

MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 18, 2024

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Hartgen, Vice Chairman Nichols, Senators Foreman, Hart, Schroeder, Carlson, Semmelroth, and Taylor

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Senator Zuiderveld

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Hartgen** called the meeting of the Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee (Committee) to order at 8:04 a.m.

WELCOME: **Chairman Hartgen** informed the Committee that Lloyd Knight from the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) was present to answer questions regarding the administrative rules.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Hartgen passed the gavel to Vice Chair Nichols.

RULES VOTE: **Vice Chair Nichols** instructed the Committee on the voting process.

DOCKET NO. 02-0601-2301 **Rules Governing the Production and Distribution of Seed (Fee Rule) - Proposed Rule.**

MOTION: **Senator Schroeder** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0601-2301**. **Senator Taylor** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 02-0213-2301 **Commodity Dealers' Rules (ZBR Chapter Rewrite, Fee Rule) - Proposed Rule.**

DISCUSSION: **Senator Carlson** expressed her desire for more information regarding the "separate records" change.

Lloyd Knight, Deputy Director, Idaho State Department of Agriculture, (ISDA) outlined the "separate records" change could be found on p.13. All records and accounts required under Title 69, Chapter 5, Idaho Code, shall be kept separate and distinct from all records and accounts of any other business and are subject to inspection by the Director at any time. **Mr. Knight** also referenced a change on p.15. If the request is not received before the financial statement due date, suspension or revocation of license may occur.

MOTION: **Senator Carlson** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0213-2301**. **Senator Schroeder** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 02-0214-2301 **Rules for Weights and Measures - Proposed Rule.**

DISCUSSION: **Lloyd Knight**, Deputy Director, ISDA, explained the proposed rule updated the publication date for the document incorporated by reference. He stated the rule dealt with specification tolerances, and other technical requirements for commercial weighing and measuring devices.

MOTION: **Senator Schroeder** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0214-2301**. **Senator Taylor** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 02-0215-2301 **Rules Governing the Seed Indemnity Fund (ZBR Chapter Rewrite, Fee Rule) - Proposed Rule.**

DISCUSSION: **Lloyd Knight**, Deputy Director, ISDA, stated the rule was being presented for authorization as part of the ISDA's plan to review each rule every five years. Redundant language that was verbatim in the statute was removed, and was consistent with the Governor's zero-based regulation executive order.

Vice Chair Nichols asked Mr. Knight to explain the changes in more detail

Mr. Knight added that the updates were format changes that come with zero-based rule-making. The process clarifies language.

MOTION: **Senator Taylor** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0215-2301**. **Senator Semmelroth** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 02-0602-2301 **Rules Governing Registrations and Licenses - Proposed Rule.**

DISCUSSION: **Lloyd Knight**, Deputy Director, ISDA, stated this rule was an update to the incorporation by reference. There were two publications, the American Association of Weed Controls Officials and the American Association of Plant Food Control Officials. These publications created uniform definitions for feed ingredients on labels for multiple states. Also, the change might have been a definition of description, for example, almond hulls could be called almond shells.

MOTION: **Senator Schroeder** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0602-2301**. **Senator Semmelroth** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 02-0604-2301 **Rules Governing Plant Exports (ZBR Chapter Rewrite, Fee Rule) - Proposed Rule.**

DISCUSSION: **Lloyd Knight**, Deputy Director, ISDA stated the changes were to update the website and the titles of documents. He explained the ISDA served as an agent of the federal government and the documents had to be referenced appropriately. Definitions were cleaned up and, certain crops and diseases were eliminated based on USDA recommendations. He stated the list was updated each year for customers to be informed about "crops of concern."

Mr. Knight cited the program was voluntary and that the ISDA would like to move the fee, definitions, and fee tables out of the rules.

MOTION: **Senator Semmelroth** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0604-2301**. **Senator Schroeder** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 02-0609-2301 **Rules Governing Invasive Species and Noxious Weeds - Proposed Rule.**

DISCUSSION: **Lloyd Knight**, Deputy Director, ISDA, stated a majority of the changes were with fire-fighting equipment and updating the website documents. All fire-fighting agencies moving equipment into the state of Idaho would follow protocols similar to the United States Forest Service decontamination protocols set forth in the Guide to Preventing Aquatic Invasive Species Transport by Wildland Fire Operations.

Mr. Knight cited the addition of Kagen Grass, which was found in the Ada County foothills, to the noxious weeds list.

MOTION: **Senator Semmelroth** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0609-2301**. **Senator Taylor** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. **Organic Food Products Rules - Proposed Rule.**
02-0633-2301

DISCUSSION: **Lloyd Knight**, Deputy Director, ISDA, stated that as an agent of the USDA, and part of the National Organic Program, in order to certify organic operations the ISDA had to maintain consistency by updating the organic food products rule.

MOTION: **Senator Taylor** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0633-2301**. **Senator Schroeder** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Vice Chair Nichols passed the gavel back to Chairman Hartgen.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Hartgen** adjourned the meeting at 8:35 a.m.

Senator Hartgen
Chair

Melissa Price
Secretary