

MINUTES
HOUSE REVENUE & TAXATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, February 26, 2024

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Cannon, Vice Chairman Ehlers, Representatives Dixon(1), Manwaring, Weber, Shepherd, Cheatum, Cornilles, Durrant, Mickelsen, Monks, Pickett, Raymond, Wroten, Boyle, Necochea, Burns

**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 Cannon called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

RS 31172C1: **Rep. Vander Woude** presented **RS 31172C1**, proposed legislation amending the definition of a non-profit hospital to allow for a property tax exemption.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to introduce **RS 31172C1**.

Responding to questions by the committee, **Rep. Vander Woude** stated this proposed legislation reflects small changes to address concerns from prior legislation.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Chairman Cannon** called for a vote on the motion to introduce **RS 31172C1**.
Motion carried by voice vote.

H 523: **Chairman Cannon** returned **H 523** to the committee for consideration, which was held for time certain from the meeting of February 21, 2024.

Rep. Redmond presented **H 523** stating a representative from a health care ministry is present to address any questions the committee may have.

Joe Noble, Samaritan Ministries, stated health care sharing ministries are not defined as insurance, therefore, members can not enjoy the same tax deductions as taxpayers do with traditional health insurance. Responding to questions by the committee, Mr. Noble stated money is directed member to member in various ways and the ministry never benefits from the money contributed. Mr. Noble provided details to the committee regarding how health care sharing ministries operate and what may be required of members.

Tom Shaner, Research Manager, Idaho State Tax Commission, responded to questions by the committee, stating he believes the Fiscal Note is on the high side because paying a payment to another person is not a qualified expense and it is assuming all members of a health care sharing ministry would be participating in a Medical Savings Account.

ORIGINAL MOTION: **Rep. Dixon(1)** made a motion to send **H 523** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Wroten** made a substitute motion to **HOLD H 523** in committee. **Motion failed by voice vote.**

In opposition to the original motion, **Rep. Necochea** stated she believes this legislation is a distortion of the purpose of Medical Savings Accounts (MSA) and does not feel this is a proper way to assist individuals to pay for medical expenses because it requires them to sign a statement based on their religious beliefs. **Rep. Wroten** stated his thoughts are similar to Rep. Necochea's and it is also opening the doors to the potential of abuse because it is outside of the intent of a MSA.

**VOTE ON
ORIGINAL
MOTION:**

Chairman Cannon called for a vote on the original motion to send **H 523** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Reps. Mickelsen, Wroten, Necochea** and **Burns** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY. Rep. Redman** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Representative Cannon
Chair

Lisa Hendricks
Secretary