LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

Sixty-fourth Legislature

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First Regular Session - 2017

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1155

BY JUDICIARY AND RULES COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE IDAHO ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT; AMENDING SECTION 67-5201, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE A DEFINITION AND TO DEFINE TERMS; REPEAL-ING SECTION 67-5240, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO CONTESTED CASES; AMENDING SECTION 67-5241, IDAHO CODE, TO REMOVE A PROVISION REGARDING EVIDENCE IN A CONTESTED CASE; REPEALING SECTIONS 67-5242 THROUGH 67-5254, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO PROCEDURE AT A HEARING, ORDERS NOT ISSUED BY AN AGENCY HEAD, REVIEW OF RECOMMENDED ORDERS, REVIEW OF PRELIMINARY ORDERS, FI-NAL ORDERS AND EFFECTIVENESS OF FINAL ORDERS, EMERGENCY PROCEEDINGS, CONTENTS OF ORDERS, AN AGENCY RECORD, INDEXING OF PRECEDENTIAL AGENCY ORDERS AND INDEXING OF AGENCY GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS, EVIDENCE AND OFFICIAL NOTICE, A PRESIDING OFFICER AND DISQUALIFICATION, EX PARTE COMMUNICA-TIONS AND AGENCY ACTION AGAINST LICENSEES; REPEALING SECTION 67-5270, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO RIGHT OF REVIEW; REPEALING SECTION 67-5271, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES; REPEAL-ING SECTIONS 67-5273 THROUGH 67-5279, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO TIME FOR FILING PETITION FOR REVIEW, A STAY, AGENCY RECORD FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW, ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE, JUDICIAL REVIEW OF ISSUES OF FACT, DECLARATORY JUDGMENT ON VALIDITY OR APPLICABILITY OF RULES AND SCOPE OF REVIEW AND TYPE OF RELIEF; AMENDING CHAPTER 52, TITLE 67, IDAHO CODE, BY THE AD-DITION OF NEW SECTIONS 67-5242 THROUGH 67-5260, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE QUALIFICATIONS FOR PRESIDING OFFICERS, TO PROVIDE FOR DISQUALIFICATION OF A PRESIDING OFFICER IN CERTAIN INSTANCES, TO PROVIDE FOR A SUBSTITUTE PRESIDING OFFICER IN CERTAIN INSTANCES, TO PROVIDE FOR PROCEDURES IN CONTESTED CASES, TO PROVIDE FOR EVIDENCE IN CONTESTED CASES, TO PRO-VIDE FOR NOTICE IN CONTESTED CASES, TO PROVIDE FOR A HEARING RECORD IN CONTESTED CASES, TO PROVIDE FOR AN EMERGENCY ADJUDICATION PROCE-DURE, TO PROHIBIT EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS, TO PROVIDE EXEMPTIONS FOR EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS, TO PROVIDE PROCEDURES IF PROHIBITED EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS OCCUR, TO PROVIDE PROCEDURES FOR INTERVENTION IN A CON-TESTED CASE, TO PROVIDE FOR SUBPOENAS IN A CONTESTED CASE, TO PROVIDE FOR DISCOVERY IN A CONTESTED CASE, TO PROVIDE PROCEDURES FOR A DEFAULT ORDER IN A CONTESTED CASE, TO PROVIDE FOR INITIAL AND FINAL ORDERS, TO PROVIDE FOR AGENCY REVIEW OF THE INITIAL ORDER, TO PROVIDE FOR RECON-SIDERATION OF A FINAL ORDER, TO PROVIDE FOR A STAY OF A FINAL ORDER, TO PROVIDE FOR THE AVAILABILITY AND INDEXING OF FINAL ORDERS, TO PROVIDE AN EXEMPTION FOR INDEXING OF FINAL ORDERS, TO PROVIDE PROCEDURES FOR ACTIONS AGAINST A LICENSEE AND TO PROVIDE FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW IN CERTAIN INSTANCES; AMENDING CHAPTER 52, TITLE 67, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF NEW SECTIONS 67-5262 THROUGH 67-5267, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR WHEN A PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW MAY BE FILED, TO PROVIDE LIMITATIONS ON JUDICIAL REVIEW, TO PROVIDE FOR A STAY PENDING AN APPEAL, TO PROVIDE FOR WHO HAS STANDING FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW, TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON SHALL EXHAUST ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES PRIOR TO FILING FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW, TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN FILINGS ARE NOT PREREQUISITES FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW,

TO PROVIDE THAT A COURT MAY RELIEVE A PARTY FROM EXHAUSTING ADMINISTRA-TIVE REMEDIES PRIOR TO FILING FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW IN CERTAIN INSTANCES, TO PROVIDE THAT A COURT SHALL REVIEW AN AGENCY RECORD IN ITS REVIEW, TO PROVIDE EXCEPTIONS FOR REVIEWING AN AGENCY RECORD AND TO PROVIDE A STAN-DARD OF REVIEW; AMENDING SECTION 67-5255, IDAHO CODE, TO REDESIGNATE THE SECTION; AMENDING SECTION 67-5272, IDAHO CODE, TO REDESIGNATE THE SECTION; AMENDING SECTION 7-1417, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE A CORRECT CODE REFERENCE; AMENDING SECTION 26-31-208, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE CORRECT CODE REFERENCES; AMENDING SECTION 26-31-309, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE A CORRECT CODE REFERENCE; AMENDING SECTION 28-46-302, IDAHO CODE, TO PRO-VIDE CORRECT CODE REFERENCES; AMENDING SECTION 28-46-404, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE CORRECT CODE REFERENCES; AMENDING SECTION 32-1612, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE A CORRECT CODE REFERENCE; AMENDING SECTION 33-5209C, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE A CORRECT CODE REFERENCE; AMENDING SECTION 40-709A, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE A CORRECT CODE REFERENCE; AMENDING SEC-TION 41-227, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE CORRECT CODE REFERENCES AND TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION; AMENDING SECTION 47-324, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE A CORRECT CODE REFERENCE AND TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION; AMENDING SECTION 50-222, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE A CORRECT CODE REFERENCE; AMEND-ING SECTION 54-2509, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE A CORRECT CODE REFERENCE AND TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION; AMENDING SECTION 58-122, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE CORRECT CODE REFERENCES AND TO REMOVE A CODE REFERENCE; AMEND-ING SECTION 67-2317, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE A CORRECT CODE REFERENCE; AND AMENDING SECTION 67-5206, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE CORRECT CODE REF-ERENCES.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 67-5201, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

57-5201. DEFINITIONS. As used in this act:

- (1) "Administrative code" means the Idaho administrative code established in this chapter.
- (2) "Agency" means each state board, commission, department or officer authorized by law to make rules or to determine contested cases, but does not include the legislative or judicial branches, executive officers listed in section 1, article IV, of the constitution of the state of Idaho in the exercise of powers derived directly and exclusively from the constitution, the state militia or the state board of correction.
 - (3) "Agency action" means:

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- (a) The whole or part of a rule or order;
- (b) The failure to issue a rule or order; or
- (c) An agency's performance of, or failure to perform, any duty placed on it by law.
- (4) "Agency head" means an individual or body of individuals in whom the ultimate legal authority of the agency is vested by any provision of law.
- (5) "Bulletin" means the Idaho administrative bulletin established in this chapter.
- (6) "Contested case" means a proceeding an adjudication arising out of an agency action in which results in the issuance of an order an opportu-

nity for an evidentiary hearing is required by the federal constitution, a federal statute or the constitution or a statute of this state. "Contested case" shall not mean a proceeding by the public utilities commission or the industrial commission or another agency for which an alternative adjudication process is provided by statute.

- (7) "Coordinator" means the administrative rules coordinator prescribed in section 67-5202, Idaho Code.
- (8) "Document" means any executive order, notice, rule or statement of policy of an agency.
- (9) "Final rule" means a rule that has been adopted by an agency under the regular rulemaking process and is in effect.
- (10) "License" means the whole or part of any agency permit, certificate, approval, registration, charter, or similar form of authorization required by law, but does not include a license required solely for revenue purposes.
- (11) "Official text" means the text of a document issued, prescribed, or promulgated by an agency in accordance with this chapter, and is the only legally enforceable text of such document. Judicial notice shall be taken of all documents issued, prescribed, or promulgated in accordance with this chapter.
- (12) "Order" means an agency action of particular applicability that determines the legal rights, duties, privileges, immunities, or other legal interests of one (1) or more specific persons.
- (13) "Party" means each person or agency named or admitted as a party, or properly seeking and entitled as of right to be admitted as a party.
- (14) "Pending rule" means a rule that has been adopted by an agency under the regular rulemaking process and remains subject to legislative review.
- (15) "Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, association, governmental subdivision or agency, or public or private organization or entity of any character.
- (16) "Presiding officer" means an individual, appointed by the agency head or his designee, who presides over the evidentiary hearing in a contested case.
- (17) "Proposed rule" means a rule published in the bulletin as provided in section 67-5221, Idaho Code.
- (178) "Provision of law" means the whole or a part of the state or federal constitution, or of any state or federal:
 - (a) Statute; or

- (b) Rule or decision of court.
- (189) "Publish" means to bring before the public by publication in the bulletin or administrative code, by electronic means or as otherwise specifically provided by law.
- (20) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.
- (1921) "Rule" means the whole or a part of an agency statement of general applicability that has been promulgated in compliance with the provisions of this chapter and that implements, interprets, or prescribes:
 - (a) Law or policy; or

- (b) The procedure or practice requirements of an agency. The term includes the amendment, repeal, or suspension of an existing rule, but does not include:
 - (i) Statements concerning only the internal management or internal personnel policies of an agency and not affecting private rights of the public or procedures available to the public; or
 - (ii) Declaratory rulings issued pursuant to section 67-5232, Idaho Code; or
 - (iii) Intra-agency memoranda; or

- (iv) Any written statements given by an agency which pertain to an interpretation of a rule or to the documentation of compliance with a rule.
- $(2\theta 2)$ "Rulemaking" means the process for formulation, adoption, amendment or repeal of a rule.
- (2 ± 3) "Standard" means a manual, guideline, criterion, specification, requirement, measurement or other authoritative principle providing a model or pattern in comparison with which the correctness or appropriateness of specified actions, practices or procedures may be determined.
- $(22\underline{4})$ "Submitted for review" means that a rule has been provided to the legislature for review at a regular or special legislative session as provided in section 67-5291, Idaho Code.
- (235) "Temporary rule" means a rule authorized by the governor to become effective before it has been submitted to the legislature for review and which expires by its own terms or by operation of law no later than the conclusion of the next succeeding regular legislative session unless extended or replaced by a final rule as provided in section 67-5226, Idaho Code.
- SECTION 2. That Section 67-5240, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby repealed.
- SECTION 3. That Section 67-5241, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 67-5241. INFORMAL DISPOSITION. (1) Unless prohibited by other provisions of law:
 - (a) an agency or a presiding officer may decline to initiate a contested case;
 - (b) any part of the evidence in a contested case may be received in written form if doing so will expedite the case without substantially prejudicing the interests of any party;
 - (c) informal disposition may be made of any contested case by negotiation, stipulation, agreed settlement, or consent order. Informal settlement of matters is to be encouraged;
 - (\underline{dc}) the parties may stipulate as to the facts, reserving the right to appeal to a court of competent jurisdiction on issues of law.
- (2) An agency or a presiding officer may request such additional information as required to decide whether to initiate or to decide a contested case as provided in subsection (1) of this section.
- (3) If an agency or a presiding officer declines to initiate or decide a contested case under the provisions of this section, the agency or the officer shall furnish a brief statement of the reasons for the decision to all

persons involved. This subsection does not apply to investigations or inquiries directed to or performed by law enforcement agencies defined in section 74-101(7), Idaho Code.

