

MINUTES  
**HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, March 04, 2019

**TIME:** 1:30 pm or UPON ADJOURNMENT OF THE AFTERNOON SESSION

**PLACE:** Room EW42

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Boyle, Vice Chairman Troy (Maurin), Representatives Dayley, Kerby, Stevenson, Zito, Andrus, Giddings, Goesling, Marshall, Nichols, Raymond, Erpelding, Toone, Abernathy

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** None

**GUESTS:** Cody Burlile, Brand Board; Cheryl Keshia, Idaho Horse Council; Ed McNelis, Idaho Horse Council; Dixie Christensen, Idaho Horse Council; Jo Fisk Hilley, Idaho Horse Council; Sheri Arkoosh, Miss Rodeo Idaho; Dennis Mager, Personal Ponies Idaho; Leslie Mager, Personal Ponies Idaho; Ken Wood, Brand Board; DeLon Lee, Idaho Farm Bureau; Jeff Bittan, Mystic Land and Live; Bob Naerebout, Idaho Dairymen's Association; Wyatt Prescott, ICA; Sen. Lodge, Elizabeth Criner, Simplot; Nic Zurfluh, ISDA; Sean Ellis, Idaho Farm Bureau; