

MINUTES  
**SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 01, 2022

**TIME:** 3:00 P.M.

**PLACE:** Room WW54

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Martin, Vice Chairman Riggs, Senators McClusky (Heider), Lee, Harris, VanOrden (Bair), Zito, Stennett, and Wintrow

**ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None

**NOTE:** The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

**CONVENED:** **Chairman Martin** called the meeting of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee (Committee) to order at 3:00 p.m.

**RS 29112C1** **Relating to Criminal History and Background Checks. Fernando Castro**, Program Supervisor, Criminal History Unit, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (DHW), introduced himself to the Committee. **Mr. Castro** explained the proposed legislation would allow an applicant to electronically sign a background check application, rather than have the signature notarized. He identified anticipated cost savings for DHW staff and applicants resulting from the legislation. **Mr. Castro** stated there would be no fiscal impact to implement the change.

**MOTION:** **Senator Lee** moved to send **RS 29112C1** to print. **Vice Chairman Riggs** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**RS 29114C1** **Relating to the Southwest Idaho Treatment Center. Cameron Gilliland**, Administrator, Family and Community Services, DHW, introduced himself to the Committee. **Mr. Gilliland** advised the proposed legislation would remove a reference to the Southwest Idaho Treatment Center (SWITC) as an Intermediate Care Facility (ICF). He noted that SWITC had been licensed as an ICF for a number of years. SWITC was now transitioning to a short-term treatment model, he said. **Mr. Gilliland** reported that DHW reviewed the change with stakeholders. He added the change was required to ensure SWITC was compliant with its licensure.

**MOTION:** **Senator VanOrden** moved to send **RS 29114C1** to print. **Senator Heider** seconded the motion.

**DISCUSSION:** **Vice Chairman Riggs** pointed out a typographical error in the fiscal note for the RS. He asked that it be corrected prior to the full hearing on the bill.

**VOICE VOTE:** The motion to send **RS 29114C1** to print carried by **voice vote**.

**RS 29115C2** **RELATING TO STATE HOSPITALS AND TREATMENT FACILITIES. Ross Edmunds**, Administrator, Division of Behavioral Health, DHW, introduced himself to the Committee. **Mr. Edmunds** stated that this proposed legislation added references to State Hospital West to the list of state hospitals in Idaho Code. He added the RS also included minor clean-up changes.

**MOTION:** **Senator VanOrden** moved to send **RS 29115C2** to print. **Senator Stennett** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**RS 29213**      **RELATING TO PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION.** **Senator Wintrow**, District 19, said that **RS 29213** would exclude Medicaid reimbursements as income when certified family home operators applied for the property tax circuit breaker. She said federal law did not count such Medicaid reimbursements as income. **Senator Wintrow** explained the State saves millions of dollars by placing people with physical and mental disabilities in certified family homes rather than institutions. **Senator Wintrow** explained how the fiscal impact of \$350,000 was calculated.

**MOTION:**      **Senator Lee** moved to send **RS 29213** to print. **Vice Chairman Riggs** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**RS 29300**      **RELATING TO INSURANCE.** **Senator Wintrow** reported this proposed legislation would allow a physician to prescribe up to a six-month supply of contraceptives when refilling a prescription. She observed that passage of the legislation would result in shorter wait times for prescriptions. **Senator Wintrow** remarked that she addressed the concerns raised about previous versions of the legislation. She said interested groups were either unopposed or neutral.

**MOTION:**      **Senator Stennett** moved to send **RS 29300** to print. **Senator Van Orden** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**S 1245**      **PHARMACISTS - Amends existing law to revise and consolidate definitions.** **Tim Frost**, Deputy Administrator, Idaho Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses, introduced himself to the Committee. **Mr. Frost** explained this bill (a) moved several definitions from rule to statute; (b) consolidated all definitions into one statute; and (c) clarified that drug outlets could participate in mutual recognition agreements. He thanked the Legislature for establishing multistate pharmacy licenses in 2019 to facilitate license portability and pandemic response. **Mr. Frost** mentioned the legislation would not impact the General Fund or federal fund.

**DISCUSSION:**      **Vice Chairman Riggs** pointed out a typographical error in the Statement of Purpose. He asked that it be corrected.

**MOTION:**      **Senator Harris** moved to send **S 1245** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Heider** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**S 1246**      **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES - Amends existing law to revise the lists of Schedule I, II, IV, and V controlled substances.** **Mr. Frost** reported the bill would update the Idaho Uniform Controlled Substances Act to include the United States Drug Enforcement Administration's 2021 scheduling decisions. He reviewed the drugs added to the various schedules and their purposes.

**MOTION:**      **Senator Wintrow** moved to send **S 1246** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Vice Chairman Riggs** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**ADJOURNED:**      There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Martin** adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

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Senator Martin  
Chair

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Lena Amoah  
Secretary

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Jeanne Jackson-Heim  
Assistant Secretary