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- (4) The agency may not abdicate its responsibility for any informal disposition of a contested case. Disposition of a contested case as provided in this section is a final agency action.
- SECTION 4. That Sections 67-5242 through 67-5254, Idaho Code, be, and the same are hereby repealed.
- SECTION 5. That Sections 67-5270 and 67-5271, Idaho Code, be, and the 10 same are hereby repealed.
 - SECTION 6. That Sections 67-5273 through 67-5279, Idaho Code, be, and the same are hereby repealed.
 - SECTION 7. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and designated as Section 67-5242, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
 - PRESIDING OFFICER. (1) A presiding officer must be an individual admitted to the practice of law in this state for at least three (3) years and shall not be the agency head or a member of the multimember body of individuals that is the agency head, or a member of the agency governing board.
 - (2) An individual who has served as investigator, prosecutor or advocate at any stage in a contested case or who is subject to the authority, direction or discretion of an individual who has served as investigator, prosecutor or advocate at any stage in a contested case may not serve as the presiding officer in the same case.
 - (3) A presiding officer is subject to disqualification for bias, prejudice, financial interest, ex parte communications as provided in section 67-5248, Idaho Code, or any other factor that would cause a reasonable person to question the impartiality of the presiding officer. A presiding officer, after making a reasonable inquiry, shall disclose to the parties any known facts related to grounds for disqualification that are material to the impartiality of the presiding officer in the proceeding.
 - (4) A party may petition for the disqualification of a presiding officer promptly after notice that the person will preside or, if later, promptly on discovering facts establishing a ground for disqualification. The petition must state with particularity the ground on which it is claimed that a fair and impartial hearing cannot be accorded or the applicable rule or canon of practice or ethics that requires disqualification. The petition may be denied if the party fails to exercise due diligence in requesting disqualification after discovering a ground for disqualification.
 - (5) A presiding officer whose disqualification is requested shall decide whether to grant the petition and shall state in a record the facts and reasons for the decision. The decision to deny disqualification is not subject to interlocutory judicial review.
 - (6) If a substitute presiding officer is required, the substitute must be appointed by the appointing authority.

SECTION 8. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5243, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

- 67-5243. CONTESTED CASE PROCEDURE. (1) This section does not apply to an emergency adjudication under section 67-5247, Idaho Code.
- (2) An agency shall give notice of the agency decision to a person when the agency takes an action as to which the person has a right to a contested case hearing. The notice must be in writing, set forth the agency action, inform the person of the right, procedure and time limit to file a contested-case petition, and provide a copy of the agency procedures governing the contested case.
- (3) In a contested case, the presiding officer shall give all parties a timely opportunity to file pleadings, motions and objections. The presiding officer may give all parties the opportunity to file briefs, proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, and proposed initial or final orders. The presiding officer, with the consent of all parties, may refer the parties in a contested case to mediation or other dispute resolution procedure.
- (4) In a contested case, to the extent necessary for full disclosure of all relevant facts and issues, the presiding officer shall give all parties the opportunity to respond, present evidence and argument, conduct cross-examination and submit rebuttal evidence.
- (5) Except as otherwise provided by law other than this act, the presiding officer may conduct all or part of an evidentiary hearing or a prehearing conference by telephone, television, video conference or other electronic means. The hearing may be conducted by telephone or other method by which the witnesses may not be seen only if all parties consent or the presiding officer finds that this method will not impair reliable determination of the credibility of testimony. Each party must be given an opportunity to attend, hear and be heard at the proceeding as it occurs. This subsection does not prevent an agency from providing by rule for electronic hearings that otherwise comply with the requirements of this section.
- (6) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (7) of this section, a hearing in a contested case must be open to the public. A hearing conducted by telephone, television, video conference or other electronic means is open to the public if members of the public have an opportunity to attend the hearing at the place where the presiding officer is located or to hear or see the proceeding as it occurs.
- (7) A presiding officer may close a hearing to the public on a ground on which a court of this state may close a judicial proceeding to the public or pursuant to law of this state other than this act.
- (8) Unless prohibited by law of this state other than this act, a party, at the party's expense, may be represented by counsel. If allowed by administrative rule, a party may be advised or represented by another individual.
- (9) A presiding officer shall ensure that a hearing record is created that complies with section 67-5246, Idaho Code.
- (10) The decision in a contested case must be based on the hearing record and contain a statement of the factual and legal bases of the decision. If a finding of fact is set forth in language of a statute of this state other than this act, it must be accompanied by a concise and explicit statement of

the underlying facts supporting the finding of fact. The decision must be prepared electronically and, on request, made available in writing.

- (11) Subject to all applicable procedural rules, the rules by which an agency conducts a contested case may include provisions more protective of the rights of parties other than the agency.
- (12) Unless prohibited by law of this state other than this act, an agency may dispose of a contested case without a hearing by stipulation, agreed settlement, consent order or default.
- SECTION 9. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5244, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 67-5244. EVIDENCE IN CONTESTED CASES. The following rules apply in a contested case:
- (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this section, all relevant evidence is admissible, including hearsay evidence, if it is of a type commonly relied on by a reasonably prudent individual in the conduct of the affairs of the individual.
- (2) The presiding officer may exclude evidence in the absence of an objection if the evidence is irrelevant, immaterial, unduly repetitious, or excludable on constitutional or statutory grounds or on the basis of an evidentiary privilege recognized in the courts of this state. The presiding officer shall exclude the evidence if objection is made at the time the evidence is offered.
- (3) If the presiding officer excludes evidence with or without objection, the offering party may make an offer of proof before further evidence is presented or at a later time determined by the presiding officer.
- (4) Evidence may be received in a record if doing so will expedite the hearing without substantial prejudice to a party. Documentary evidence may be received in the form of a copy if the original is not readily available or by incorporation by reference. On request, parties must be given an opportunity to compare the copy with the original.
 - (5) Testimony must be made under oath or affirmation.
- (6) Evidence must be made part of the hearing record of the case. Information or evidence may not be considered in determining the case unless it is part of the hearing record. If the hearing record contains information that is confidential, the presiding officer may conduct a closed hearing to discuss the information, issue necessary protective orders, and seal all or part of the hearing record.
- (7) The presiding officer may take official notice of all facts of which judicial notice may be taken and of scientific, technical or other facts within the specialized knowledge of the agency. A party must be notified at the earliest practicable time of the facts proposed to be noticed and their source, including any staff memoranda or data. The party must be afforded an opportunity to contest any officially noticed fact before the decision becomes final.

SECTION 10. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5245, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

67-5245. NOTICE IN CONTESTED CASES. (1) Except as otherwise provided in an emergency adjudication under section 67-5247, Idaho Code, an agency shall give notice in a contested case that complies with this section.

- (2) In a contested case initiated by a person other than an agency, not later than seven (7) days after the filing of the contested case petition, the agency shall give notice to all parties that the case has been commenced. A contested case does not commence until notice is given pursuant to this section. The notice must contain:
 - (a) The official file or other reference number, the name of the proceeding, and a general description of the subject matter;
 - (b) Contact information for communicating with the agency, including the agency mailing address and telephone number;
 - (c) A statement of the date, time, place and nature of the prehearing conference or hearing, if any;
 - (d) The name, official title, mailing address and telephone number of any attorney or employee who has been designated to represent the agency; and
 - (e) The names and last known addresses of all parties and other persons to which notice is being given by the agency.
- (3) In a contested case initiated by an agency, the agency shall give notice to the party against which the action is brought. A contested case does not commence until notice is given pursuant to this section. The notice must contain:
 - (a) A statement that a case that may result in an order has been commenced against the party;
 - (b) A short and plain statement of the matters asserted, including the issues involved;
 - (c) A statement of the legal authority under which the hearing will be held citing the statutes and any rules involved;
 - (d) The official file or other reference number and the name of the proceeding;
 - (e) The name, official title and mailing address of the presiding officer and the name, official title, mailing address and telephone number of the agency's representative;
 - (f) A statement that a party that fails to attend or participate in any subsequent proceeding in the case may be held in default;
 - (g) A statement that the party served may request a hearing and includes instructions in plain English about how to request a hearing; and
 - (h) The names and last known addresses of all parties and other persons to which notice is being given by the agency.
- (4) When a hearing or a prehearing conference is scheduled, the agency shall give parties notice that contains the information required by subsection (3) of this section at least thirty (30) days before the hearing or prehearing conference.
- (5) A notice under this section may include other matters that the presiding officer considers desirable to expedite the proceedings.

SECTION 11. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5246, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

67-5246. HEARING RECORD IN CONTESTED CASES. (1) An agency shall maintain the hearing record created under section 67-5243(9), Idaho Code, in each contested case for a period of not less than six (6) months after the expiration of the last date for judicial review, unless otherwise provided by law.

- (2) The hearing record must contain:
- (a) A recording of each proceeding;
- (b) Notice of each proceeding;
- (c) Any prehearing order;

- (d) Any motion, pleading, brief, petition, request and intermediate ruling;
- (e) Evidence admitted;
- (f) A statement of any matter officially noticed;
- (g) Any proffer of proof and objection and ruling thereon;
- (h) Any proposed finding, requested order, and exception;
- (i) Any transcript of the proceeding prepared at the direction of the agency;
- (j) Any final order or order on reconsideration; and
- (k) Any matter placed on the record after an ex parte communication under section 67-5248(6), Idaho Code.
- (3) The hearing record constitutes the exclusive basis for agency action in a contested case.

SECTION 12. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5247, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

- 67-5247. EMERGENCY ADJUDICATION PROCEDURE. (1) Unless prohibited by law of this state other than this act, an agency may conduct an emergency adjudication in a contested case under this section.
- (2) An agency may take action and issue an order under this section only to deal with an imminent peril to the public health or safety.
- (3) Before issuing an order under this section, an agency, if practicable, shall give notice and an opportunity to be heard to the person to which the agency action is directed. The notice of the hearing and the hearing may be oral or written and may be by telephone, facsimile or other electronic means.
- (4) An order issued under this section must briefly explain the factual and legal reasons for using emergency adjudication procedures.
- (5) To the extent practicable, an agency shall give notice to the person to which the agency action is directed that an order has been issued. The order is effective when signed by the agency head or the designee of the agency head.
- (6) After issuing an order pursuant to this section, an agency shall proceed as soon as practicable, but not less than thirty (30) days or, if an objection is received by an agency head, two (2) business days, to provide notice and an opportunity for a hearing following the procedure under section 67-5243, Idaho Code, to determine the issues underlying the order. If an objection is received by an agency head, the notice provided pursuant to this subsection shall be sent to the non-objecting party.

(7) An order issued under this section may be effective for not longer than one hundred twenty (120) days or until the effective date of any order issued under subsection (6) of this section, whichever is shorter.

