

AGENDA
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW05
Tuesday, January 23, 2024

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew05/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
	Organizational Meeting	

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Holtzclaw	Rep Hawkins
Vice Chairman Bundy	Rep Healey
Rep Kingsley	Rep Miller
Rep Wisniewski	Rep Price
Rep Weber	Rep Wheeler
Rep McCann	Rep Chew (Wilson)
Rep Cheatum	Rep Roberts

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Jacobi Van Amburg
Room: EW08
Phone: 332-1149
Email: hcom@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, January 23, 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 (Wilson), Roberts
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Roberts
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 p.m.
Chairman Holtzclaw explained the rules of the Committee, and his expectations. He introduced the Secretary, **Jacobi Van Amburg**, and the Page, **Chantry Brackett**.
Chairman Holtzclaw invited **Rep. Wilson**, who is substituting for **Rep. Chew**, to introduce herself to the Committee.
Chairman Holtzclaw commented there will be another meeting this week and asked the Committee for any questions.
ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

Representative Holtzclaw
Chair

Jacobi Van Amburg
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW05
Thursday, January 25, 2024

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew05/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
RS 31014	Employment Security	Rep. Bundy
RS 30912	Division of Human Resources and the Personnel Commission	Rep. Horman
RS 30815	Public Employee Retirement System	Rep. Nelsen
RS 30816	Public Employee Retirement System	Rep. Nelsen
RS 30817	Public Employee Retirement System	Rep. Nelsen
RS 30818	Public Employee Retirement System	Rep. Nelsen

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Holtzclaw	Rep Hawkins
Vice Chairman Bundy	Rep Healey
Rep Kingsley	Rep Miller
Rep Wisniewski	Rep Price
Rep Weber	Rep Wheeler
Rep McCann	Rep Chew (Wilson)
Rep Cheatum	Rep Roberts

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Jacobi Van Amburg
Room: EW08
Phone: 332-1149
Email: hcom@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 25, 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 (Wilson), Roberts

**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 Holtzclaw called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to approve the minutes from January 23, 2024. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 31014: **Rep. Bundy** presented **RS 31014**, which will adjust the Unemployment Insurance Fund size multiplier from 1.3 to 1.2 in Idaho Code 72-1350. Without adjusting the multiplier, a large tax increase will happen in 2024 after three years of frozen tax rates. The fiscal impact of this change is an estimate 44 million dollars in savings for Idaho businesses in 2024, and 117 million dollars over five years. There is no fiscal impact of the General Fund as these changes pertain to the Unemployment Insurance Program in the Associated Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Rep. Cheatum** made a motion to introduce **RS 31014. Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 30912: **Rep. Horman** presented **RS 30912**. She stated one of the problems the state has seen recently is hiring. The state has invested money into salaries, but there have been barriers in the way, such as the arbitrary degree requirement. This will expand the applicant pool for state jobs by using skills based hiring. The proposed legislation will require the state to hire based on skills, capabilities and experience to evaluate job applicants.

Rep. Horman introduced **Rep. Wheeler** to review the jobs the proposed legislation will be effecting. He said a few examples are the IT positions, administration positions, and the career technical jobs. He is enthusiastic about this because it will show students there are other opportunities available.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Rep. Miller** made a motion to introduce **RS 30912. Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 30815: **Rep. Nelsen** presented **RS 30815**. The RS addresses Idaho Code 59-1363 and the specific time frame when a purchase of member service can be completed. RS 30815 defines how a member may request the cost of purchase of service within 90 days before a member's date of retirement.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Rep. Weber** made a motion to introduce **RS 30815. Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 30816: **Rep. Nelsen** presented **RS 30816**. The RS addresses Idaho Code 59-1352. The creation of the School Employee Member class moved school employees out of the general class into a class of their own. The current state code does not include the new defined class. This correction to statute will codify that the School Employee class will have access to the same disability retirement benefit they had when they were original members of the general class.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Rep. Weber** made a motion to introduce **RS 30816**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 30817: **Rep. Nelsen** presented **RS 30817**. The RS addresses Idaho Code 59-1308. He stated, in 2022, the Federal Congress passed the Secure Act 2.0 on catch-up contribution regulations. A qualified after-tax contribution investment option must be available to participate in catch-up contributions. Idaho Code 59-1308 will need to be updated to allow compliance with the Secure Act.

