

MINUTES  
**HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, February 19, 2024

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

**PLACE:** Room EW20

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Vander Woude, Vice Chairman Erickson, Representatives Blanksma, Kingsley, Mitchell, Dixon(24), Gallagher, Healey, Redman, Wheeler, Chew (Wilson), Rubel, Roberts

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Mitchell

**GUESTS:** The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

**Chairman Vander Woude** called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He then introduced **Ty Murdock**, the committee's page for the remainder of the session.

**RS 31085:** **Rep. Jordan Redman**, District 3, presented **RS 31085** for Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) who are third party administrators under contract by health prescription plans, employers, and government entities to manage prescription drug programs for health plan recipients. The PBMs decide which pharmacies are included in a prescription drug plan's network and how much the pharmacy will be paid for dispensing services. This proposed legislation establishes parameters and standards for PBMs to operate like other businesses in Idaho.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Roberts** made a motion to introduce **RS 31085**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**RS 31088:** **Rep. Jacyn Gallagher**, District 9, presented **RS 31088** to change the immunization requirements for minors to include eighteen year old high school students and allows an opt-out when they go to a college or trade school.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to introduce **RS 31088**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**H 398:** **Rep. Megan Blanksma**, District 8, presented **H 398**. This legislation requires the Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) to receive legislative approval prior to seeking or implementing a waiver. This does not impact existing waivers and state plan amendments.

Answering a question, **Rep. Blanksma** explained there has never been an incident when the waiver or state plan amendments where an emergency with approval needed in less than twelve months.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Gallagher** made a motion to send **H 398** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**Christine Pisani**, Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities, testified in **opposition** to **H 398**, expressing concerns regarding implementation, waiver renewal time frames, public comment changes, timely legislative responses, and delays in implementation.

In response to questions, **Ms. Pisani** explained the various transparent time frames for public postings, hearings, and amendments to any waiver. The waivers are detailed applications and the Centers for Medicaid Services takes their time for approval or denial while providing back and forth comments regarding what they want included, removed, or what is out of compliance.

In closing, **Rep. Blanksma** said the heightened legislative oversight is needed as evidenced by two DHW policies with fiscal state consequences set recently without coming before the legislature. This legislation pertains to only new waivers, state plan amendments, and programs. Renewals are not included.

**MOTION:** Due to the departure of **Rep. Gallagher** who made the original motion, **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to send **H 398** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Reps. Roberts, Rubel,** and **Wilson** requested they be recorded as voting **NAY.** **Rep. Blanksma** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**H 438:** **Rep. Dori Healey**, District 15, presented **H 438** to provide parental school immunization notices with transparency and clarity. Each year school districts send out a notice to parents regarding Idaho Code 39-401, immunizations required for school children. This legislation assures the schools are sending out requirements citing the entire code.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to send **H 438** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**Grace Howat**, Idaho Family Policy Center, testified **in support** of **H 438.** Parents, not the state, are responsible for raising their children. This legislation assures they are empowered with the complete information so they can make the best decision for their children.

**VOTE ON MOTION:** **Chairman Vander Woude** called for a vote on the motion to send **H 438** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Reps. Roberts, Rubel,** and **Wilson** requested they be recorded as voting **NAY.** **Rep. Healey** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

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Representative Vander Woude  
Chair

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Irene Moore  
Secretary