- SECTION 13. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5248, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 67-5248. EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) or (3) of this section, while a contested case is pending, the presiding officer and the final decision maker may not make to or receive from any person any communication concerning the case without notice and opportunity for all parties to participate in the communication. For the purpose of this section, a contested case is pending from the issuance of the agency's pleading or from an application for an agency decision, whichever is earlier.
- (2) A presiding officer or final decision maker may communicate about a pending contested case with any person if the communication is required for the disposition of ex parte matters authorized by statute or concerns an uncontested procedural issue.
- (3) A presiding officer or final decision maker may communicate about a pending contested case with an individual authorized by law to provide legal advice to the presiding officer or final decision maker and may communicate on ministerial matters with an individual who serves on the staff of the presiding officer or final decision maker if the individual providing legal advice or ministerial information has not served as investigator, prosecutor or advocate at any stage of the case and if the communication does not augment, diminish or modify the evidence in the record.
- (4) If a presiding officer or final decision maker makes or receives a communication in violation of this section, the presiding officer or final decision maker:
 - (a) If the communication is in a record, shall make the record of the communication a part of the hearing record and prepare and make part of the hearing record a memorandum that contains the response of the presiding officer or final decision maker to the communication, and the identity of the person that communicated; or
 - (b) If the communication is oral, shall prepare a memorandum that contains the substance of the verbal communication, the response of the presiding officer or final decision maker to the communication, and the identity of the person that communicated.
- (5) If a communication prohibited by this section is made, the presiding officer or final decision maker shall notify all parties of the prohibited communication and permit parties to respond in a record not later than fifteen (15) days after the notice is given. For good cause, the presiding officer or final decision maker may permit additional testimony in response to the prohibited communication.
- (6) If necessary to eliminate the effect of a communication received in violation of this section, a presiding officer or final decision maker may be disqualified under section 67-5242(4) and (5), Idaho Code, the parts of the record pertaining to the communication may be sealed by protective order, or

other appropriate relief may be granted, including an adverse ruling on the merits of the case or dismissal of the application.

 SECTION 14. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5249, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

- 67-5249. INTERVENTION. (1) A presiding officer shall grant a timely petition for intervention in a contested case, with notice to all parties, if:
 - (a) The petitioner has a statutory right under law of this state other than this act to initiate or to intervene in the case; or
 - (b) The petitioner has an interest that may be adversely affected by the outcome of the case and that interest is not adequately represented by existing parties.
- (2) A presiding officer may grant a timely petition for intervention in a contested case, with notice to all parties, if the petitioner has a permissive statutory right to intervene under law of this state other than this act or if the petitioner's claim or defense is based on the same transaction or occurrence as the case.
- (3) A presiding officer may impose conditions at any time on an intervener's participation in the contested case.
- (4) A presiding officer may permit intervention provisionally and, at any time later in the contested case or at the end of the case, may revoke the provisional intervention.
- (5) On request by the petitioners or a party or by action of the presiding officer, the presiding officer may hold a hearing on the intervention petition.
- (6) A presiding officer shall promptly give notice of an order granting, denying, or revoking intervention to the petitioner for intervention and to the parties. The notice must allow parties a reasonable time to prepare for the hearing on the merits.
- SECTION 15. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5250, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 67-5250. SUBPOENAS. (1) On a request in a record by a party in a contested case, the presiding officer or any other officer to whom the power to issue a subpoena is delegated pursuant to law, on a showing of general relevance and reasonable scope of the evidence sought for use at the hearing, shall issue a subpoena for the attendance of a witness and the production of books, records and other evidence.
- (2) Unless otherwise provided by law or agency rule, a subpoena issued under subsection (1) of this section shall be served and, on application to the court by a party or the agency, enforced in the manner provided by law for the service and enforcement of a subpoena in a civil action.
- (3) Witness fees shall be paid by the party requesting a subpoena in the manner provided by law for witness fees in a civil action.

SECTION 16. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5251, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

- 67-5251. DISCOVERY. (1) In this section, "statement" includes a record of a person's written statement signed by the person and a record that summarizes an oral statement made by the person.
- (2) Except in an emergency hearing under section 67-5247, Idaho Code, a party, on written notice to another party at least thirty (30) days before an evidentiary hearing, unless otherwise ordered by the presiding officer under subsection (7) of this section, may:
 - (a) Obtain the names and addresses of witnesses the other party will present at the hearing to the extent known to the other party; and
 - (b) Inspect and copy any of the following materials in the possession, custody or control of the other party:
 - (i) Statements of parties and witnesses proposed to be called by the other party;
 - (ii) All records, including reports of mental, physical, and blood examinations, and other evidence the other party proposes to offer;
 - (iii) Investigative reports made by or on behalf of the agency or other party pertaining to the subject matter of the adjudication;
 - (iv) Statements of expert witnesses proposed to be called by the other party;
 - (v) Any exculpatory material in the possession of the agency; and(vi) Other materials for good cause.
- (3) Parties to a contested case have a duty to supplement responses provided under subsection (2) of this section to include information thereafter acquired, to the extent that the information will be relied on in the hearing.
- (4) On petition, the presiding officer may issue a protective order for any material for which discovery is sought under this section that is exempt, privileged, or otherwise made confidential or protected from disclosure by law of this state other than this act and material the disclosure of which would result in annoyance, embarrassment, oppression or undue burden or expense to any person.
- (5) On petition, the presiding officer may issue an order compelling discovery for refusal to comply with a discovery request unless good cause exists for refusal. Failure to comply with the order may be enforced according to the rules of civil procedure.
- (6) On petition and for good cause, the presiding officer may issue an order authorizing additional discovery tools allowed under the Idaho rules of civil procedure.
- (7) An agency may provide by rule that some or all discovery procedures under this section do not apply to a specified program or category of cases if it finds that:
 - (a) The availability of discovery would unduly complicate or interfere with the hearing process in the program or cases, because of the volume of the applicable caseload and the need for expedition and informality in that process; and

(b) Alternative procedures for the sharing of relevant information are sufficient to ensure the fundamental fairness of the proceedings.

SECTION 17. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5252, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

- 67-5252. DEFAULT. (1) Unless otherwise provided by law of this state other than this act, if a party without good cause fails to attend or participate in a prehearing conference or hearing in a contested case, the presiding officer may issue a default order.
- (2) If a default order is issued, the presiding officer may conduct any further proceedings necessary to complete the adjudication without the defaulting party and shall determine all issues in the adjudication, including those affecting the defaulting party.
- (3) An initial or final order issued against a defaulting party may be based on the defaulting party's admissions or other evidence that may be used without notice to the defaulting party. If the burden of proof is on the defaulting party to establish that the party is entitled to the agency action sought, the presiding officer may issue an initial or final order without taking evidence.
- (4) Not later than fifteen (15) days after notice to a party subject to a default order that an initial or final order has been rendered against the party, the party may petition the presiding officer to vacate the initial or final order. If good cause is shown for the party's failure to appear, the presiding officer shall vacate the decision and, after proper service of notice, conduct another evidentiary hearing. If good cause is not shown for the party's failure to appear, the presiding officer shall deny the motion to vacate.
- SECTION 18. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5253, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 67-5253. ORDERS -- INITIAL -- FINAL. (1) The presiding officer shall issue a final order if delegated by an agency head.
- (2) Unless the presiding officer has been delegated final decisional authority, the presiding officer shall issue an initial order that becomes a final order thirty (30) days after issuance, unless reviewed by the agency head on its own initiative or on petition of a party.
- (3) An initial or final order must be served in a record on each party and the agency head not later than ninety (90) days after the hearing ends, the record closes, or memoranda, briefs, or proposed findings are submitted, whichever is latest. The presiding officer may extend the time by stipulation, waiver, or for good cause. The order shall be accompanied by proof of service stating the service date, each party who was served and the method of service.
- (4) An initial or final order must separately state findings of fact and conclusions of law on all material issues of fact, law, or discretion, the remedy prescribed, and, if applicable, the action taken on a petition for a stay. The presiding officer may permit a party to submit proposed find-

ings of fact and conclusions of law. An initial order must state any circumstances under which the order, without further notice, may become a final order.

- (5) Findings of fact must be based exclusively on the evidence and matters officially noticed in the hearing record in the contested case.
- (6) Hearsay evidence may be used to supplement or explain other evidence but, on timely objection, is not sufficient by itself to support a finding of fact unless it would be admissible over objection in a civil action.
- (7) An order is issued under this section when it is signed by the agency head, presiding officer, or an individual authorized by law of this state other than this act to sign the order.
- (8) A final order is effective thirty (30) days after its service date unless reconsideration is granted under section 67-5256, Idaho Code, or a stay is granted under section 67-5257, Idaho Code.
- (9) The agency shall attach to the order the available procedures and time limits for seeking reconsideration or other administrative relief and must state the time limits for seeking judicial review of the agency order.
- SECTION 19. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5254, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 67-5254. AGENCY REVIEW OF INITIAL ORDER. (1) An agency head may review an initial order on its own initiative.
- (2) A party may petition an agency head to review an initial order. On petition by a party, the agency head may review an initial order.
- (3) A petition for review of an initial order must be filed with the agency head or with any person designated for this purpose by agency rule not later than fifteen (15) days after the service date of the order. If the agency head decides to review an initial order on its own initiative, the agency head shall give notice in a record to the parties that it intends to review the order. The notice must be given not later than fifteen (15) days after the service date of the order. If a petition for review is not filed or the agency head does not elect to review the initial order within the prescribed time limit, the initial order becomes a final order.
- (4) The period in subsection (3) of this section for a party to file a petition or for the agency head to notify the parties of its intention to review an initial order is tolled by the submission of a timely petition under section 67-5256, Idaho Code, for reconsideration of the order. A new fifteen (15) day period begins on disposition of the petition for reconsideration. If an order is subject both to a timely petition for reconsideration and a petition for review by the agency head, the petition for reconsideration must be disposed of first, unless the agency head determines that action on the petition for reconsideration has been unreasonably delayed.
- (5) When reviewing an initial order, the agency head shall exercise the decision-making power that the agency head would have had if the agency head had conducted the hearing that produced the order, except to the extent that the issues subject to review are limited by law of this state other than this act or by order of the agency head on notice to the parties.

(6) If an agency head reviews an initial order, the agency head shall issue a final order disposing of the proceeding not later than one hundred twenty (120) days after the decision to review the initial order or remand the matter for further proceedings with instructions to the presiding officer who issued the initial order. On remanding a matter, the agency head may order a review of the conclusions of law, but not the findings of fact, and may order such temporary relief as is authorized and appropriate.

- (7) A final order or an order remanding the matter for further proceedings must identify any difference between the order and the initial order and must state the law that supports any difference in legal conclusions and the policy reasons that support any difference in the exercise of discretion. Findings of fact must be based exclusively on the evidence and matters officially noticed in the hearing record in the contested case. A final order under this section must include, or incorporate by express reference to the initial order, the matters required by section 67-5253(4), Idaho Code. The agency head shall deliver the order to the presiding officer and notify the parties of the order.
- SECTION 20. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5256, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 67-5256. RECONSIDERATION. (1) A party, not later than fifteen (15) days after the service date of a final order, may file a petition for reconsideration that states the specific grounds on which relief is requested. The place of filing and other procedures, if any, must be specified by agency rule and must be stated in the final order.
- (2) If a petition for reconsideration is timely filed, and if the petitioner has complied with the agency's procedural rules for reconsideration, if any, the time for filing a petition for judicial review does not begin until the agency disposes of the petition for reconsideration as provided in section 67-5262(5), Idaho Code.
- (3) Not later than twenty (20) days after a petition is filed under subsection (1) of this section, the decision maker shall issue a written order denying the petition, granting the petition and dissolving or modifying the final order, or granting the petition and setting the matter for further proceedings. If the decision maker fails to respond to the petition not later than thirty (30) days after filing, or a longer period agreed to by the parties, the petition is deemed denied. The petition may be granted only if the decision maker states findings of facts, conclusions of law, and the reasons for granting the petition.
- SECTION 21. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5257, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 67-5257. STAY. Except as otherwise provided by law of this state other than this act, a party, not later than seven (7) days after the service date of the order, may request the agency to stay a final order pending judicial review. The agency may grant the request for a stay pending judicial review if the agency finds that justice requires. The agency may grant or deny the

request for stay of the order before, on, or after the effective date of the order.

SECTION 22. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5258, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

- 67-5258. AVAILABILITY OF ORDERS -- INDEX -- INDEXING OF GUIDANCE DOC-UMENTS. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (2) and (3) of this section, an agency shall create an index of all final orders in contested cases and make the index and all final orders available for public inspection and copying, at cost, in its principal offices.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this section, final orders that are exempt, privileged, or otherwise made confidential or protected from disclosure by the public records law of this state are not public records and may not be indexed. The final order may be excluded from an index and disclosed only by order of the presiding officer with a written statement of reasons attached to the order.
- (3) If the presiding officer determines it is possible to redact a final order that is exempt, privileged, or otherwise made confidential or protected from disclosure by law of this state other than this act, so that it complies with the requirements of that law, the redacted order may be placed in the index and published.
- (4) An agency may not rely on a final order adverse to a party other than the agency as precedent in future adjudications, unless the agency designates the order as a precedent and the order has been published, placed in an index, and made available for public inspection.
- (5) Unless otherwise prohibited by any provision of law, each agency shall index by subject all agency guidance documents. The index and the guidance documents shall be available for public inspection and copying at cost in the main office and each regional or district office of the agency. As used in this section, "agency guidance" means all written documents, other than rules, orders, and pre-decisional material, that are intended to guide agency actions affecting the rights or interests of persons outside the agency. "Agency guidance" shall include memoranda, manuals, policy statements, interpretations of law or rules, and other materials that are of general applicability, whether prepared by the agency alone or jointly with other persons. The indexing of a guidance document does not give that document the force and effect of law or other precedential authority.
- SECTION 23. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5259, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 67-5259. LICENSES. (1) If a licensee has made timely and sufficient application for the renewal of a license or a new license for any activity of a continuing nature, the existing license does not expire until the agency takes final action on the application and, if the application is denied or the terms of the new license are limited, until the last day for seeking review of the agency order or a later date fixed by the reviewing court.

(2) A revocation, suspension, annulment, or withdrawal of a license is not lawful unless, before the institution of agency proceedings, the agency notifies the licensee of facts or conduct that warrants the intended action and the licensee is given an opportunity to show compliance with all lawful requirements for the retention of the license. If the agency finds that imminent peril to public health or safety requires emergency action and incorporates a finding to that effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action. These proceedings must be promptly instituted and concluded and performed in accordance with the provisions of section 67-5247, Idaho Code.

- (3) A revocation, suspension, annulment, or withdrawal of a license that is in conflict with the provisions of this section shall be null, void and of no force and effect.
- SECTION 24. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5260, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 67-5260. RIGHT TO JUDICIAL REVIEW -- FINAL AGENCY ACTION REVIEW-ABLE. (1) In this section, and sections 67-5262 through 67-5267, Idaho Code, "final agency action" means an act of an agency that imposes an obligation, grants or denies a right, confers a benefit, or determines a legal relationship as a result of an administrative proceeding. The term includes an informal disposition as provided in section 67-5241, Idaho Code. The term does not include agency action that is a failure to act.
- (2) Except to the extent that a statute of this state other than this act limits or precludes judicial review, a person who meets the requirements of this section is entitled to judicial review of a final agency action.
- (3) A person entitled to judicial review of a final agency action under subsection (2) of this section is entitled to judicial review of an agency action that is not final if postponement of judicial review would result in an inadequate remedy or irreparable harm that outweighs the public benefit derived from postponing judicial review.
- (4) A court may compel an agency to take action that is unlawfully withheld or unreasonably delayed.
- SECTION 25. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5262, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 67-5262. TIME TO SEEK JUDICIAL REVIEW OF AGENCY ACTION -- LIMITATIONS. (1) A petition for judicial review of a temporary or final rule may be filed at any time, except as limited by section 67-5231, Idaho Code.
- (2) A petition for judicial review of a final order or an initial order that has become final when it was not reviewed by the agency head or preliminary, procedural or intermediate agency action under section 67-5260(3), Idaho Code, must be filed within twenty-eight (28) days of the service date of the final order, the date when the initial order became final, or the service date of a preliminary, procedural or intermediate agency order, or, if reconsideration is sought, within twenty-eight (28) days after the service date of the decision thereon. A cross-petition for judicial review may be

filed within fourteen (14) days after a party is served with a copy of the notice of the petition for judicial review.

- (3) A petition for judicial review of a final agency action other than a rule or order must be filed within twenty-eight (28) days of the agency action, except as provided by other provision of law. The time for filing a petition for review shall be extended during the pendency of the petitioner's timely attempts to exhaust administrative remedies, if the attempts are clearly not frivolous or repetitious. A cross-petition for judicial review may be filed within fourteen (14) days after a party is served with a copy of the notice of the petition for judicial review.
- (4) The time for seeking judicial review under this section is tolled during any time a party pursues an administrative remedy before the agency, which remedy must be exhausted as a condition of judicial review.
- (5) A party may not petition for judicial review while seeking reconsideration under section 67-5256, Idaho Code. During the time a petition for reconsideration is pending before an agency, the time for seeking judicial review in subsection (1) of this section is tolled.
- SECTION 26. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a <u>NEW SECTION</u>, to be known and designated as Section 67-5263, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 67-5263. STAYS PENDING APPEAL. A petition for judicial review does not automatically stay an agency decision. A challenging party may request the reviewing court for a stay on the same basis as stays are granted under the Idaho rules of civil procedure, and the reviewing court may grant a stay regardless of whether the challenging party first sought a stay from the agency.
- SECTION 27. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a <u>NEW SECTION</u>, to be known and designated as Section 67-5264, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 67-5264. STANDING. The following persons have standing to obtain judicial review of a final agency action:
 - (1) A person aggrieved or adversely affected by the agency action; and
- (2) A person that has standing under law of this state other than this act.
- SECTION 28. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a <u>NEW SECTION</u>, to be known and designated as Section 67-5265, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
 - 67-5265. EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES. (1) Subject to subsection (3) of this section, or law of this state other than this act that provides that a person need not exhaust administrative remedies, a person may file a petition for judicial review under this act only after exhausting all administrative remedies available within the agency whose action is being challenged and within any other agency authorized to exercise administrative review.

- (2) Filing a petition for reconsideration or a stay of proceedings is not a prerequisite for seeking judicial review.
- (3) The court may relieve a petitioner of the requirement to exhaust any or all administrative remedies to the extent the administrative remedies are inadequate or the requirement would result in irreparable harm.
- SECTION 29. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5266, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 67-5266. AGENCY RECORD ON JUDICIAL REVIEW -- EXCEPTIONS. (1) If an agency was required by the provisions of this act to maintain an agency record during the proceeding that gave rise to the action under review, the court review is confined to that record and to matters arising from that record.
- (2) In any case to which subsection (1) of this section does not apply, the record for review consists of the unprivileged materials that agency decision makers directly or indirectly considered or that were submitted for consideration by any person in connection with the action under review, including information that is adverse to the agency's position. If the agency action was ministerial or was taken on the basis of a minimal or no administrative record, the court may receive evidence relating to the agency's basis for taking the action.
- (3) The court may supervise an agency's compilation of the agency record. If a challenging party makes a substantial showing of need, the court may allow discovery or other evidentiary proceedings and consider evidence outside the agency record to:
 - (a) Ensure that the agency record is complete as required by this act and other applicable law;
 - (b) Adjudicate allegations of procedural error not disclosed by the record; or
 - (c) Prevent manifest injustice.

- (4) If, before the date set for hearing, application is made to the court for leave to present additional evidence and it is shown to the satisfaction of the court that the additional evidence is material, relates to the validity of the agency action, and that there were good reasons for failure to present it in the proceeding before the agency, the court may remand the matter to the agency with directions that the agency receive additional evidence and conduct additional fact-finding. The agency may modify its action by reason of the additional evidence and shall file any modifications, new findings, or decisions with the reviewing court.
- SECTION 30. That Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 67-5267, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 67-5267. STANDARD OF REVIEW. (1) Except as provided by law of this state other than this act, in judicial review of an agency action, the following rules apply:
 - (a) The court shall make a ruling on each material issue on which the court's decision is based.

- (b) The court's standard of review shall be to apply the substantial and competent evidence test to questions of fact, except those on which it takes evidence in conducting a trial de novo, and freely review questions of law.
- (c) The court shall affirm, modify or reverse the agency action, in whole or in part, or remand for further proceedings as necessary.
- (d) If, based upon the totality of the record, the court determines that an agency action was unwarranted and based upon a manifest injustice in the findings of fact, the court shall enter findings supporting its determination of manifest injustice and conduct a trial de novo without a jury.
- (2) In making a determination under this section, the court shall review the agency record or the parts designated by the parties and shall apply the rule of harmless error.
- SECTION 31. That Section 67-5255, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- $67-52\overline{55}\underline{68}$. DECLARATORY RULINGS BY AGENCIES. (1) Any person may petition an agency for a declaratory ruling as to the applicability of any order issued by the agency.
- (2) A petition for a declaratory ruling does not preclude an agency from initiating a contested case in the matter.
- (3) A declaratory ruling issued by an agency under this section is a final agency action.
- SECTION 32. That Section 67-5272, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 67-527269. VENUE -- FORM OF ACTION. (1) Except when required by other provision of law, proceedings for review or declaratory judgment are instituted by filing a petition in the district court of the county in which:
 - (a) the hearing was held; or

- (b) the final agency action was taken; or
- (c) the aggrieved party resides or operates its principal place of business in Idaho; or
- (d) the real property or personal property that was the subject of the agency decision is located.
- (2) When two (2) or more petitions for judicial review of the same agency action are filed in different counties or are assigned to different district judges in the same county, upon motion filed by any party to any of the proceedings for judicial review of the same agency action, the separate consideration of the petitions in different counties or by different district judges shall be stayed. The administrative judge in the judicial district in which the first petition was filed, after appropriate consultation with the affected district judges and the affected administrative judges, shall then order consolidation of the judicial review of the petitions before one (1) district judge in one (1) county in which a petition for judicial review was properly filed, at which time the stay shall be lifted.