Rep. Nelsen introduced **Mike Hampton**, Deputy Director at PERSI. He stated Idaho Code currently allows for pre-tax contributions and distributions for PERSI to be able to comply with the Secure Act. There needs to be action to update the code.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Rep. McCann** made a motion to introduce **RS 30817**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 30818: **Rep. Nelsen** presented **RS 30818**, which addresses Idaho Code 59-1316. Current code states that records are confidential; however, is missing the penalties and enforcement code. The RS will provide that member records are confidential but will not provide enforcement in the event of disclosure of confidential information. Additionally, **RS 30818** will provide further support in quashing subpoena for confidential information, without a court ordered directive.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Rep. Cheatum** made a motion to introduce **RS 30818**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:49 p.m.

Representative Holtzclaw
Chair

Jacobi Van Amburg
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #1
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW05
Wednesday, January 31, 2024

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew05/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
RS 31114	Employment Security Law	Rep. Skaug
H 428	Employment, fund size multiplier	Rep. Bundy Jani Ravier, Director, Department of Labor
H 429	PERSI, service purchase	Rep. Nelsen Mike Hampton, Executive Director, PERSI
H 430	PERSI, disability, school employees	Rep. Nelsen Mike Hampton, Executive Director, PERSI
H 431	PERSI, contributions	Rep. Nelsen Mike Hampton, Executive Director, PERSI
H 432	PERSI, confidential records	Rep. Nelsen Mike Hampton, Executive Director, PERSI
H 433	Human resources, equivalency	Rep. Horman Rep. Wheeler

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Holtzclaw	Rep Hawkins
Vice Chairman Bundy	Rep Healey
Rep Kingsley	Rep Miller
Rep Wisniewski	Rep Price
Rep Weber	Rep Wheeler
Rep McCann	Rep Chew (Wilson)
Rep Cheatum	Rep Roberts

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Jacobi Van Amburg
Room: EW08
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Email: hcom@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, January 31, 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 (Wilson), Roberts

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Weber

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 1:29 pm.

H 428: **Rep. Bundy** presented **H 428** to the committee. He stated this bill will be lowering employers taxes, saving them 44 million dollars in net savings in the first year. He introduced **Jani Revier**, the Director of the Department of Labor, to present in depth the content of **H 428**.

Jani Revier, Director of the Department of Labor, suggested a change in **H 428** which would reduce the multiplier for the unemployment insurance program from 1.3 to 1.2. She provided a brief overview of how the program works, emphasizing its federal-state partnership and the funding mechanism through employer taxes. The current tax formula, based on Idaho Code 72-1350, considers the balance of the trust fund, revenue needed, and the high-cost benefit years over a two-decade period. The proposed change is driven by significant wage growth in recent years, leading to a shortfall in funds for maintaining 15.6 months of benefits. The adjustment aims to address this gap and align the system with the current economic landscape.

Those speaking **in support** were **Fred Birnbaum**, Idaho Freedom Foundation Boise, and **Joe Maloney**. They were of the opinion the bill will help point Idaho in the right direction for the Unemployment Insurance Program.

MOTION: **Rep. McCann** made a motion to send **H 428** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Bundy** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 429: **Rep. Nelsen** introduced **H 429**, which addresses Idaho Code 59-1363. When a member is getting ready to retire, they have the option of purchasing 48 months of service. This bill sets the time-line of 90 days or less prior to retirement to purchase those services.

MOTION: **Rep. Roberts** made a motion to send **H 429** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Nelsen** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 430: **Rep. Nelsen** introduced **H 430**, which addresses Idaho Code 59-1352. The bill adds school employee member to that section of code which was admitted to the code by mistake.

MOTION: **Rep. Weber** made a motion to send **H 430** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Nelsen** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

