

MINUTES  
**HOUSE TRANSPORTATION & DEFENSE COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019

**TIME:** 1:30 P.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW40

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Palmer, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Gestrin, Kauffman, Youngblood, Dixon, Harris, Holtzclaw, Monks, DeMordaunt, Syme, Blanksma, Addis, Ricks, Wintrow, Gannon, Davis, Rubel

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representative(s) Blanksma

**GUESTS:** Lance Green, ITD; Jonathan Parker, Chelsea Wilson, Nick Veldhouse, IAHD; Shawn Keough, ALC-Idaho; Chris Jensen, DBS; Scott Hanson, IS; Curtis Schmitz, Smart Transportation

**Chairman Palmer** called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**H 2:** **Rep. Dixon** presented **H 2**. This legislation ensures the safe transportation of saw logs from the point of origin to the final delivery point at the mill. It gives the Idaho State Police and the ITD Port of Entry authority to enforce the State Logging Safety Rules for log trucks on the highways.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Addis** made a motion to send **H 2** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Dixon** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**Paul Headlee**, Division Manager, LSO Budget and Policy Division, gave a brief overview of the process used in setting the Idaho State Budget.

**Christine Otto**, Budget Analyst, LSO Budget and Policy Division, gave an historical summary of the budgets for the Idaho Transportation Department, Idaho State Police and the Idaho Military Division.

**Rep. Youngblood** explained the sources of funding for ITD are General Dedicated Funds, General Funds and Federal Funds.

In answer to committee questions, **Ms. Otto** clarified the percentage of unfilled positions within the agencies is relatively low. The funds for those unfilled positions can be utilized within the agency for capital expenditures, additional salaries, or other employee compensation.

**Jared Tatro**, Budget Analyst, LSO Budget and Policy Division, gave a summary of the budget for the Division of Veteran Services. He explained funds for Veterans services come from the General Fund, Endowment Funds, Medicaid, Veterans Affairs and other insurance. He said VA facilities struggle to retain nurses because of the higher rate of pay offered by nearby hospitals. He talked about the possible construction of an additional VA facility in Post Falls to serve veterans in North Idaho.

In answer to committee questions, **Christine Otto** confirmed a committee has been assigned to evaluate agency budgets. The committee has a uniform list of pertinent questions to ask the agencies relative to their budgets.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Gannon** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2019, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

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Representative Palmer  
Chair

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Joyce McKenzie  
Secretary