

MINUTES
SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, January 29, 2024

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW55

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Guthrie, Vice Chairman Bernt, Senators Winder, Anthon, Harris, Lee, Toews, Wintrow, and Ruchti

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

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 Guthrie** called the meeting of the Senate State Affairs Committee (Committee) to order at 8:09 a.m.

WELCOME: **Chairman Guthrie** welcomed all to the Committee meeting.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Winder** moved to approve the Minutes of January 19, 2024. **Senator Lee** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Bernt** moved to approve the Minutes of January 22, 2024. **Senator Lee** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

RS 31007C1 **Relating to Children's Device Protection.** **Senator Cook** stated that **RS 31007C1** protected children from exposure to pornographic material. Manufacturers were required to enable parental control software if a mobile device was activated for a minor in the state of Idaho. The retailer was not affected. **RS 31007C1** removed private cause of action and individual liability from the original bill. He remarked that the goal was to give parents the ability to protect children from pornography.

DISCUSSION: **Senator Ruchti** remarked that **RS 31007C1** defined a violation of the law. He stated that only a manufacturer could violate this proposed statute. **Senator Winder** questioned the difference between this bill and the library bills that had been proposed. He commented that there was more access to pornography through cell phones than libraries.

MOTION: **Senator Harris** moved to send **RS 31007C1** to print. **Senator Bernt** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

RS 30875 **Relating to Firefighter's Day.** **Senator Trakel** stated **RS 30875** established an annual Firefighter's Recognition Day for firefighters in the State of Idaho.

DISCUSSION: **Chairman Guthrie** asked if the holiday was a paid holiday. **Senator Trakel** answered yes, the holiday was paid, but required no time off. **Senator Winder** asked if **RS 30875** required a holiday or just a recognition day. **Senator Trakel** stated he believed it was worthy of a holiday. **Senator Guthrie** asked for more clarification on the requirements of the holiday. **Senator Trakel** remarked they would not be paid for the holiday. **Senator Lee** remarked that the language in the bill seemed more in line with a recognition day, not a holiday. **Senator Winder** stated he agreed that the language was in line with the definition of a recognition day.

MOTION: **Senator Anthon** moved to send **RS 30875** to print. **Senator Lee** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

RS 30877 **Relating to Peace Officer's Day.** **Senator Trakel** stated **RS 30877** established a state holiday that recognized peace officers in the State of Idaho.

MOTION: **Senator Anthon** moved to send **RS 30877** to print. **Senator Toews** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

RS 30952 **Relating to Elected Public Officials.** **Senator Trakel** stated that **RS 30952** held elected officials accountable for their actions. He remarked that when an elected official broke criminal law while serving, public trust was lost. Public officials were held to a higher standard.

MOTION: **Senator Anthon** moved to send **RS 30952** to print. **Senator Toews** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Guthrie passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Bernt.

DOCKET NO.
31-1201-2301 **Systems of Accounts for Public Utilities Regulated by the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Proposed Rule.** **Stephen Goodson**, Policy Strategist, Idaho Public Utilities Commission (PUC), stated that **Docket No. 31-1201-2301** incorporated uniform rule changes for systems of accounts for gas, electric, water, and telephone.

DISCUSSION: **Senator Lee** stated she does not prefer to use incorporation by reference, but appreciated that the adoption dates were listed. **Senator Wintrow** remarked that she received emails from constituents regarding smart meters. She asked if these concerns have been addressed by the PUC. **Mr. Goodson** stated there was a desire by some to opt out of smart meters but the PUC did not allow that. There was a case before the Idaho Supreme Court on this issue. **Vice Chairman Bernt** inquired if there were any citizens present or online who wanted to testify. There were none.

MOTION: **Senator Anthon** moved to approve **Docket No. 31-1201-2301**. **Senator Wintrow** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Vice Chairman Bernt passed the gavel back to the Chairman.

GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT VOTE: **Committee vote on the Gubernatorial Appointment of Amy Bloem to the Idaho Lottery Commission.**

MOTION: **Senator Harris** moved to send the Gubernatorial appointment of Amy Bloem to the Idaho Lottery Commission to the Senate with the recommendation that she be confirmed. **Senator Toews** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Guthrie** adjourned the meeting at 8:27 a.m.

Senator Guthrie
Chair

Peggy Caraway
Secretary