

MINUTES  
**HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, January 30, 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:** None

**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.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Roberts** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2024, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Chairman Vander Woude** turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Erickson.**

**DOCKET NO.  
16-0202-2301:** **Dr. Curtis Sandy**, Chair, Idaho Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Physician Commission, presented **Docket No. 16-0202-2301**, with changes to update the scope of practice, remove duplicative language, and reduce the regulatory burden for EMS clinicians in hospitals and clinics. The medical emergency responder scope has been expanded to include a transporting license. The changes for paramedics expand them into the 911 realm and add tactical EMS support with specific training to assist law enforcement.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Healey** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0202-2301. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO.  
16-0301-2301:** **Laura Schumaker**, Program Manager, Medicaid Policy, Division of Welfare, Self Reliance Programs, Department of Health and Welfare (DHW), presented **Docket No. 16-0301-2301**, which updates the Medicaid program eligibility for healthcare assistance for families and children. The changes simplify the rule by removing outdated regulations, consolidating requirements, and reducing redundancy. Eligibility is not changed. Pregnancy coverage has been clarified by reference.

Answering questions, **Ms. Schumaker** said the citizenship and qualified non-citizenship requirements have not changed. A person with an asylum status based on the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and Homeland Security requirements would be eligible for Medicaid.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Dixon(24)** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0301-2301. Motion carried by voice vote. Reps. Gallagher and Kingsley** requested they be recorded as voting **NAY**.

**DOCKET NO.  
16-0305-2301:** **Laura Schumaker**, Program Manager, Medicaid Policy, Division of Welfare, Self Reliance Programs, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0305-2301**. This Rule for the aid to the aged, blind and disabled has been rewritten to remove outdated, non-applicable, obsolete, and duplicate language. Eligibility requirements have not changed.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0305-2301**. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Reps. Gallagher** and **Kingsley** requested they be recorded as voting **NAY**.

**DOCKET NO. 16-0306-2301:** **Laura Schumaker**, Program Manager, Medicaid Policy, Division of Welfare, Self Reliance Programs, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0306-2301** to update the Refugee Assistance Program to align with the federal requirements and announcements from the federal register. There are no changes to the eligibility requirements.

**Ms. Schumaker**, in response to committee questions, stated the Refugee Medical Assistance Program was increased from eight consecutive months to twelve consecutive months. This is a 100% federally funded program, with no Idaho taxpayer dollars impacted. The incorporated by reference federal regulations were last changed in 1992. The refugee determination is handled by Homeland Security protocol. There are currently thirty refugees living in Idaho.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Wilson** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0306-2301**. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Reps. Vander Woude, Mitchell, Gallagher,** and **Kingsley** requested they be recorded as voting **NAY**.

**DOCKET NO. 16-0304-2301:** **Kristen Matthews**, Policy Bureau Chief, Eligibility Programs, Division of Self Reliance, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0304-2301** for the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) updates. The rewritten rule removes ineffective and outdated regulations, simplifying the language. The able-bodied age limits have been increased.

Responding to questions, **Ms. Matthews**, clarified individuals seeking asylum in this country are not eligible to receive food stamp benefits. SNAP eligibility is redetermined every six months for most households. The elderly or disabled individuals on the program are recertified every twelve months.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0304-2301**. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Gallagher** requested she be recorded as voting **NAY**.

**Vice Chairman Erickson** turned the gavel over to **Chairman Vander Woude**.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

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Representative Erickson  
Chair

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Irene Moore  
Secretary