

MINUTES
HOUSE TRANSPORTATION & DEFENSE COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 28, 2021

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Palmer, Vice Chairman DeMordaunt, Representatives Gestrin, Youngblood, Dixon, Harris, Holtzclaw, Monks, Syme, Blanksma, Addis, Manwaring, Mitchell, Okuniewicz, Shepherd, Gannon, Rubel, McCrostie

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rubel

GUESTS: Nick Veldhouse, IAHD; David Claiborne, IRC; Sandra Mitchell, IRC - ISSA
Chairman Palmer called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Mitchell** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2021, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

HCR 3 **Rep. Syme** introduced **Rich Colburn**, Chairman, USS Idaho Commissioning Committee who presented **HCR 3**. Mr. Colburn cited the significance of the United States Navy naming a ship of the line after the Great State of Idaho. The USS Idaho will be the 5th ship to be named such and the first ship in 100 years to bear the name of USS Idaho. It is appropriate for the ship to be a submarine as Idaho has strong ties to the submarine community of the U.S. Navy. INL in eastern Idaho was the training ground for the first nuclear submarines. Bayview in north Idaho has contributed to the development of submarine design.

MOTION: **Rep. Syme** made a motion to send **HCR 3** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Syme** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

RS 28216: **Rep. Gestrin** presented **RS 28216**. The proposed legislation will establish a statewide snowmobile avalanche fund from voluntary user fees. The fund will be used to support avalanche awareness education, forecasting, warning systems and avalanche response throughout Idaho.

MOTION: **Rep. McCrostie** made a motion to introduce **RS 28216**.
Rep. Gestrin responded to committee questions. He will offer specifics relative to the funding at the full bill hearing.

**VOTE ON
MOTION:** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 28217: **Rep. Gestrin** presented **RS 28217**. The proposed legislation increases volunteer user fees. The fees are used to construct and maintain groomed snowmobile trails throughout the state. The funds are also used to maintain winter parking lots, toilets, grooming huts as well as equipment purchases and labor.

MOTION: **Rep. Shepherd** made a motion to introduce **RS 28217**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Mollie McCarty, Government Affairs Manager, Idaho Transportation Department, presented the ITD Supplemental Budget. Ms. McCarty listed the supplemental items for this year. There are the Governor's state funded "Building Idaho's Future" items, which include community airports, rail safety and child pedestrian safety. The Governor's recommended supplemental spending for federal funds from the Omnibus COVID Relief Act of 2020, include improvements to bridges, rough pavements and enhanced mobility (public transportation). A significant number of committee members expressed their concern regarding budget funding sources and expenditures. In response to committee questions, Ms. McCarty will provide comparisons and other requested budget figures.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

Representative Palmer
Chair

Joyce McKenzie
Secretary