman Packer, Representatives Hixon, Perry, Romrell, Vander Woude, Beyeler, Redman, Troy, Rusche, Chew

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** None

**GUESTS:** Kent Day, Liberty Mutual Ins.; Woody Richards, Ins. Cos.; Phil Barber, Am. Ins. Assoc.; Elke Shaw-Tulloch, IDHW.

**Chairman Wood** called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Hixon** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 23, 24, 25, and March 1, 2016, meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**RS 24661:** **Rep. John Rusche**, District 6, presented **RS 24661**, proposed legislation requiring insurance carriers to provide telehealth service coverage equivalent to what is provided by Medicaid and Medicare. This addresses the current telehealth insurance requirement challenge to rural providers. Covered by Medicare for fifteen years, this is an important component to maintain rural Idaho's telehealth services.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Hixon** made a motion to introduce **RS 24661**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**RS 24536C1:** **Bill Litster**, Idaho Public Policy Institute, presented **RS 24536C1**. The proposed legislation applies to automotive underinsurance or supplementary insurance. When the main insurance provider has paid to its limit after a catastrophic wreck, the injured driver's supplemental insurance then starts paying. Because the existing Idaho law is "silent," insurance companies have inserted clauses reducing the policy face amount by the at-fault driver's coverage payment, greatly decreasing the supplemental payout.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to introduce **RS 24536C1**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**S 1295:** **Steve Bellomy**, DHW, after giving a brief overview of the Bureau of Audits and Investigations, presented **S 1295**. This legislation lowers and clarifies penalties to Medicaid providers and any provider delivering goods or services to welfare recipients through any DHW Welfare Program. Rules will be developed to clarify penalties and reduce the minimum penalty from 25% to 10%. The temporary rules are expected to be in place by July, 2016.

Answering committee questions, **Mr. Bellomy** said any investigation with the possibility of criminal charges is referred to the Attorney General. When determining a penalty amount, intent is considered. Improved processes have lead to better identification and case completion, resulting in enough revenue to cover their costs. The \$500 penalty is a per-employee rate beyond the claim basis. When conducting an investigation they can recover an overpayment and/or assess a penalty. Of the over 40 sets of program rules, each with specific background check requirements, the applicable rules are reviewed during compliance determinations. Providers with ongoing offenses, violations, evidence of fraud, and patient care issues can be excluded or terminated from the program.

For the record, no one indicated their desire to testify.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to send **S 1295** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Vander Woude** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**S 1296:** **Steve Bellomy**, DHW, presented **S 1296**, a statute change to eliminate reference to the federal funding pilot project which ended in 2007.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Hixon** made a motion to send **S 1296** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

For the record, no one indicated their desire to testify.

**VOTE ON MOTION:** **Chairman Wood** called for a vote on the motion to send **S 1296** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Hixon** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**S 1326:** **Rep. Patrick McDonald**, District 15B, presented **S 1326**. He shared a story of responding to a vehicle crash caused by the driver committing suicide while driving down the road. Idaho's good quality of life is marred by our high suicide rates. Of the 320 suicides in 2013, 65% involved a firearm, well over the national average of 51%. This legislation provides a lead focal point through the DHW by specifying their mission includes services for the prevention of suicide. This is also in line with the suicide prevention plan.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Hixon** made a motion to send **S 1326** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

For the record, no one indicated their desire to testify.

**VOTE ON MOTION:** **Chairman Wood** called for a vote on the motion to send **S 1326** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. McDonald** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

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Representative Wood  
Chair

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Irene Moore  
Secretary