

MINUTES

HOUSE ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 20, 2024

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Barbieri, Vice Chairman Furniss, Representative(s) Vander Woude, Horman, Scott, Young, Wisniewski, Raybould, Allgood, Bundy, Lambert, Mickelsen, Redman, Wheeler, Chew (Wilson), Necochea, Rubel

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Representative(s) Vander Woude, Horman, Mickelsen

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 Barbieri called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

H 568: **Rep. Raybould** presented **H 568** on an Artificial Intelligence Council. This council functions as a state government entity and its primary focus lies in prioritizing specialization within AI applications while upholding constitutional and legal rights. Furthermore, the council is committed to respecting privacy and confidentiality, recognizing certain datasets as off-limits for inclusion in databases. The recommendations put forth by the council are designed to inform policy decisions and guide stakeholders towards ethical AI practices. Acknowledging the importance of oversight, the council has a sunset date, slated to conclude on January 1, 2027, unless legislative extension is warranted due to demonstrable positive outcomes. To effectively execute its mandate, the council requests a budget allocation of \$25,000, essential for fulfilling its objectives within the AI landscape.

ORIGINAL MOTION: **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to send **H 568** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Scott** made a substitute motion to send **H 568** to **General Orders**.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Roll call vote was requested. **Substitute motion carried by a vote of 8 AYE and 6 NAY and 3 Absent/Excused. Voting in favor of the motion: Rep. Scott, Rep. Wisniewski, Rep. Lambert, Rep. Redman, Rep. Chew (Wilson), Rep. Necochea, Rep. Rubel and Chairman Barbieri. Voting in opposition to the motion: Rep. Furniss, Rep. Young, Rep. Raybould, Rep. Allgood, Rep. Bundy and Rep. Wheeler.**

Madeline Schnapp, retired geophysicist and economist, came before the committee to talk about energy in Idaho. During her presentation, she touched upon the topic of sustainable and renewable energy, offering insights into the complexities surrounding their reliability and sustainability. She posited that while renewable energy sources are often touted as sustainable, they may not always be entirely renewable, pointing out the inherent challenges they face. She talked on the reliability of coal and nuclear power plants, highlighting their independence from weather conditions. To illustrate her point, she referenced a notable incident in Texas where wind and solar energy systems faltered for a prolonged period of seventeen days, resulting in significant repercussions, including the loss of two hundred lives.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Representative Barbieri
Chair

Jacobi Van Amburg
Secretary