

MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Wednesday, February 07, 2024
- TIME:** 1:30 P.M.
- PLACE:** Room EW05
- MEMBERS:** Chairman Holtzclaw, Vice Chairman Bundy, Representatives Kingsley, Wisniewski, Weber, McCann, Cheatum, Hawkins, Healey, Miller, Price, Wheeler, Chew (Hansen), Roberts
- ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Weber, Healey
- 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 Holtzclaw** called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.
- RS 31127:** **Rep. Redman** introduced **RS 31127** to add to Idaho employee law to prohibit employment of illegal aliens and require employers to e-verify an employee's legal employment status as a condition of employment. This legislation causes no additional expenditures of funds at the state or local level of government nor does it cause an increase or decrease in revenue for state or local government; therefore, the legislation has no fiscal impact.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Roberts** made a motion to introduce **RS 31127. Motion carried by voice vote.**
- RS 31193:** **Rep. Cheatum** introduced **RS 31193**. The purpose of this RS is to add Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) certified juvenile detention supervisors, juveniles probation supervisors, adult misdemeanor supervisors, emergency communications supervisors and Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections to the Rule of 80 retirement plan as is currently conducted with their adult counterparts. This legislation will have no impact on the State's General Fund or any dedicated fund or federal fund. This proposal will demand an increase in the contribution by each individual employee biweekly of 3.65% per year, and a contribution by the county of 2.69% per year. This is based on an average PERSI member's salary of \$50,000.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Bundy** made a motion to introduce **RS 31193. Motion carried by voice vote.**
- DOCKET NO.
15-0401-2301:** **Michelle Peugh**, Idaho Department of Human Resources Bureau Chief, presented the pending rules for **Docket No. 15-0401-2301**. Michael Peugh stated there were changes to rules to clarify and remove redundant or obsolete information. They had two public meetings in August and accepted comments through October. Their revision fell into three main categories: Requirements which are already covered in a statute or federal law were removed; they consolidated redundant rules to make them more concise; eliminated rules that were no longer done in practice.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 15-0401-2301. Motion carried by voice vote.**
- DOCKET NO.
59-0101-2301:** **Mike Hampton**, Executive Director for PERSI, presented the pending rules for **Docket No. 59-0101-2301**. To summarize, they deleted eighteen sections that were deemed duplicative or unnecessary, amended six sections to clarify and improve reader ability, within section 15 deleted unnecessary language, and one change in section 508.02 which was amended to work with federal law.

- MOTION:** **Rep. Bundy** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 59-0101-2301. Motion carried by voice vote.**
- RS 31188:** **Rep. Tanner** introduced **RS 31188**. He stated this RS would allow a city, country or district as defined in 72-301(6) and 72-928(d) to go to an open market for an insurer of choice for worker's compensation without having to secure its liability for payment of compensation with the state insurance fund. There will be no fiscal impact to state or local governments if this legislation passes because it does not create or expand any programs and does not require the expenditure of any funds.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Hawkins** made a motion to introduce **RS 31188** with the exemption of lines 44-46 on page 3 because the information is outdated. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- RS 31212:** **Rep. Monks** introduced **RS 31212**. He stated unlike other states, Idaho does not have a statutory process for appealing public works project awards. Until two years ago, there was no process at all. In 2022, the Division of Public Works and the Permanent building Fund Advisory Council adopted a policy to create a process. This bill codifies a challenge and appeals process, building on what has worked well over the past two years and making modifications where lessons have been learned. In the past two years, there have been five challenges to DPW projects. If the number of challenges remains about the same, this bill will not have a fiscal impact as challenges can be handled through existing staff.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Price** made a motion to introduce **RS 31212. Motion carried by voice vote.**
Craig Shaul, Research Analyst Supervisor for the Idaho Department of Labor, talked briefly on the worker shortage in Idaho, where the people are, and how to engage the working population to work. He stated a majority of the population are retired and the population is declining because people are choosing to have fewer kids. He stated the tight labor market will be here for the foreseeable future.
- ADJOURN:** There being no future business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:21 pm.

Representative Holtzclaw
Chair

Jacobi Van Amburg
Secretary