

MINUTES
SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 18, 2016

TIME: 3:00 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW54

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Heider, Vice Chairman Nuxoll, Senators Lodge, Hagedorn, Martin, Lee, Harris, Schmidt and Jordan

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

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: **Chairman Heider** called the meeting of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee (Committee) to order at 3:07 p.m. He announced that **S 1252** had been withdrawn from agenda.

PAGE FAREWELL: **Chairman Heider** recognized and thanked Jared Kelly for his excellent work as the Committee page for the first half of the 2016 Legislative Session. **Mr. Kelly** discussed what he has learned while he has been a page and thanked the Committee for the opportunity to work with the Committee.

PAGE WELCOME: **Chairman Heider** welcomed Alaire Chambers, who will serve as the Committee page for the second half of the 2016 Legislative Session. **Chairman Heider** asked Ms. Chambers to tell the Committee about herself. **Ms. Chambers** informed the Committee that she lives in Arco, Idaho, and attends Butte County High School. After high school, Alaire plans to attend Boise State University to study international business and marketing. She also plans to attend law school. **Chairman Heider** thanked Alaire for assisting the Committee.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Vice Chairman Nuxoll** moved to approve the Minutes of January 14, 2016. **Senator Jordan** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

Senator Hagedorn moved to approve the Minutes of January 18, 2016. **Senator Lee** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

H 374 **Relating to the Controlled Substances Prescriptions Database.**
Representative Fred Wood presented this bill.

Representative Wood stated that this bill addresses the prescription monitoring program's ease of use. In order to facilitate convenient use of the prescription monitoring program, this bill: (i) authorizes a delegate program, (ii) limits the number of delegates per provider to four, (iii) defines who is eligible to be a delegate and (iv) requires registration for that delegate (which would provide each delegate with a unique identifier). **Representative Wood** stated that expenses associated with the implementation of this bill would be de minimis.

Chairman Heider asked the Committee members if they had any questions.

Senator Hagedorn asked if the software has the capacity to add and regulate use by all authorized delegates. **Representative Wood** responded that it is his understanding it would not be a problem.

MOTION: There being no more questions, **Senator Martin** moved to send **H 374** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Vice Chairman Nuxoll** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**. Senator Martin will carry the bill on the floor of the Senate.

H 375 **Relating to the Health Care Task Force. Representative Fred Wood** presented this bill.

Representative Wood stated the this bill strikes the only reference in Idaho Code to the Health Care Task Force (HCTF) and deletes Section One of Chapter 280 of the 2006 Session Laws. **Representative Wood** reviewed the history and purpose of the HCTF and noted that the work of the HCTF was completed long ago. **Representative Wood** suggested that if the Legislature has a future need for an interim health care committee, then the Legislature should duly authorize the scope of the committee's work and the expenditure of State funds.

Chairman Heider asked the Committee members if they had any questions.

Referencing the fiscal note, **Vice Chairman Nuxoll** asked how the \$3,500 savings amount was determined. **Representative Wood** answered the House fiscal officer determined the average expense for travel and other costs accrued each time the HCTF meets.

Senator Schmidt mentioned he is a member of the HCTF and supported this motion when the HCTF made the recommendation to the oversight council. However, since then, he has seen a couple of issues come to the Legislature that don't have an appropriate venue for discussion. **Senator Schmidt** he indicated that there may be a future need for a similar type of health care committee.

Representative Wood responded that a House committee is currently drafting a House Concurrent Resolution requesting an interim committee to deal with certain insurance issues. **Chairman Heider** added if there are issues that a committee needs to investigate, discuss and bring back to the Legislature, the Speaker and Pro Tempore can always authorize and appoint members to those committees.

MOTION: There being no more questions, **Senator Hagedorn** moved to send **H 375** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Harris** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**. Senator Hagedorn will carry the bill on the floor of the Senate.

S 1281 **Relating to the Emergency Medical Services Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact. Wayne Denny**, Bureau Chief for the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Preparedness in the Department of Health and Welfare, presented this bill.

Mr. Denny stated the purpose of this bill is to enact the Recognition of Emergency Medical Service Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact Agreement, otherwise known as REPLICA in Idaho. REPLICA allows for the cross-border practice of Emergency Medical Service (EMS) in much the same way as the Nursing and Physician Licensure compacts, of which Idaho is currently a member. This bill addresses the inability of EMS personnel licensed by one state to practice in another state without obtaining licensure in the second state. **Mr. Denny** discussed the general benefits of Idaho's participation in REPLICA. To obtain an EMS license in Idaho the applicant must (i) demonstrate competency by passing a standardized exam and (ii) must pass a criminal background check. Although other states use a similar process, the depths of the exam and background checks vary significantly. In an effort to create more uniform standards, the National Association of EMS Officials drafted REPLICA. **Mr. Denny** presented the provisions of REPLICA, including (i) purpose, (ii) definitions, (iii) home state licensure requirements, (iv) privilege to practice, (v) conditions of practice in a remote state, (vi) relationship of compact to disaster declarations, (vii) commitment to veterans and their spouses,

(viii) adverse actions, (ix) relationship between the member states regarding adverse actions, (x) establishment of the interstate commission, (xi) establishment of a coordinated database, (xii) rulemaking, (xiii) oversight dispute resolution and enforcement and (xiv) date of implementation, withdrawal and amendment.

Chairman Heider asked the Committee members if they had any questions.

Chairman Heider asked Mr. Denny to confirm that REPLICA does not become effective until it is adopted by ten states. **Mr. Denny** said that is correct. **Senator Hagedorn** asked if Idaho has reciprocity agreements of any kind right now with Idaho's bordering states and whether any of those bordering states have approved REPLICA. **Mr. Denny** said Idaho currently has an interstate agreement with Utah and, until a week ago, Idaho had an interstate agreement with Wyoming. However, the Deputy Attorney General in Wyoming looked at the state's compact and realized it was not in compliance with their code, so they have severed the interstate agreement. There is an interstate agreement that allows Idaho providers, in a disaster, to work in Washington, but there isn't an agreement that allows Washington providers to work in Idaho. Utah's Legislature is currently considering REPLICA.

Senator Schmidt asked when an EMS provider would be required to get an Idaho license after moving to Idaho from a state in the compact. **Mr. Denny** said that's not specifically stated in the compact; that decision is left to the individual states. He suggested that EMS providers who move to Idaho should be given 90 days to obtain an Idaho License. **Senator Schmidt** asked about the licensure of EMS providers who travel across the Idaho border into a neighboring state as part of their daily scope of work. **Mr. Denny** responded that in most cases an ambulance service is licensed in both states. A good example would be the EMS teams that work in both Lewiston, Idaho, and Clarkston, Washington; they are licensed in both states.

Chairman Heider asked who checks to make sure the EMS providers working in the State are licensed providers from other compact member states. Describing the current process, **Mr. Denny** said when a compact EMS provider comes into Idaho, State officials have to get a list from the medical unit of where each person is from, along with their license numbers. Then that document has to be sent to the providers' state(s), with that state(s) then having to sign off on all those people who are duly licensed. However, once REPLICA is in place, the process will be much more streamlined because the licensure information for all compact EMS providers will be kept in one database.

MOTION: There being no more questions, **Senator Harris** moved to send **S 1281** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Vice Chairman Nuxoll** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**. Senator Harris will carry the bill on the floor of the Senate.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business, **Chairman Heider** adjourned the meeting at 3:54 p.m.

Senator Heider
Chair

Karen R. Westbrook
Secretary

Kara Machado
Assistant