

MINUTES  
**HOUSE TRANSPORTATION & DEFENSE COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, February 08, 2021  
**TIME:** 1:30 P.M.  
**PLACE:** Room EW40  
**MEMBERS:** Chairman Palmer, Vice Chairman DeMordaunt, Representatives Gestrin, Youngblood, Dixon, Harris, Holtzclaw, Monks, Syme, Blanksma, Addis, Manwaring, Mitchell, Okuniewicz, Shepherd, Gannon, Rubel, McCrostie  
**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** None  
**GUESTS:** Larry Laxon, ISSA & Valley Co; Sandra F. Mitchell, Terri Klanderud, ISSA; Nick Veldhouse, IAHD; David Claiborne, ID State ATV Assoc

**Chairman Palmer** called the meeting to order at 1:27 p.m.

**Reps. Syme and Holtzclaw** presented U.S. flags from the committee to **Major General Michael Garshak**, Adjutant General of Idaho and Commanding General of the Idaho National Guard. He was accompanied by **Lt. Colonel Nicole Washington**. The flags, flown over the U.S. Capital and the Idaho State Capital, were given in honor of three Idaho National Guard helicopter pilots who went down during a training mission, February 2, 2021. The flags will be given to the families of **CW4 Jesse Anderson, CW3 Geoff Laubhan, and CW3 Matthew Peltzer**.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Mitchell** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 2, and February 4, 2021, meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**H 61:** **Rep. Gestrin** presented **H 61**. **H 61** raises the snowmobile use certificate fee from \$31.00 to \$49.50. This volunteer user fee has not been increased for several years. These fees are used to construct and maintain groomed snowmobile trails, maintain winter parking lots, toilets, grooming huts and for equipment purchases and labor. Increased fees will support the state search and rescue fund as well as assist the Idaho Department of Lands with recreation management.

Speaking **in support** of the bill, representing the Idaho State Snowmobile Association, were **Larry Laxon, Sandra Mitchell** and **Terri Klanderud**.

A significant number of questions were asked by the committee. Their concerns were addressed by **Rep. Gestrin** and those **in support** of the bill.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Dixon** made a motion to send **H 61** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Gestrin** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**H 60:** **Rep. Gestrin** presented **H 60**. This bill will establish a statewide snowmobile avalanche fund from the purchase of snowmobile use certificates. The avalanche fund will be used to support avalanche awareness, education, forecasting, warning systems and avalanche response throughout the state. **Rep. Gestrin** addressed committee concerns.

**Larry Laxon**, Idaho State Snowmobile Association, spoke **in support** of the bill.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Addis** made a motion to send **H 60** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Gestrin** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**RS 28439:** **Rep. Monks** presented **RS 28439**. The proposed legislation provides a mechanism for governmental agencies to receive a rebate for sales and use taxes on road materials used for construction, repair or replacement of highways, streets, roads and alleys. Those taxes are currently collected differently depending on who owns the vehicles placing the material on the ground.

**MOTION:** **Rep. DeMordaunt** made a motion to introduce **RS 28439**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

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Representative Palmer  
Chair

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Joyce McKenzie  
Secretary