

MINUTES
SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 07, 2024

TIME: 3:00 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW54

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair VanOrden, Senators Lee, Harris, Bjerke, Wintrow, and Taylor

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Senator Zuiderveld

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Senator Lee** called the meeting of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee (Committee) to order at 3:14 p.m.

PRESENTATION: **Republic Services. Melinda Merrill** introduced herself and introduced Matt Henry, Pacific Area President and Terry Geis, Pacific Area Vice President. **Mr. Henry** relayed that Republic Services acquired US Ecology in 2022 and acquired Western Recycling in November 2023. He stated they were responsible for municipal solid waste hauling, transfer, recycling, and hazardous waste hauling, transfer, and disposal. **Mr. Geis** provided details on the companies community involvement including the Helping Hands grants (Attachment 1).

PASSED THE GAVEL: Senator Lee passed the gavel to Chair VanOrden

In response to Committee questions, **Mr. Geis** relayed the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) had primacy for all of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) record law. Republic Services maintained a task permit that was managed by the EPA's Region Ten out of Seattle. He stated that for everything chemical-hazardous-waste-related the DEQ held all authority and wrote, approved, and inspected all permits.

PRESENTATION: **Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine (college). Dr. Tracy Farnsworth**, President and CEO, provided an update on the college and stated it was created 8 years ago and was Idaho's first medical college. Full accreditation was attained by the college in 2022 (Attachment 2).

DISCUSSION: In response to Committee questions, **Dr. Jett Murray** and **Dr. Annie Hoffman** introduced themselves and provided details on their experiences at the college and discussed the differences between doctors of osteopathic medicine and medical doctors.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business at this time, **Chair VanOrden** adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Senator VanOrden
Chair

Lena Amoah
Secretary