- H 431:** **Rep. Nelsen** introduced **H 431**, which addresses Idaho Code 59-1308. Rep. Nelsen introduced the Executive Director for PERSI, **Mike Hampton**, to present in depth the content of **H 431**.
- Mike Hampton**, the Executive Director of PERSI, explained **H 431** aims to define contributions and investment earnings for the PERSI choice 401k plan. In his presentation, he provided a concise overview of the Secure Act 2.0. To ensure the state's compliance with the IRS code, there is a need to incorporate the option for after-tax contributions into the choice 401k plan. The language in **H 431** suggests an update to Idaho Code 59-1308, specifically addressing contributions and investment earnings under supplemental benefit plans, and introducing provisions for after-tax contributions.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to send **H 431** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Nelsen** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- H 432:** **Rep. Nelsen** introduced **H 432**, which addresses Idaho Code 59-1316. The bill aims to amend current language in the bill to establish penalties for the disclosure of confidential member records. **H 432** also stops any subpoenas without judge involvement or court order to obtain confidential records.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Cheatum** made a motion to send **H 432** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Nelsen** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- H 433:** **Rep. Horman** introduced **H 433**. She stated there has been difficulty in hiring. This bill takes a different approach by removing a barrier to hiring and expanding the applicant pool using skills-based hiring. Rep. Horman introduced **Rep. Wheeler**.
- Rep. Wheeler** stated Idaho will be leading the nation by supporting this bill. IT positions, administrative positions and several other agency positions will be positively affected by **H 433**.
- Jonathan Wolfson**, Cicero Action, spoke **in support** of the bill, stating this bill works alongside the Idaho LAUNCH program coherently.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Weber** made a motion to send **H 433** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Horman** and **Rep. Wheeler** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:02 pm.

Representative Holtzclaw
Chair

Jacobi Van Amburg
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #1
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW05
Thursday, February 01, 2024

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew05/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
<u>17-1001-2301</u>	Administrative Rules Under the Crime Victims Compensation Act	Paul Jefferies, Idaho Industrial Commission
<u>21-0104-2301</u>	Rules Governing Idaho State Veterans Cemeteries - Temporary and Proposed	Mark Tschampl, Chief Administrator, Idaho Division of Veteran Services

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Holtzclaw
Vice Chairman Bundy
Rep Kingsley
Rep Wisniewski
Rep Weber
Rep McCann
Rep Cheatum

Rep Hawkins
Rep Healey
Rep Miller
Rep Price
Rep Wheeler
Rep Chew (Wilson)
Rep Roberts

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Jacobi Van Amburg
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Email: hcom@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 01, 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 (Wilson), Roberts
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 Holtzclaw called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.
MOTION: **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2024, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
DOCKET NO. 17-1001-2301: **Paul Jefferies**, Review Officer for the Idaho Industrial Commission presented **Docket No. 17-1001-2301**. The pending rule focuses primarily on preventing the accumulation of ineffective or outdated regulations, reduce the regulatory burden to achieve more efficient operation of government, and make it easier for victims to access benefits and services. He stated the Idaho Industrial Commission is wanting to expand transparency by providing the rules on their website and on the legislature's website.
Chairman Holtzclaw put the committee at ease at 1:45 pm.
Chairman Holtzclaw resumed the meeting at 1:51 pm.
MOTION: **Rep. Weber** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 17-1001-2301** with the exception of paragraphs **11.07** and **13.02** which will be rejected. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
DOCKET NO. 21-0104-2301: **Mark TschampI**, Chief Administrator for the Idaho Division of Veteran Services presented **Docket No. 21-0104-2301**. The proposed rule change expands eligibility for burial in the Idaho State Veterans Cemeteries to tradition, National Guardsmen and Reservists. Due to the fact they weren't federally activated for 180 days or more, they do not meet the Federal definition of a Veteran and the VA will not provide a burial benefit for them. Additionally, the amendment to these rules removes redundant language which is already present in Idaho Code 65-107.
MOTION: **Rep. McCann** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 21-0104-2301**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Representative Holtzclaw
Chair

Jacobi Van Amburg
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #1
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW05
Monday, February 05, 2024

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew05/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
RS 31114	Employment Security Law	Rep. Skaug Rep. Young
RS 31029	Employment Security Law	Rep. Andrus

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Holtzclaw	Rep Hawkins
Vice Chairman Bundy	Rep Healey
Rep Kingsley	Rep Miller
Rep Wisniewski	Rep Price
Rep Weber	Rep Wheeler
Rep McCann	Rep Chew (Wilson)
Rep Cheatum	Rep Roberts

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Jacobi Van Amburg
Room: EW08
Phone: 332-1149
Email: hcom@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, February 05, 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 (Wilson), Roberts
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) McCann, Hawkins, Price
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 31114: **Rep. Young** presented **RS 31114** to the committee. This legislation helps address the labor shortage in Idaho. **RS 31114** simplifies the unemployment benefit formula and encourages workers to resume work by adjusting the maximum weeks of unemployment available. Full-time workers are eligible for up to 14 weeks of unemployment. Part-time workers are eligible for up to ten weeks of unemployment. Seasonal workers can access an additional six weeks if they are attached workers; example include forestry, industry, the trades, and construction.
MOTION: **Rep. Healey** made a motion to introduce **RS 31114**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
RS 31029: **Rep. Andrus** presented **RS 31029** to the committee. This legislation is meant to prevent unemployed persons from scheduling and not attending interviews merely to meet work search requirements for unemployment. This legislation also increased the required amount of work searches per week from two to five. Additionally, terms are defined.
MOTION: **Rep. Bundy** made a motion to introduce **RS 31029**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:57 pm.