SECTION 33. That Section 7-1417, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 7-1417. FINAL ORDER OF SUSPENSION. (1) A license suspension order issued by the court shall be final and conclusive between the parties unless an appeal is filed within twenty-eight (28) days.
- (2) A license suspension order issued by a hearing officer of the department shall be final and conclusive between the parties unless an appeal to district court is filed within twenty-eight (28) days, notwithstanding the provisions of section 67-524353, Idaho Code.
- SECTION 34. That Section 26-31-208, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 26-31-208. RECORDS -- REPORTS -- RENEWAL AND REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSE. (1) Every licensee under this part shall maintain records in the United States, including financial records in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, in a manner that will enable the director to determine whether the licensee is complying with the provisions of this part. The recordkeeping system of the licensee shall be sufficient if it makes the required information reasonably available to the director. The records need not be kept in the place of business where residential mortgage loans are made, if the director is given free access to the records wherever located. The records pertaining to any loan need not be preserved for more than three (3) years after making the final entry relating to the loan.
- (2) Every mortgage broker or mortgage lender licensed under this part that employs or contracts with a mortgage loan originator licensed under part 3 of this chapter, for the purpose of conducting mortgage loan origination activities in Idaho, shall:
 - (a) Notify the director through the NMLSR, or as otherwise prescribed by the director, of the employment of, or contractual relationship with, a mortgage loan originator licensee within thirty (30) days of such employment or contract;
 - (b) Notify the director through the NMLSR, or as otherwise prescribed by the director, of the termination of employment of, or contractual relationship with, a mortgage loan originator licensee within thirty (30) days of such termination; and
 - (c) Maintain any records relating to the employment of, or contractual relationship with, a mortgage loan originator licensee, for a period not to exceed three (3) years.
- (3) On or before December 31 of each year, every mortgage broker and mortgage lender licensee under this part shall pay through the NMLSR, or as otherwise prescribed by the director, a nonrefundable annual license renewal fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150), and file with the director through the NMLSR, or as otherwise prescribed by the director, a renewal application containing such information as the director may require. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 67-52549, Idaho Code, a license issued under this part automatically expires if not timely renewed according to the requirements of this section. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 67-52549, Idaho Code, branch licenses issued under this part also

expire upon the expiration, relinquishment or revocation of a license issued under this part to a licensee's designated home office.

- (4) The director may reinstate an expired license during the time period of January 1 through February 28, immediately following license expiration if the director finds that the applicant meets the requirements for licensure under this part after submission to the director of:
 - (a) A complete application for renewal;

- (b) The fees required to apply for license renewal unless previously paid for the period for which the license renewal applies; and
- (c) A reinstatement fee of two hundred dollars (\$200).
- (5) Within forty-five (45) days of the end of each calendar quarter, each mortgage broker and mortgage lender licensee under this part shall submit quarterly mortgage call reports through the NMLSR, which shall be in such form and shall contain such information as the director may require.
- (6) Within forty-five (45) days of the end of each calendar year, each mortgage broker and mortgage lender licensee under this part shall submit an annual report of financial condition through the NMLSR, which shall be in such form and shall contain such information as the director may require.
- SECTION 35. That Section 26-31-309, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 26-31-309. LICENSE RENEWAL AND REINSTATEMENT REQUIREMENTS. (1) The minimum standards for license renewal for mortgage loan originators licensed under this part shall include the following:
 - (a) The mortgage loan originator continues to meet the minimum standards for license issuance pursuant to section 26-31-306, Idaho Code;
 - (b) The mortgage loan originator has satisfied the annual continuing education requirements pursuant to section 26-31-310, Idaho Code; and
 - (c) The mortgage loan originator has filed with the director through the NMLSR, on or before December 31 of each year, a renewal application containing such information as the director may require, accompanied by a nonrefundable annual license renewal fee of one hundred dollars (\$100).
- (2) If a mortgage loan originator fails to timely satisfy the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, notwithstanding the provisions of section 67-52549, Idaho Code, then his license automatically and immediately expires.
- (3) The director may reinstate an expired license during the time period of January 1 through February 28, immediately following license expiration if the director finds that the former licensee meets the requirements for licensure under this part after submission to the director of:
 - (a) A complete application for renewal;
 - (b) The fees required to apply for license renewal unless previously paid for the period for which the license renewal applies; and
 - (c) A reinstatement fee of one hundred dollars (\$100).

SECTION 36. That Section 28-46-302, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

28-46-302. LICENSE TO MAKE REGULATED CONSUMER LOANS. (1) The administrator shall receive and act on all applications for a license to do business as a regulated lender. Applications shall be filed in the manner prescribed by the administrator, shall contain such information as the administrator may reasonably require, shall be updated as necessary to keep the information current, and shall be accompanied by an application fee of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350). When an application for licensure is denied or withdrawn, the administrator shall retain all fees paid by the applicant. The administrator may deny an application for a license if the administrator finds that:

- (a) The financial responsibility, character, and fitness of the applicant, and of the officers and directors thereof (if the applicant is a corporation) are not such as to warrant belief that the business will be operated honestly and fairly within the purposes of this act;
- (b) The applicant does not maintain at least thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) in liquid assets, as determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, available for the purpose of making loans under this chapter;
- (c) The applicant has had a license, substantially equivalent to a license under this chapter and issued by any state, denied, revoked or suspended under the law of such state;
- (d) The applicant has filed an application for a license which is false or misleading with respect to any material fact;
- (e) The application does not contain all of the information required by the administrator; or
- (f) The application is not accompanied by an application fee of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350).
- (2) A licensee under this chapter shall meet the requirements of subsection (1) of this section at all times while licensed pursuant to this chapter. The administrator is empowered to conduct investigations as he may deem necessary, to enable him to determine the existence of the requirements set out in subsection (1) of this section.
- (3) Upon written request, the applicant is entitled to a hearing on the question of his qualifications for a license if:
 - (a) The administrator has notified the applicant in writing that his application has been denied, or objections filed; or
 - (b) The administrator has not issued a license within sixty (60) days after the application for the license was filed.

If a hearing is held, the applicant and those filing objections shall reimburse, pro rata, the administrator for his reasonable and necessary expenses incurred as a result of the hearing. A request for a hearing may not be made more than fifteen (15) days after the administrator has mailed a writing to the applicant notifying him that the application has been denied and stating in substance the administrator's finding supporting denial of the application or that objections have been filed and the substance thereof.

(4) The administrator may issue additional licenses to the same licensee upon application by the licensee, in the manner prescribed by the administrator, and payment of the required application fee. A separate license shall be required for each place of business. Each license shall remain in full force and effect unless the licensee does not satisfy the

renewal requirements of subsection (8) of this section, or the license is relinquished, suspended or revoked.

- (5) No licensee shall change the location of any place of business, or consolidate, or close any locations, without giving the administrator at least fifteen (15) days' prior written notice.
- (6) A licensee shall not engage in the business of making regulated consumer loans at any place of business for which he does not hold a license nor shall he engage in business under any other name than that in the license.
- (7) A license application shall be deemed withdrawn and void if an applicant submits an incomplete license application and, after receipt of a written notice of the application deficiency, fails to provide the director with information necessary to complete the application within sixty (60) days of receipt of the deficiency notice. A written deficiency notice shall be deemed received by a license applicant when:
 - (a) Placed in regular U.S. mail by the director or his agent using an address provided by the applicant on the license application; or
 - (b) E-mailed to the applicant using an e-mail address provided by the applicant on the license application; or
 - (c) Posted by the director or his agent on the NMLSR if the license application was submitted through the NMLSR.
- (8) On or before May 31 of each year, every licensee under this chapter shall pay a nonrefundable annual license renewal fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) per licensed location, and shall file with the administrator a renewal form containing such information as the administrator may require. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 67-52549, Idaho Code, a license issued under this part automatically expires if not timely renewed according to the requirements of this section. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 67-52549, Idaho Code, branch licenses issued under this part also expire upon the expiration, relinquishment or revocation of a license issued under this part to a licensee's designated home office.
- (9) For a period of time not to exceed sixty (60) days following license expiration, the director may reinstate an expired license if he finds that the applicant meets the requirements for licensure under this part and the applicant has submitted to the director:
 - (a) A complete application for renewal;

- (b) The fees required to apply for license renewal unless previously paid for the period for which the license renewal applies; and
- (c) A reinstatement fee of two hundred dollars (\$200).

SECTION 37. That Section 28-46-404, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 28-46-404. APPLICATION FOR PAYDAY LOAN LICENSE. (1) Each application for a license shall be in writing and under oath to the administrator, in a form prescribed by the administrator, and shall include at least the following:
 - (a) The legal name, residence and business address of the applicant and, if the applicant is an entity, of every member, partner, director, senior officer or twenty-five percent (25%) or more equity owner of the applicant;

- (b) The location at which the principal place of business of the applicant is located; and
- (c) Other data and information the administrator may require with respect to the applicant, and if the applicant is an entity, such data and information of its members, partners, directors, senior officers, or twenty-five percent (25%) or more equity owners of the applicant.
- (2) Each application for a license shall be accompanied by an application fee in the amount of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350). Such fee shall not be subject to refund.
- (3) The fee set forth in subsection (2) of this section shall be required for each location for which an application is submitted.
- (4) Within sixty (60) days of the filing of an application in a form prescribed by the administrator, accompanied by the fee required in subsection (2) of this section, the administrator shall investigate to ascertain whether the qualifications prescribed by subsection (1) of section 28-46-403, Idaho Code, have been satisfied. If the administrator finds that the qualifications have been satisfied and approves the documents, the administrator shall issue to the applicant a license to engage in the payday loan business.
- (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 67-52549, Idaho Code, a license issued pursuant to this part automatically expires if not timely renewed according to the requirements of subsection (7) of this section, or the license is relinquished, suspended or revoked pursuant to this act. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 67-52549, Idaho Code, branch licenses issued under this part also expire upon the expiration, relinquishment or revocation of a license issued under this part to a licensee's designated home office.
- (6) A license application shall be deemed withdrawn and void if an applicant submits an incomplete license application and, after receipt of a written notice of the application deficiency, fails to provide the director with information necessary to complete the application within sixty (60) days of receipt of the deficiency notice. A written deficiency notice shall be deemed received by a license applicant when:
 - (a) Placed in regular U.S. mail by the director or his agent using an address provided by the applicant on the license application; or
 - (b) E-mailed to the applicant using an e-mail address provided by the applicant on the license application; or
 - (c) Posted by the director or his agent on the NMLSR if the license application was submitted through the NMLSR.
- (7) On or before May 31 of each year, every licensee under this part 4 shall pay a nonrefundable annual license renewal fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) per licensed location, and shall file with the administrator a renewal form containing such information as the administrator may require.
- (8) For a period of time not to exceed sixty (60) days following license expiration, the director may reinstate an expired license if he finds that the applicant meets the requirements for licensure under this part and the applicant has submitted to the director:
 - (a) A complete application for renewal;
 - (b) The fees required to apply for license renewal unless previously paid for the period for which the license renewal applies; and

(c) A reinstatement fee of two hundred dollars (\$200).

