

MINUTES
HOUSE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 17, 2019

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Dixon, Vice Chairman DeMordaunt, Representatives Collins, Crane, Palmer, Barbieri, Stevenson, Armstrong, Clow, Monks, Andrus, Furniss, Nichols, Raymond, Smith, Berch, Green(18)

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Director Dean Cameron, Idaho Dept. of Insurance (IDI), Sen. Patrick McDonald, Gretchen Fors, CDHH, Kari Baker, parent, Ashley Schulthies, parent, Lesa Coleman, Idaho Hands & Voices (IHV), Michelle Wilson, insurance provider, Steven Snow, CDHH, April Nelson, IESDB, Jacob Robison, Wes Trexler, DOI, Elaine Mellon, DOI, Nathan Faragher, DOI, Iris Anson, LCP, Tom Donovan, DOI, Randy Pepan, IIABI, April Ward, ISHA, Susie Jones, Elks Hearing & Balance, Kassie Ross, IHV, Emilie Barasiak, ICDHH, Ray Lockary, IAD, Jess Stick-Hennen, Audiologist, Brenda Foster, Helen Thorsen, April Fagerson, Audiologist, Andrea Amestoy, parent, Stefanie Saltern, deaf advocate, Mary Wylie, school nurse, retired

Chairman Dixon Called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

DOCKET NO. 18-0130-1801: **Director Dean Cameron**, Dept. of Insurance explained hearing loss is the most common sensory birth defect in the U.S., and hearing aids range from \$3000 to \$6000. Maintenance and replacement are required every three to five years. Idaho Rules prohibit health insurers to provide coverage for children with hearing loss. Cochlear implants were covered only if deemed medically necessary. The agreement calls for a hearing device every 3 years, and not less than 45 doctor visits during the first twelve months after the delivery of the covered device.

MOTION: **Rep. Crane** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 18-0130-1801. Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 18-0170-1801: **Director Cameron** explained hearing loss is the most common sensory birth defect in the U.S., and hearing aids range from \$3000 to \$6000. Maintenance and replacement are required every three to five years. Idaho Rules prohibit health insurers to provide coverage for children with hearing loss. Cochlear implants were covered only if deemed medically necessary. The agreement calls for a hearing device every 3 years, and not less than 45 doctor visits during the first twelve months after the delivery of the covered device.

Sen. Patrick McDonald, Gretchen Fors, CDHH, Kari Baker, parent, Lesa Coleman, Idaho Hands & Voices (IHV) Michelle Wilson, insurance provider, Steven Snow, CDHH, April Nelson, IESDB, Jacob Robison, Iris Anson, LCP, April Ward, ISHA, Susie Jones, Elks Hearing & Balance, Kassie Ross, IHV, Ray Lockary, IAD, Jess Stich-Hennen, Audiologist, Brenda Foster, Andrea Amestoy, parent, testified in support of Docket No. 18-0170-1801.

MOTION: **Rep. DeMordaunt** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 18-0170-1801. Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 18-0106-1801: **Director Cameron** explained some language refers to premiums which denotes health insurance only and causes confusion for self-funded plans. "Contribution" and not "premium" is the correct term for payment by members covered by self-funded plans regulated by the DOI.

- MOTION:** **Rep. Collins** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 18-0106-1801. Motion carried by voice vote.**
- DOCKET NO. 18-0123-1801:** **Director Cameron** explained language regarding extraordinary dividends of group holding companies to be consistent with changes, using "lesser of" language in determining allowable dividend thresholds, "greater than" and slightly different thresholds.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Collins** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 18-0123-1801. Motion carried by voice vote.**
- DOCKET NO. 18-0124-1801:** **Director Cameron** explained modification of Advertisement of Disability (Accident and Sickness) Insurance, eliminating the reference to 'direct response' advertising in regards to disability, accident and sickness policies. Typically carriers selling limited benefit plans object to filing advertising materials, causing the DOI to send separate requests for materials. This change would streamline communication, process, and be cost effective.
- MOTION:** **Rep. DeMordaunt** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 18-0124-1801. Motion carried by voice vote.**
- DOCKET NO. 18-0149-1801:** **Director Cameron** explained language providing for a Fire Protection Sprinkler advisory board that never formed be eliminated. The two dollar sprinkler head fee will be retained.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Palmer** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 18-0149-1801. Motion carried by voice vote.**
- DOCKET NO. 18-0154-1801:** **Director Cameron** explained language which updates definitions for 2020 Medicare Supplement Benefit Plans. "Newly eligible" for medicare is anyone 65 on or after Jan. 1, 2020, has disabilities, or end-stage renal disease. Plans C/F with F high-deductible will no longer be available to individuals newly eligible. Those already on Plans C and F can stay with plans for life, and are the only plans that will cover part B deductible. Plans D/G replace C/F for newly eligible individuals with guaranteed issue right. After 2020 those newly eligible will share costs of part B deductible. Coverage under part B deductible under C/F is \$183, all other benefits are the same for plans D/G. There is an addition of the new G high deductible plan option.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Collins** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 18-0154-1801. Motion carried by voice vote.**
- DOCKET NO. 18-0162-1801:** **Director Cameron** explained language requiring a standard best corporate governance practice to assist company management and the board of large insurers by implementing sound business practices to maintain solvency and honor all policyholder obligations.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Smith** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 18-0162-1801. Motion carried by voice vote.**
- ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Representative Dixon
Chair

Jayne Feik
Secretary