Representative Holtzclaw
Chair

Jacobi Van Amburg
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #3
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW05
Wednesday, February 07, 2024

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew05/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
RS 31193	Rule of 80 Retirement Plan	Rep. Cheatum
RS 31212	Public Buildings and Works	Rep. Monks
RS 31188	Insurance	Rep. Tanner
RS 31127	Idaho Employment Law	Rep. Redman
15-0401-2301	Rules of Division of Human Resources and Idaho Personnel Commission	Michelle Peugh, Bureau Chief, DHR
59-0101-2301	Rules for the Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho (PERSI) (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Proposed Rule	Mike Hampton, Executive Director, PERSI
59-0201-2301	Rules for the Judges' Retirement Fund (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Proposed Rule	Mike Hampton, Executive Director, PERSI
	Worker Shortage	Craig Shaul, Research Analyst Supervisor, Idaho Department of Labor

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Holtzclaw
Vice Chairman Bundy
Rep Kingsley
Rep Wisniewski
Rep Weber
Rep McCann
Rep Cheatum

Rep Hawkins
Rep Healey
Rep Miller
Rep Price
Rep Wheeler
Rep Chew (Wilson)
Rep Roberts

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Jacobi Van Amburg
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Email: hcom@house.idaho.gov

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

AMENDED AGENDA #3
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW05
Thursday, February 15, 2024

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew05/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
H 508	PERSI, police officers	Rep. Cheatum

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Holtzclaw	Rep Hawkins
Vice Chairman Bundy	Rep Healey
Rep Kingsley	Rep Miller
Rep Wisniewski	Rep Price
Rep Weber	Rep Wheeler
Rep McCann	Rep Chew (Wilson)
Rep Cheatum	Rep Roberts

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Jacobi Van Amburg
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MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 15, 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 (Wilson), Roberts

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Wheeler

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 1:36 pm.

MOTION: **Rep. Wilson** made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 31, 2024 and February 1, 2024 meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 508: **Rep. Cheatum** introduced **H 508** adding Emergency Communication Officers' Supervisors to the list of those who can be considered under the PERSI system's Rule of 80. This places them under the same retirement plan as their colleagues. This legislation does not impact any state, dedicated, or General Fund. This will adjust the contribution of each employee by a small percentage.

Rep. Erickson said the original intent of previous legislation is to add this class, yet no other class is to be added in the future.

Those speaking in support were **Nick Sasser**, Chief of Police for Chubbuck; **Melissa Stroh**; **Susie Saunders**; Nampa Police Dispatch; **Matthew Clifford**, Ada County Sheriff; **Courtney Lyskoski**, Ada County 911 Dispatch Supervisor. Emergency Communication Supervisors should be covered under the Rule of 80 as was intended in the original legislation and as both higher and lower positions apply. Emergency Communication Supervisors are still Emergency Communication Officers. Currently, while officers fall under this rule, promotion to supervisor would shift their retirement benefits to the Rule of 90, discouraging them from seeking advancement. This discrepancy could exacerbate the shortage of supervisors in Idaho, as qualified officers may opt to remain in their current roles. Failure to extend the Rule of 80 to supervisors could also hinder recruitment for leadership positions within dispatch, as it does not afford them the same retirement benefits as other emergency personnel like police and fire personnel.

MOTION: **Rep. Healey** made a motion to send **H 508** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Wheeler** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:01 pm.

Representative Holtzclaw
Chair

Jacobi Van Amburg
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW05
Wednesday, February 21, 2024

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew05/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
H 558	Employment, benefit formula	Rep. Skaug Rep. Young
H 481	Unemployment benefits, qualify	Rep. Andrus

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Holtzclaw
Vice Chairman Bundy
Rep Kingsley
Rep Wisniewski
Rep Weber
Rep McCann
Rep Cheatum

Rep Hawkins
Rep Healey
Rep Miller
Rep Price
Rep Wheeler
Rep Chew (Wilson)
Rep Roberts

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Jacobi Van Amburg
Room: EW08
Phone: 332-1149
Email: hcom@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 21, 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 (Beazer), Roberts

**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 Holtzclaw called the meeting to order at 1:31 pm.

MOTION: **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 5, 2024, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 558: **Rep. Skaug** presented **H 558**, aiming to enhance payout benefits in comparison to other progressive states, particularly focusing on personal benefits. Rep. Skaug has collaborated extensively with various stakeholders, including individuals and small, independent businesses across Idaho. Highlighting the endorsement from the Idaho Farm Bureau, Rep. Skaug underlines the complexity of the current system, which offers 17 benefits but ranks Idaho 47th among the rest of the states. An important facet of the bill addresses seasonal workers, extending eligibility to fourteen weeks with an additional two weeks if the employer permits. In the context of Idaho's urgent need for robust workforce, ranking second in the nation for job growth, Skaug stresses the significance of addressing barriers to workforce participation, especially in the aftermath of the epidemic. Rep. Skaug introduced **Rep. Young** to discuss the bill more in depth.

Rep. Young asserted that while the formula may seem intricate and require extensive numerical analysis, the proposed legislation is grounded in practical experience, aiming to benefit both small and large employers. Drawing on examples, she highlighted Iowa's successful return to work trend and Arkansas's recent extension of unemployment benefits from sixteen to twelve weeks in January 2024, alluding to the stability of their respective formulas. Addressing concerns about the financial sustainability of the program, Rep. Young points out that employers bear the responsibility of funding the unemployment benefits. The legislation also offers a balanced approach, leveraging past successes and maintaining financial prudence to support both workers and employers effectively.

Those speaking **in opposition** were **Shawn Keaough**, Idaho Loggers Association; **John Hughes**, AFL-CIO; **Ken Burgess**, Idaho Home Builders Association; **Jared Wise**, General Manager of Interstate Concrete and Asphalt; **Shawn Schupack**, Idaho Associated General Contractors. There is an issue with seasonal workers who will exhaust their unemployment benefits during their off season.

Those speaking **in support** were **Brian Sikma**, FGA. He stated this bill will create a larger benefit for all of Idaho and will keep Idaho from needing a federal bailout.

ORIGINAL MOTION: **Rep. Roberts** made a motion to **HOLD H 558** in committee.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Rep. Hawkins made a substitute motion to send **H 558** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Roll call vote was requested. **Substitute motion failed by a vote of 5 AYE and 9 NAY. Voting in favor** of the motion: Rep. Kingsley, Rep. Wisniewski, Rep. Hawkins, Rep. Healey, and Rep. Price. **Voting in opposition** to the motion: Rep. Bundy, Rep. Weber, Rep. McCann, Rep. Cheatum, Rep. Miller, Rep. Wheeler, Rep. Chew (Egbert), Rep. Roberts, and Chairman Holtzclaw.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION: Roll call vote was requested. **Original motion carried by a vote of 9 AYE and 5 NAY. Voting in favor** of the motion: Rep. Bundy, Rep. Weber, Rep. McCann, Rep. Cheatum, Rep. Miller, Rep. Wheeler, Rep. Chew (Egbert), Rep. Roberts, and Chairman Holtzclaw. **Voting in opposition** to the motion: Rep. Kingsley, Rep. Wisniewski, Rep. Hawkins, Rep. Healey, and Rep. Price.

H 481: Rep. Andrus presented **H 481**, which he calls the Ghosting Bill. This legislation would define what qualifies as a "work search" activity unemployment claimants must engage in to receive unemployment insurance benefits. Specifically, this bill requires claimants to conduct five work searches per week to receive benefits instead of two per week as outlined by Administrative Rule. The final provision would prohibit the practice of "ghosting" an employer interview by unemployment insurance claimants and would require the Department to maintain an email address and web portal for employers to report claimant.

Those speaking **in opposition** were **John Hughes**, AFL-CIO. He talked about the good cause provision and exhaustion of benefits.

Those speaking **in support** were **Brian Sikma**, FGA. He stated there is flexibility in this bill.

ORIGINAL MOTION: Rep. Kingsley made a motion to send **H 481** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Rep. Roberts made a substitute motion to **HOLD H 481** in committee.