SECTION 38. That Section 32-1612, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 32-1612. ORDER FROM HEARING. (1) The department shall issue an order based upon the hearing that rejects the contest or supports the contest in whole or part. The parties may file an appeal with the district court within twenty-eight (28) days, notwithstanding the provisions of section 67-524353, Idaho Code.
- (2) The department shall notify the financial institution in writing, within two (2) business days after the receipt of the order, as to the outcome of the hearing, and provide instructions to the financial institution as to the disposition of the asset that has been frozen.
- SECTION 39. That Section 33-5209C, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 33-5209C. ENFORCEMENT -- REVOCATION -- APPEAL. (1) An authorized chartering entity shall continually monitor the performance and legal compliance of the public charter schools it oversees, including collecting and analyzing data to support ongoing evaluation according to the performance certificate. Every authorized chartering entity shall have the authority to conduct or require oversight activities that enable the authorized chartering entity to fulfill its responsibilities pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, including conducting appropriate inquiries and investigations, so long as those activities are consistent with the intent of this chapter, adhere to the terms of the performance certificate and do not unduly inhibit the autonomy granted to public charter schools.
- (2) Each authorized chartering entity shall annually publish and make available to the public a performance report for each public charter school it oversees, in accordance with the performance framework set forth in the performance certificate and section 33-5209A, Idaho Code. The authorized chartering entity may require each public charter school it oversees to submit an annual report to assist the authorized chartering entity in gathering complete information about each school consistent with the performance framework. Each public charter school shall publish its annual performance report on the school's website.
- (3) If an authorized chartering entity has reason to believe that a public charter school cannot remain fiscally sound for the remainder of its certificate term, it shall provide the state department of education with written notification of such concern. Upon receiving such notification, the state department of education shall have the authority to modify the percentage of the total appropriation to be paid to the public charter school pursuant to the provisions of section 33-1009(1), Idaho Code, such that equal percentages are paid on each of the prescribed dates.
- (4) If an authorized chartering entity has reason to believe that a charter holder or public charter school has violated any provision of law, it shall notify the charter holder and the entity responsible for administering said law of the possible violation.

(5) If an authorized chartering entity revokes or does not renew a charter, the authorized chartering entity shall clearly state, in a resolution of its governing board, the reasons for the revocation or nonrenewal.

- (6) Within fourteen (14) days of taking action to renew, not renew or revoke a charter, the authorized chartering entity shall report to the state board of education the action taken and shall provide a copy of the report to the charter holder at the same time that the report is submitted to the state board of education. The report shall include a copy of the authorized chartering entity's resolution setting forth the action taken and reasons for the decision and assurances as to compliance with all of the requirements set forth in this chapter.
- (7) A charter may be revoked by the authorized chartering entity if the public charter school has failed to meet any of the specific, written conditions for necessary improvements established pursuant to the provisions of section 33-5209B(1), Idaho Code, by the dates specified. Revocation may not occur until the charter holder has been afforded a public hearing, unless the authorized chartering entity determines that the continued operation of the public charter school presents an imminent public safety issue, in which case the charter may be revoked immediately. Public hearings shall be conducted by the authorized chartering entity or such other person or persons appointed by the authorized chartering entity to conduct public hearings and receive evidence as a contested case in accordance with the provisions of section 67-5242 chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code. Notice and opportunity to reply shall include, at a minimum, written notice setting out the basis for consideration of revocation, a period of not less than thirty (30) days within which the charter holder can reply in writing, and a public hearing within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the written reply.
- (8) A decision to revoke or nonrenew a charter or to deny a revision of a charter may be appealed directly to the state board of education. With respect to such appeal, the state board of education shall substantially follow the procedure as provided in section 33-5207(5)(b), Idaho Code. In the event the state board of education reverses a decision of revocation or nonrenewal, the charter holder subject to such action shall then be placed under the chartering authority of the public charter school commission.

SECTION 40. That Section 40-709A, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 40-709A. PETITION FOR HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE. (1) Any county or highway district may petition the Idaho transportation board to take action, as provided in this section, to provide for the maintenance of a highway or portion thereof under the jurisdiction of a county or highway district.
- (2) The petition and supporting materials shall establish the following facts:
 - (a) That the subject highway or relevant portion thereof provides the only practical access to a city, town or other developed area;
 - (b) That the county or highway district with jurisdiction over the subject highway, or relevant portion thereof, is obligated to maintain the highway or relevant portion thereof;
 - (c) That said county or highway district historically has provided maintenance to the subject highway or relevant portion thereof suffi-

cient to allow safe motorist access to the city, town or other developed area; and

(d) Said county or highway district is now failing to provide maintenance sufficient to allow safe motorist access to the city, town or other developed area.

The petition shall not be based on failure to improve the highway or to expand maintenance beyond what historically has been provided. The petition shall also document the petitioner's efforts to communicate its concerns to the subject county or highway district and explain why the issue could not be resolved. The petitioner shall provide notice to the subject county or highway district, including a copy of the petition and all supporting materials.

- (3) The Idaho transportation department shall publish notice of the petition as set forth in section 40-206, Idaho Code, and shall provide the subject county or highway district a reasonable opportunity to respond to the petition, to take corrective action, to explain any extenuating circumstances or to otherwise address the concerns presented in the petition. Based on all information available to it, including such independent investigation as it deems appropriate, the Idaho transportation department shall make a recommendation for action to the Idaho transportation board.
- (4) The Idaho transportation board shall review the petition and the recommendation of the Idaho transportation department.
- (5) If the Idaho transportation board determines that the petition is without merit, it may deny the petition without hearing and issue written findings and conclusions stating its reasons therefor.
- (6) If the Idaho transportation board determines that the petition may have merit, it shall hold a hearing on the matter and allow all affected entities and interested persons an opportunity to be heard.
- (7) Following the hearing provided in subsection (6) of this section, the Idaho transportation board shall either grant or deny the petition and issue findings and conclusions stating its reasons therefor. The petition shall be granted only upon a finding that the public safety, health or welfare would be endangered because the subject county or highway district is inappropriately and unreasonably failing to maintain a highway or portion thereof that it is obligated to maintain and that the facts set out in subsection (2)(a), (b), (c) and (d) of this section have been established. In determining the reasonableness of the subject county or highway district's actions with respect to the highway, the Idaho transportation board shall take into account the authority of the county or highway district to temporarily close a highway, the availability of funding and other considerations addressed in sections 40-1311 and 40-1315, Idaho Code. The Idaho transportation board shall not approve a petition with respect to a highway or portion thereof that has been vacated or is subject to an ongoing vacation or validation proceeding.
- (8) If the petition is granted, the transportation department may undertake itself the maintenance of the highway or portion thereof or it may contract with another political subdivision to undertake the maintenance. In either case, the transportation department shall certify to the state controller the actual cost of maintenance undertaken by the transportation department or by the contracted political subdivision. The state controller shall pay into the state highway account of the Idaho transportation depart—

ment or directly to the contracted political subdivision the actual costs incurred as certified by the transportation department. Such funds shall be deducted from the funds that would otherwise have been allocated pursuant to section 40-709, Idaho Code, to the county or highway district that failed to provide adequate maintenance.

- (9) Political subdivisions that acquire funds for roadwork of any type either pursuant to this section or by separate voluntary agreement with another political subdivision or the state are hereby authorized to expend such funds outside of their jurisdictional boundaries notwithstanding any other provision of law.
- (10) A county or highway district that has been the subject of a petition granted pursuant to this section may request a termination or modification of the arrangement authorized by the Idaho transportation department for maintenance by the Idaho transportation department or another entity. A request for termination shall be accompanied by appropriate documentation showing that the requesting entity is prepared to resume its maintenance responsibility for the highway. The Idaho transportation board shall consider the request for termination or modification, taking into account the information presented by the requesting entity and any other information available to the Idaho transportation board. If the Idaho transportation board determines that the concerns giving rise to the petition have been addressed and the entity is committed to resume maintenance of the highway, the Idaho transportation board shall terminate its prior action and allow the entity to resume responsibility for maintenance of the highway upon the beginning of the next fiscal year. The Idaho transportation board may also modify the existing arrangement for funding of maintenance.
- (11) A decision by the Idaho transportation board granting or denying a petition or request under this section is a final agency action for purposes of section $67-52\frac{70(2)}{60}$, Idaho Code.
- SECTION 41. That Section 41-227, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 41-227. EXAMINATION REPORT. (1) The director or his examiner shall make a full and true written report of every examination made by him under this chapter, and shall verify the report by his oath.
- (2) The report shall comprise only facts appearing upon the books, papers, records or documents of the person being examined, or ascertained from testimony of individuals under oath concerning the affairs of such person, together with such conclusions and recommendations as may reasonably be warranted from such facts.
- (3) Prior to a hearing and prior to any modifications the report shall be subject to disclosure according to chapter 1, title 74, Idaho Code.
- (4) No later than sixty (60) days following completion of the examination, the examiner in charge shall file with the department a verified written report of examination under oath. Upon receipt of the verified report, the department shall transmit the report to the company examined, together with a notice which shall afford the company examined a reasonable opportunity of not more than thirty (30) days to make a written submission or rebuttal with respect to any matters contained in the examination report.

(5) Within thirty (30) days of the end of the period allowed for the receipt of written submissions or rebuttals, the director shall fully consider and review the report, together with any written submissions or rebuttals and any relevant portions of the examiner's work papers, and enter an order:

- (a) Adopting the examination report as filed or with modifications or corrections. If the examination report reveals that the company is operating in violation of any law, regulation or prior order of the director, the director may order the company to take any action the director considers necessary and appropriate to cure such violation;
- (b) Rejecting the examination report with directions to the examiners to reopen the examination for purposes of obtaining additional data, documentation or information, and refiling pursuant to subsection (24) of this section; or
- (c) Calling for an investigatory hearing with no less than twenty (20) days' notice to the company for purposes of obtaining additional documentation, data, information and testimony.
- (6) (a) All orders entered pursuant to subsection (5) (a) of this section shall be accompanied by findings and conclusions resulting from the director's consideration and review of the examination report, relevant examiner work papers and any written submissions or rebuttals. Any such order shall be considered a final order and may be appealed pursuant to sections 67-527060 through 67-527969, Idaho Code, and shall be served upon the company by certified mail, together with a copy of the adopted examination report. Within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the adopted report, the company shall file affidavits executed by each of its directors stating under oath that they have received a copy of the adopted report and related orders.
- (b) Any hearing conducted under subsection (5) (c) of this section by the director or authorized representative, shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code, as a nonadversarial confidential investigatory proceeding as necessary for the resolution of any inconsistencies, discrepancies or disputed issues apparent upon the face of the filed examination report or raised by, or as a result of, the director's review of relevant work papers or by the written submission or rebuttal of the company. Within twenty (20) days of the conclusion of any such hearing, the director shall enter an order pursuant to the provisions of subsection (5) (a) of this section.
- (c) The director shall not appoint a contract examiner or an employee of the department as an authorized representative to conduct the hearing. Nothing contained in this section shall require the department to disclose any information or records which would indicate or show the content of any investigation or activity of a criminal justice agency, except to the extent that the director relied upon information furnished to the director by such criminal justice agency in making his decision.
- (7) The report when so verified and filed shall be admissible in evidence in any action or proceeding brought by the director against the person examined, or against its officers, employees or agents, and shall be presumptive evidence of the material facts stated therein. The director or his examiners may at any time testify and offer other proper evidence as to information secured or matters discovered during the course of an examination,

whether or not a written report of the examination has been either made, furnished or filed in the department.

- (8) After an order is entered under the provisions of subsection (5) (a) of this section, the director may publish the report or the results of the examination as contained therein which report or results are a public record and shall be exempt from the exemptions from disclosure provided in chapter 1, title 74, Idaho Code.
- (9) Nothing contained in this chapter shall prevent or be construed as prohibiting the director from disclosing the content of an examination report, preliminary examination report or results, or any matter relating thereto, to the insurance department of this or any other state or country, or to law enforcement officials of this or any other state or agency of the federal government at any time, so long as the agency or office receiving the report or matters relating thereto agrees in writing to hold it confidential and in a manner consistent with this chapter.
- (10) All working papers, recorded information, documents and copies thereof produced by, obtained by or disclosed to the director or any other person in the course of an examination made under the provisions of this chapter shall be made available to the person or company which was the subject of the examination in proceedings pursuant to chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code, but shall otherwise be held by the director as a record not required to be made public pursuant to exemptions from disclosure provided in chapter 1, title 74, Idaho Code.

