

MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 15, 2024

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW05

MEMBERS: Chairman Holtzclaw, Vice Chairman Bundy, Representatives Kingsley, Wisniewski, Weber, McCann, Cheatum, Hawkins, Healey, Miller, Price, Wheeler, Chew (Wilson), Roberts

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

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 Holtzclaw called the meeting to order at 1:36 pm.

MOTION: **Rep. Wilson** made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 31, 2024 and February 1, 2024 meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 508: **Rep. Cheatum** introduced **H 508** adding Emergency Communication Officers' Supervisors to the list of those who can be considered under the PERSI system's Rule of 80. This places them under the same retirement plan as their colleagues. This legislation does not impact any state, dedicated, or General Fund. This will adjust the contribution of each employee by a small percentage.

Rep. Erickson said the original intent of previous legislation is to add this class, yet no other class is to be added in the future.

Those speaking in support were **Nick Sasser**, Chief of Police for Chubbuck; **Melissa Stroh**; **Susie Saunders**; Nampa Police Dispatch; **Matthew Clifford**, Ada County Sheriff; **Courtney Lyskoski**, Ada County 911 Dispatch Supervisor. Emergency Communication Supervisors should be covered under the Rule of 80 as was intended in the original legislation and as both higher and lower positions apply. Emergency Communication Supervisors are still Emergency Communication Officers. Currently, while officers fall under this rule, promotion to supervisor would shift their retirement benefits to the Rule of 90, discouraging them from seeking advancement. This discrepancy could exacerbate the shortage of supervisors in Idaho, as qualified officers may opt to remain in their current roles. Failure to extend the Rule of 80 to supervisors could also hinder recruitment for leadership positions within dispatch, as it does not afford them the same retirement benefits as other emergency personnel like police and fire personnel.

MOTION: **Rep. Healey** made a motion to send **H 508** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Wheeler** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:01 pm.

Representative Holtzclaw
Chair

Jacobi Van Amburg
Secretary