ROLL CALL ON VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Roll call vote was requested. **Substitute motion failed by a tie vote of 7 AYE and 7 NAY. Voting in favor** of the motion: Rep. Bundy, Rep. Weber, Rep. McCann, Rep. Cheatum, Rep. Wheeler, Rep. Chew (Egbert), and Rep. Roberts. **Voting in opposition** to the motion: Rep. Kingsley, Rep. Wisniewski, Rep. Hawkins, Rep. Healey, Rep. Miller, Rep. Price, and Chairman Holtzclaw.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION: Roll call vote was requested. **Original motion failed by a tie vote of 7 AYE and 7 NAY. Voting in favor** of the motion: Rep. Kingsley, Rep. Wisniewski, Rep. Hawkins, Rep. Healey, Rep. Miller, Rep. Price, and Chairman Holtzclaw. **Voting in opposition** to the motion: Rep. Bundy, Rep. Weber, Rep. McCann, Rep. Cheatum, Rep. Wheeler, Rep. Chew (Egbert), and Rep. Roberts.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:58 pm.

Representative Holtzclaw
Chair

Jacobi Van Amburg
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW05
Thursday, February 29, 2024

or Upon Adjournment

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew05/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
H 593	State public defender, time off	Rep. Weber
H 607	Public works, bids, challenges	Rep. Monks
H 609	Compensation security, public	Rep. Tanner

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Holtzclaw	Rep Hawkins
Vice Chairman Bundy	Rep Healey
Rep Kingsley	Rep Miller
Rep Wisniewski	Rep Price
Rep Weber	Rep Wheeler
Rep McCann	Rep Chew (Hansen)
Rep Cheatum	Rep Roberts

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Jacobi Van Amburg
Room: EW08
Phone: 332-1149
Email: hcom@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 29, 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) Wisniewski, Weber, Cheatum, Price

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 1:50 pm.

MOTION: **Rep. Roberts** made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 7, 2024 and February 15, 2024, meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 593: **Rep. Weber** introduced **H 593** with the creation of the State Public Defender's Office county employees will move over as an employee to the State of Idaho. Employees will receive comparable accrual rates based upon their county PERSI hours. Employees can transfer up to 40 hours of vacation.

MOTION: **Rep. Healey** made a motion to send **H 593** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Weber** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 609: **Rep. Tanner** introduced **H 609** this legislation would allow a city, country, or district to go to the open market for an insurer of choice for worker's compensation instead of the state insurance fund. Other insurers would save money through lower rates and by more aggressive physical therapy to get the employees back to work sooner. He stated by allowing for other insurers, opening the market, making it more competitive. The results would be a better product. The fire district can get a lower rate, which will save money. The district won't have to bond, nor increase levy rates which will also save money.

MOTION: **Rep. Healey** made a motion to send **H 609** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**ROLL CALL
VOTE:** Roll call vote was requested. **Motion carried by a vote of 6 AYE and 4 NAY and 4 Absent/Excused.** **Voting in favor** of the motion: **Rep. Bundy, Rep. Kingsley, Rep. Hawkins, Rep. Healey, Rep. Miller, and Chairman Holtzclaw.** **Voting in opposition** to the motion: **Rep. McCann, Rep. Wheeler, Rep. Chew (Hansen), and Rep. Roberts.** **Rep. Wisniewski, Rep. Weber, Rep. Cheatum, and Rep. Price were absent/excused.** **Rep. Tanner** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 607: **Rep. Monks** presented **H 607** on adding a statutory process for appealing public works project. 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.

MOTION: **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to send **H 607** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Monks** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Those **in support** of the bill are **Jared Schmidt**, American Institute of Architects Idaho. He stated that he is concerned the 25% bond requirement is high and may restrict small businesses in Idaho.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:52 pm.

Representative Holtzclaw
Chair

Jacobi Van Amburg
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW05
Tuesday, March 05, 2024

or upon adjournment

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew05/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
H 686	Unemployment, qualifications	Rep. Andrus

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Holtzclaw
Vice Chairman Bundy
Rep Kingsley
Rep Wisniewski
Rep Weber
Rep McCann
Rep Cheatum

Rep Hawkins
Rep Healey
Rep Miller
Rep Price
Rep Wheeler
Rep Chew
Rep Roberts

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Jacobi Van Amburg
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MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, March 05, 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 (Schmich), Roberts
**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 Holtzclaw called the meeting to order at 1:29 pm.
H 686: **Rep. Andrus** presented **H 686**. This legislation revisits the ghosting bill presented in committee with amendments. Notably, the bill proposed requiring individuals to conduct five work searches within a seven-day period, alongside introducing modified language pertaining to interviews. This bill aims to address the issue of ghosting in employment situations, providing a structured framework for job seekers while incorporating necessary adjustments to streamline processes and enhance clarity.
MOTION: **Rep. Weber** made a motion to send **H 686** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Cheatum, Rep. Chew (Schmich), and Rep. Roberts requested they be recorded as voting NAY. Rep. Andrus** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:32 pm.