SECTION 42. That Section 47-324, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 47-324. RULES FOR COMMISSION -- ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES. (a) The commission shall have authority to hear rulemaking proceedings, complaints filed with it pursuant to this chapter and appeals from the director's decision on an application filed pursuant to this chapter. The commission may prescribe rules governing the procedure before it, subject to the provisions of the administrative procedure act, chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code.
- (b) In all cases where + a complaint is made by the commission or any person that any provision of this act, or any rule or order of the commission is being violated, notice of any hearing to be held on such application or complaint, the commission shall serve notice on the interested parties by certified mail, return receipt requested, or in the same manner as is provided in the rules of civil procedure for the service of summons in civil actions. Where the interested party is unknown or cannot be located, the commission shall serve notice by publishing at least one (1) notice of the hearing to such person in a newspaper in the county where the affected tract is located. Such notice must be sent, delivered or published, as appropriate, at least five (5) business days before the date of the hearing.
- (c) Except as provided in section 47-320(1) (a), Idaho Code, and subsection (b) of this section, any request for an order related to oil and gas activities within the commission's jurisdiction, other than a civil penalty proceeding pursuant to section 47-325, Idaho Code, or other enforcement action by the department of lands or the commission, shall be made by application to the department of lands.

- (i) The department shall notify the applicant within five (5) business days of receipt of an application if the application is administratively incomplete, and in such notice shall identify the missing item or items to be supplied in order to make the application complete.
- (ii) A decision on the merits of the application shall be made by the director. The director's decision shall not be subject to any motion for reconsideration or further review, except for appeal to the commission provided in subsection (d) of this section.
- (iii) For applications involving an order regarding unit operations or integration of a drilling unit, the department shall send a copy of the application and supporting documents to all known and located uncommitted owners, to all working interest owners within the unit, and to the respective city or county where the proposed unit is located. The mailing shall include notice of the hearing date on which the director will consider the application. The application shall be redacted pursuant to section 47-322(f), Idaho Code, and sent by certified mail. Upon request, the applicant shall reimburse the department for actual mailing costs incurred under this subsection. For any uncommitted owners and working interest owners who cannot be located, an applicant shall publish notice of any application for an order once in a newspaper in the county in which the affected property is located, and request the department publish notice on its website, within seven (7) calendar days of filing of the complete application. Only an uncommitted owner in the affected unit may file an objection or other response to the application, and the uncommitted owner shall file seven (7) calendar days before the hearing date provided in the notice.
- (iv) For applications not involving paragraph (iii) of this subsection, including exceptional locations, any uncommitted owner within the area defined in the application may file an objection or other response to the application, and the uncommitted owner shall file seven (7) calendar days before the hearing date provided in the notice.
- (v) The director shall hear an application within thirty (30) calendar days of the filing of a complete application. Discovery is not permitted. The director shall issue a written decision on any such application within thirty (30) calendar days of the hearing.
- (d) The director's decision on an application for an order may be appealed to the commission by the applicant or any owner who filed an objection or other response to the application within the time required. An appeal must be filed with the director within fourteen (14) calendar days of the date of issuance of the director's written decision. The date of issuance shall be three (3) calendar days after the director deposits the decision in the U.S. mail, or the date on which he remits a decision electronically. Such appeal shall include the reasons and authority for the appeal, and shall identify any facts in the record supporting the appeal. Any person appealing shall serve a copy of the appeal materials on any other person who participated in the proceedings below, by certified mail, or by personal service. Any person who participated in the proceeding below may file a response to the appeal within five (5) calendar days of service of a copy of the appeal materials. The appellant shall provide the director with proof of service of the appeal materials on other persons as required in this section.

The commission shall make a decision based on the record below as set forth in the written submittals of only the appellant and any other participating qualified person, the director's decision, and any oral argument taken by the commission at an appeal hearing.

- (e) Appeals to the commission shall be heard at the next regularly scheduled commission hearing, or at a special meeting of the commission if determined by the commission. In no case will a hearing be later than thirty (30) days after the filing of an appeal. The commission may take argument from, but not new testimony of, the appellant and other qualified participating persons at the hearing. The commission shall make a decision on the appeal at the hearing and direct the department to issue a written order within five (5) business days of the hearing. The prevailing party shall draft a proposed written order and submit it to the department within two (2) business days. The final order of the commission shall not be subject to any motion for reconsideration.
- (f) If no appeal is filed with the commission within the required time, the decision of the director shall become the final order.
- (g) Judicial review of actions taken by the commission shall be governed by the provisions of chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code. Only a person qualified under subsection (d) of this section who has completed the appeal procedures set forth in this section shall be considered to have exhausted administrative remedies as required in section 67-527165, Idaho Code.
- (h) Each order shall include a reasoned statement in support of the decision, including a concise statement of facts supporting any findings, a statement of available procedures and time limits for appeals. Findings must be based exclusively on materials in the record. The applicant and any participating qualified person shall be served with a copy of the order. The order shall include or be accompanied by a certificate of service.
- (i) Every application shall be signed by the applicant or his representative, and his address shall be stated thereon. The signature of the applicant or his representative constitutes a certificate by him that he has read the application and that to the best of his knowledge, information and belief there is good ground to support the same. Each application shall be of such form and content and accompanied by the number of copies required by rule of the commission. Each application shall be accompanied by a fee as established in statute or rule.

SECTION 43. That Section 50-222, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 50-222. ANNEXATION BY CITIES. (1) Legislative intent. The legislature hereby declares and determines that it is the policy of the state of Idaho that cities of the state should be able to annex lands which are reasonably necessary to assure the orderly development of Idaho's cities in order to allow efficient and economically viable provision of tax-supported and fee-supported municipal services, to enable the orderly development of private lands which benefit from the cost-effective availability of municipal services in urbanizing areas and to equitably allocate the costs of public services in management of development on the urban fringe.
- (2) General authority. Cities have the authority to annex land into a city upon compliance with the procedures required in this section. In any

annexation proceeding, all portions of highways lying wholly or partially within an area to be annexed shall be included within the area annexed unless expressly agreed between the annexing city and the governing board of the highway agency providing road maintenance at the time of annexation. Provided further, that said city council shall not have the power to declare such land, lots or blocks a part of said city if they will be connected to such city only by a shoestring or strip of land which comprises a railroad or highway right-of-way.

- (3) Annexation classifications. Annexations shall be classified and processed according to the standards for each respective category set forth herein. The three (3) categories of annexation are:
 - (a) Category A: Annexations wherein:

- (i) All private landowners have consented to annexation. Annexation where all landowners have consented may extend beyond the city area of impact provided that the land is contiguous to the city and that the comprehensive plan includes the area of annexation;
- (ii) Any residential enclaved lands of less than one hundred (100) privately-owned parcels, irrespective of surface area, which are surrounded on all sides by land within a city or which are bounded on all sides by lands within a city and by the boundary of the city's area of impact; or
- (iii) The lands are those for which owner approval must be given pursuant to subsection (5) (b) (v) of this section.
- (b) Category B: Annexations wherein:
 - (i) The subject lands contain less than one hundred (100) separate private ownerships and platted lots of record and where not all such landowners have consented to annexation; or
 - (ii) The subject lands contain more than one hundred (100) separate private ownerships and platted lots of record and where landowners owning more than fifty percent (50%) of the area of the subject private lands have consented to annexation prior to the commencement of the annexation process; or
 - (iii) The lands are the subject of a development moratorium or a water or sewer connection restriction imposed by state or local health or environmental agencies; provided such lands shall not be counted for purposes of determining the number of separate private ownerships and platted lots of record aggregated to determine the appropriate category.
- (c) Category C: Annexations wherein the subject lands contain more than one hundred (100) separate private ownerships and platted lots of record and where landowners owning more than fifty percent (50%) of the area of the subject private lands have not consented to annexation prior to commencement of the annexation process.
- (4) (a) Evidence of consent to annexation. For purposes of this section, and unless excepted in paragraph (b) of this subsection (4), consent to annex shall be valid only when evidenced by written instrument consenting to annexation executed by the owner or the owner's authorized agent. Written consent to annex lands must be recorded in the county recorder's office to be binding upon subsequent purchasers,

heirs, or assigns of lands addressed in the consent. Lands need not be contiguous or adjacent to the city limits at the time the landowner consents to annexation for the property to be subject to a valid consent to annex; provided however, no annexation of lands shall occur, irrespective of consent, until such land becomes contiguous or adjacent to such city.

- (b) Exceptions to the requirement of written consent to annexation. The following exceptions apply to the requirement of written consent to annexation provided for in subsection (4) (a) of this section:
 - (i) Enclaved lands: In category A annexations, no consent is necessary for enclaved lands meeting the requirements of subsection (3) (a) (ii) of this section;
 - (ii) Implied consent: In category B and C annexations, valid consent to annex is implied for the area of all lands connected to a water or wastewater collection system operated by the city if the connection was requested in writing by the owner, or the owner's authorized agent, or completed before July 1, 2008.
- (5) Annexation procedures. Annexation of lands into a city shall follow the procedures applicable to the category of lands as established by this section. The implementation of any annexation proposal wherein the city council determines that annexation is appropriate shall be concluded with the passage of an ordinance of annexation.
 - (a) Procedures for category A annexations: Lands lying contiguous or adjacent to any city in the state of Idaho may be annexed by the city if the proposed annexation meets the requirements of category A. Upon determining that a proposed annexation meets such requirements, a city may initiate the planning and zoning procedures set forth in chapter 65, title 67, Idaho Code, to establish the comprehensive planning policies, where necessary, and zoning classification of the lands to be annexed.
 - (b) Procedures for category B annexations: A city may annex lands that would qualify under the requirements of category B annexation if the following requirements are met:
 - (i) The lands are contiguous or adjacent to the city and lie within the city's area of city impact;
 - (ii) The land is laid off into lots or blocks containing not more than five (5) acres of land each, whether the same shall have been or shall be laid off, subdivided or platted in accordance with any statute of this state or otherwise, or whenever the owner or proprietor or any person by or with his authority has sold or begun to sell off such contiguous or adjacent lands by metes and bounds in tracts not exceeding five (5) acres, or whenever the land is surrounded by the city. Splits of ownership which occurred prior to January 1, 1975, and which were the result of placement of public utilities, public roads or highways, or railroad lines through the property shall not be considered as evidence of an intent to develop such land and shall not be sufficient evidence that the land has been laid off or subdivided in lots or blocks. A single sale after January 1, 1975, of five (5) acres or less to a family member of the owner for the purpose of constructing a residence shall not constitute a sale within the meaning of this section. For pur-

poses of this section, "family member" means a natural person or 1 2 3 4 5 cludes, at a minimum, the following elements: 6 7 vices to the lands proposed to be annexed; 8 9 10 11 12 13

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- the spouse of a natural person who is related to the owner by blood, adoption or marriage within the first degree of consanguinity;
- (iii) Preparation and publication of a written annexation plan, appropriate to the scale of the annexation contemplated, which in-
 - The manner of providing tax-supported municipal ser-
 - (B) The changes in taxation and other costs, using examples, which would result if the subject lands were to be annexed;
 - The means of providing fee-supported municipal services, if any, to the lands proposed to be annexed;
 - (D) A brief analysis of the potential effects of annexation upon other units of local government which currently provide tax-supported or fee-supported services to the lands proposed to be annexed; and
 - (E) The proposed future land use plan and zoning designation or designations, subject to public hearing, for the lands proposed to be annexed;
- (iv) Compliance with the notice and hearing procedures governing a zoning district boundary change as set forth in section 67-6511, Idaho Code, on the question of whether the property should be annexed and, if annexed, the zoning designation to be applied thereto; provided however, the initial notice of public hearing concerning the question of annexation and zoning shall be published in the official newspaper of the city and mailed by first class mail to every property owner with lands included in such annexation proposal not less than twenty-eight (28) days prior to the initial public hearing. All public hearing notices shall establish a time and procedure by which comments concerning the proposed annexation may be received in writing and heard and, additionally, public hearing notices delivered by mail shall include a one (1) page summary of the contents of the city's proposed annexation plan and shall provide information regarding where the annexation plan may be obtained without charge by any property owner whose property would be subject to the annexation proposal.
- (v) In addition to the standards set forth elsewhere in this section, annexation of the following lands must meet the following requirements:
 - Property, owned by a county or any entity within the (A) county, that is used as a fairgrounds area under the provisions of chapter 8, title 31, Idaho Code, or chapter 2, title 22, Idaho Code, must have the consent of a majority of the board of county commissioners of the county in which the property lies; and
 - (B) Property, owned by a nongovernmental entity, that is used to provide outdoor recreational activities to the public and that has been designated as a planned unit development of fifty (50) acres or more and does not require or uti-

lize any city services must have the express written permission of the nongovernmental entity owner.