Representative Holtzclaw
Chair

Jacobi Van Amburg
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #2
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE
1:30 pm or Upon Adjournment
Room EW05
Wednesday, March 13, 2024

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew05/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
<u>H 697</u>	Public defender, sick time	Rep. Weber
<u>S 1283</u>	PERSI, employee, definition	Rep. Blanksma Rep. Raybould
<u>S 1299</u>	Labor	Rep. Roberts
<u>S 1303aa</u>	Personal service contracts	Rep. Cheatum
<u>S 1271</u>	Global mission grant prgm, repeal	Rep. Ehlers
<u>S 1294</u>	Rural development partnership	Rep. Furniss
<u>S 1246</u>	State board of ed, retirement	Rep. Cheatum

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Holtzclaw	Rep Hawkins
Vice Chairman Bundy	Rep Healey
Rep Kingsley	Rep Miller
Rep Wisniewski	Rep Price
Rep Weber	Rep Wheeler
Rep McCann	Rep Chew (Beazer)
Rep Cheatum	Rep Roberts

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Jacobi Van Amburg
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Email: hcom@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, March 13, 2024

TIME: 1:30 pm or Upon Adjournment

PLACE: Room EW05

MEMBERS: Chairman Holtzclaw, Vice Chairman Bundy, Representative(s) Kingsley, Wisniewski, Weber, McCann, Cheatum, Hawkins, Healey, Miller, Price, Wheeler, Chew (Beazer), Roberts

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Kingsley, McCann, 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 3:11 pm.

MOTION: **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 14, 2024, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

S 1283: **Senator Schroeder** presented **S 1283**. He stated this legislation amends the definition of "employee" for the purposes of PERSI enrollment to exclude seasonal employees of soil and water conservation districts in positions that do not exceed eight consecutive months in a calendar year if the employer certifies in writing that the position is seasonal or casual and is affected by weather. This definition already applies to seasonal golf course, park, or other positions in cities, counties, irrigation districts, cemetery districts, and mosquito abatement districts.

MOTION: **Rep. Price** made a motion to send **S 1283** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Blanksma** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 697: **Rep. Weber** presented **H 697**. He stated with the creation of the State Public Defender's Office, county employees will move over as an employee to the State of Idaho. Employees moving to the State Public Defender's Office will receive comparable accrual rates based upon their county PERSI hours. Employees will be allowed transfer up to 40 hours of unused sick leave. Funds from the counties will be deposited into the Public Defense Fund to pay for unused sick leave hours transferred by each employee.

MOTION: **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to send **H 697** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Weber** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1294: **Rep. Furniss** presented **S 1294** and invited **Tom Kealy** to discuss the bill in depth.

Tom Kealy, Director of the Idaho Department of Commerce, stated in rural Idaho, existing statutes greatly affect residents. **Kelly Packer** has long been a champion for rural communities, dedicating time and expertise, notably through her involvement with the Idaho Rural Partnership (IRP). The IRP is instrumental in fostering collaboration and tackling rural challenges. Recent efforts focus on amending these statutes, aiming to remove outdated language, adjust existing provisions, and introduce sunset clauses for regular program reviews. A diverse board of 35 members is involved in this process, highlighting the importance of these changes for rural Idaho's well-being.

- MOTION:** **Rep. Cheatum** made a motion to send **S 1294** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Price** requested to recorded as voting **NAY.** **Rep. Furniss** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- S 1271:** **Rep. Ehlers** presented **S 1271**, which involves cutting a government program associated with the Idaho Global Entrepreneurial Mission (IGEM). This initiative, established by the Department of Commerce in 2012 through legislative action, aimed to foster the growth of local startups and universities. While the program has seen success with several commendable projects, questions arise regarding the appropriateness of government involvement in such endeavors. As a member of the IGEM board, this concern was raised during our recent meeting. The proposal is to remove the program from the Department of Commerce budget, with an anticipated \$1 million reduction.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to send **S 1271** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Ehlers** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- S 1303aa:** **Rep. Cheatum** presented **S 1303aa**. This bill involves updating a piece of Idaho legislation from 1982. There was an initial rough estimate made, prompting the development of a calculator. The rule pertains specifically to personal service contracts, such as those for performance or special services, with an expenditure threshold set at \$30,000. For instance, this might apply to contracts with attorneys.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Bundy** made a motion to send **S 1303aa** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Cheatum** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- S 1299:** **Rep. Roberts** introduced **S 1299**, which seeks to address an issue stemming from Idaho Code 44-2012, as highlighted by a 2015 court of appeals ruling declaring it unlawful. The bill aims to remove obsolete language pertaining to contracts, as identified at that stage. This matter was initially brought before the district court in 2013, with the final decision being rendered in 2015.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Weber** made a motion to send **S 1299** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Roberts** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- S 1246:** **Rep. Cheatum** presented **S 1246**. This bill concerns the choice for employees to remain in PERSI. This choice applies exclusively to new employees who join PERSI before being hired by the state board, affecting only a small number, typically 2 to 3 employees per year. The crux of the matter lies in the fact that employees hired by the state board have not yet become vested in PERSI and therefore may not continue with it for their retirement benefits. Instead, they must decide between remaining with PERSI or opting for a 401K plan.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to send **S 1299** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Cheatum** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:43 pm.

Representative Holtzclaw
Chair

Jacobi Van Amburg
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE
1:30 pm or Upon Adjournment
Room EW05
Thursday, March 21, 2024

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew05/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
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Approval of Minutes

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Holtzclaw	Rep Hawkins
Vice Chairman Bundy	Rep Healey
Rep Kingsley	Rep Miller
Rep Wisniewski	Rep Price
Rep Weber (Mendenhall)	Rep Wheeler
Rep McCann	Rep Chew (Beazer)
Rep Cheatum	Rep Roberts

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Jacobi Van Amburg
Room: EW08
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Email: hcom@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, March 21, 2024
TIME: 1:30 pm or Upon Adjournment
PLACE: Room EW05
MEMBERS: Chairman Holtzclaw, Vice Chairman Bundy, Representatives Kingsley, Wisniewski, Weber (Mendenhall), McCann, Cheatum, Hawkins, Healey, Miller, Price, Wheeler, Chew (Beazer), Roberts, Miller
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Vice Chairman Bundy, Representative(s) Wisniewski, McCann, Healey, Wheeler, Chew (Beazer)
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 1:40 pm.
MOTION: **Rep. Roberts** made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 29, 2024, March 5, 2024, and March 13, 2024, meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:43 pm.

Representative Holtzclaw
Chair

Jacobi Van Amburg
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE
1:30 pm or Upon Adjournment
Room EW05
Tuesday, March 26, 2024

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew05/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
H 741	Idaho launch grant program	Rep. Petzke

***Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)***

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Holtzclaw (Johnson)
Vice Chairman Bundy
Rep Kingsley
Rep Wisniewski
Rep Weber (Weber)
Rep McCann
Rep Cheatum

Rep Hawkins
Rep Healey
Rep Miller
Rep Price
Rep Wheeler
Rep Chew (Harada)
Rep Roberts

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Jacobi Van Amburg
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MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, March 26, 2024
TIME: 1:30 pm or Upon Adjournment
PLACE: Room EW05
MEMBERS: Chairman Holtzclaw (Johnson), Vice Chairman Bundy, Representatives Kingsley, Wisniewski, Weber (Weber), McCann, Cheatum, Hawkins, Healey, Miller, Price, Wheeler, Chew (Harada), Roberts
**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 Bundy called the meeting to order at 1:42 pm.
H 741: **Rep. Petzke** presented **H 741** which deals with the Idaho Launch Program. This legislation updated the definition of In Demand Careers to include more factors, excluded careers that require graduate level education from eligibility, changed an eligibility date to align with schools whose school year goes into June, and included code allowing the council a legal mechanism for means testing.
MOTION: **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to send **H 741** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.
**ROLL CALL
VOTE:** Roll call vote was requested. **Motion carried by a vote of 8 AYE and 6 NAY.** **Voting in favor** of the motion: **Chairman Bundy, Rep. Weber(Weber), Rep. McCann, Rep. Cheatum, Rep. Miller, Rep. Wheeler, Rep. Chew(Harada), and Rep. Roberts.** **Voting in opposition** to the motion: **Rep. Kingsley, Rep. Wisniewski, Rep. Hawkins, Rep. Healey, Rep. Price, and Rep. Holtzclaw(Johnson).** **Rep. Petzke** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:48 pm.

Representative Bundy
Chair

Jacobi Van Amburg
Secretary