- (vi) After considering the written and oral comments of property owners whose land would be annexed and other affected persons, the city council may proceed with the enactment of an ordinance of annexation and zoning. In the course of the consideration of any such ordinance, the city must make express findings, to be set forth in the minutes of the city council meeting at which the annexation is approved, as follows:
 - (A) The land to be annexed meets the applicable requirements of this section and does not fall within the exceptions or conditional exceptions contained in this section;
 - (B) The annexation would be consistent with the public purposes addressed in the annexation plan prepared by the city;
 - (C) The annexation is reasonably necessary for the orderly development of the city;
- (vii) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, rail-road right-of-way property may be annexed pursuant to this section only when property within the city adjoins or will adjoin both sides of the right-of-way.
- (c) Procedures for category C annexations: A city may annex lands that would qualify under the requirements of category C annexation if the following requirements are met:
 - (i) Compliance with the procedures governing category B annexations; and
 - (ii) Evidence of consent to annexation based upon the following procedures:
 - (A) Following completion of all procedures required for consideration of a category B annexation, but prior to enactment of an annexation ordinance and upon an affirmative action by the city council, the city shall mail notice to all private landowners owning lands within the area to be annexed, exclusive of the owners of lands that are subject to a consent to annex which complies with subsection (4) (a) of this section defining consent. Such notice shall invite property owners to give written consent to the annexation, include a description of how that consent can be made and where it can be filed, and inform the landowners where the entire record of the subject annexation may be examined. Such mailed notice shall also include a legal description of the lands proposed for annexation and a simple map depicting the location of the subject lands.
 - (B) Each landowner desiring to consent to the proposed annexation must submit the consent in writing to the city clerk by a date specified in the notice, which date shall not be later than forty-five (45) days after the date of the mailing of such notice.
 - (C) After the date specified in the notice for receipt of written consent, the city clerk shall compile and present to the city council a report setting forth: (i) the total

physical area sought to be annexed, and (ii) the total physical area of the lands, as expressed in acres or square feet, whose owners have newly consented in writing to the annexation, plus the area of all lands subject to a prior consent to annex which complies with subsection (4) (a) of this section defining consent. The clerk shall immediately report the results to the city council.

- (D) Upon receiving such report, the city council shall review the results and may thereafter confirm whether consent was received from the owners of a majority of the land. The results of the report shall be reflected in the minutes of the city council. If the report as accepted by the city council confirms that owners of a majority of the land area have consented to annexation, the city council may enact an ordinance of annexation, which thereafter shall be published and become effective according to the terms of the ordinance. If the report confirms that owners of a majority of the land area have not consented to the annexation, the category C annexation shall not be authorized.
- (6) The decision of a city council to annex and zone lands as a category B or category C annexation shall be subject to judicial review in accordance with the procedures provided in chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code, and pursuant to the standards set forth in section 67-527967, Idaho Code. Any such appeal shall be filed by an affected person in the appropriate district court no later than twenty-eight (28) days after the date of publication of the annexation ordinance. All cases in which there may arise a question of the validity of any annexation under this section shall be advanced as a matter of immediate public interest and concern, and shall be heard by the district court at the earliest practicable time.
- (7) Annexation of noncontiguous municipal airfield. A city may annex land that is not contiguous to the city and is occupied by a municipally owned or operated airport or landing field. However, a city may not annex any other land adjacent to such noncontiguous facilities which is not otherwise annexable pursuant to this section.

SECTION 44. That Section 54-2509, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 54-2509. PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS OF LAW -- POWER OF COMMISSION. (1) Any person holding a race meet, and any other person required by this act or the rules of the commission to be licensed, participating, directly or indirectly, in a race meet, without first being licensed by the commission, and any person violating any of the terms or provisions of this act is guilty of a misdemeanor.
 - (a) There shall be an absolute prohibition of the use of live lures in the state of Idaho for the training of or racing of racing dogs. Any violation of the provisions of this section shall be a felony punishable by a fine not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000), or by a prison term not to exceed seven (7) years, or by both such fine and imprisonment. In addition the state racing commission shall not license any breeder, trainer or kennel whose dogs have been trained or raced

with the use of live lures. The <u>state</u> racing commission shall adopt rules that will provide for the humane treatment of the dogs involved in any aspect of training for or engaging in dog racing.

(2) The commission shall have the power to exclude from any and all race courses in this state any person who the commission deems detrimental to the best interests of racing, or any person who violates any of the provisions of this act or any rule or order of the commission.

- (3) It shall be lawful to conduct race meets on or at a race track, or otherwise, at any time during the week.
- (4) Any person maintaining a license issued by the commission, who violates the provisions of this act or the rules of the commission, may have such license suspended or revoked. In addition to such suspension or revocation the commission may levy a monetary penalty commensurate with the gravity of the offense, not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500). The commission, by rule shall provide a summary procedure for such determination at the track, the penalty amount for specified violations, and shall provide for an appeal of any summary decision to the commission. At-the-track summary proceedings shall not be subject to the provisions of chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code. Hearings and appeals before the commission as allowed by this act or the rules of the commission shall be subject to chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code, except the provisions of section 67-5254(2)59, Idaho Code, which is inconsistent with the unique requirements of racing.
- (5) All law enforcement officers in this state shall assist in the enforcement of this act and the rules of the commission.

SECTION 45. That Section 58-122, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

58-122. CONTESTED CASES -- PROCEDURE. It shall be the duty of the director of the department of lands in any or all contested cases, at the direction of the board, to appoint hearing officers, receive evidence, issue subpoenas and to hold contested case hearings in accordance with sections 67-5240 through 67-527169, Idaho Code, when hearings are necessary and witnesses may be required to be examined. Provided however, that when the state board of land commissioners is exercising its duties and authorities concerning the direction, control or disposition of the public lands of the state pursuant to sections 7 and 8, article IX, of the constitution of the state of Idaho, such actions shall not be considered to be contested cases as defined in subsection (6) of section 67-5201, Idaho Code, and section 67-5240, Idaho Code, unless the board, in its discretion, determines that a contested case hearing would be of assistance to the board in the exercise of its duties and authorities.

SECTION 46. That Section 67-2317, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

67-2317. HEARING AND DECISION OF DISPUTED ISSUES. Upon the failure or refusal of the official or agency in charge of any state public building to comply with the recommendations of the administrator of the division of building safety, the administrator may hold a hearing, pursuant to the

provisions for contested cases under the administrative procedure act, as provided in sections 67-52401 et seq., Idaho Code.

The administrator is empowered to conduct such hearing and render a decision. The administrator shall transmit a copy of the decision to the official or agency in direct control of the public building and to the governor.

SECTION 47. That Section 67-5206, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 67-5206. PROMULGATION OF RULES IMPLEMENTING ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT. (1) In accordance with the rulemaking requirements of this chapter, the administrative rules coordinator shall promulgate rules implementing the provisions of sections 67-5203, 67-5204 and 67-5205, Idaho Code. The rules shall:
 - (a) establish a uniform numbering system applicable to rules adopted by all agencies;
 - (b) establish a uniform style and format applicable to rules adopted by all agencies;
 - (c) establish a publication schedule for the bulletin and the administrative code, including deadlines for the submission of documents to be included within each publication;
 - (d) establish a uniform indexing system for agency orders; and
 - (e) include such other rules as the coordinator deems necessary to implement the provisions of sections 67-5203, 67-5204 and 67-5205, Idaho Code, and this section.
- (2) In accordance with the rulemaking requirements of this chapter, the attorney general shall promulgate rules of procedure appropriate for use by as many agencies as possible. The rules shall deal with all general functions and duties performed in common by several agencies.
- (3) In accordance with the rulemaking requirements of this chapter, the attorney general shall promulgate rules implementing the provisions of sections 67-5220 through 67-5232, Idaho Code. The rules shall specify:
 - (a) the form and content for petitions requesting an opportunity for an oral presentation in a substantive rulemaking;
 - (b) procedures for the creation of a record of comments received at any oral presentation;
 - (c) the standards by which exemptions from regular rulemaking requirements will be authorized to correct typographical errors, transcription errors, or clerical errors;
 - (d) the form and content for a petition for the adoption of rules and the procedure for its submission, consideration and disposition;
 - (e) procedures to facilitate negotiated rulemaking;
 - (f) the form and content of a petition for a declaratory ruling on the applicability of statutes or regulations; and
 - (g) such other provisions as may be necessary or useful.
- (4) In accordance with the rule making requirements of this chapter, the attorney general shall promulgate rules implementing the provisions of sections 67-52401 through 67-52559, Idaho Code. The rules shall specify:
 - (a) form and content to be employed in giving notice of a contested case;

- 1 (b) procedures and standards required for intervention in a contested
 2 case;
 - (c) procedures for prehearing conferences;

- (d) format for pleadings, briefs, and motions;
- (e) the method by which service shall be made;
- (f) procedures for the issuance of subpoenas, discovery orders, and protective orders if authorized by other provisions of law;
- (g) qualifications for persons seeking to act as a hearing officer;
- (h) qualifications for persons seeking to act as a representative for parties to contested cases;
- (i) procedures to facilitate informal settlement of matters;
- (j) procedures for placing ex parte contacts on the record; and
- (k) such other provisions as may be necessary or useful.
- (5) (a) After July 1, 1993, the rules promulgated by the attorney general under this section shall apply to all agencies that do not affirmatively promulgate alternative procedures after the promulgation of the rules by the attorney general. The rules promulgated by the attorney general shall supersede the procedural rules of any agency in effect on June 30, 1993, unless that agency promulgates its own procedures as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection.
- (b) After July 1, 1993, an agency that promulgates its own procedures shall include in the rule adopting its own procedures a finding that states the reasons why the relevant portion of the attorney general's rules were inapplicable to the agency under the circumstances.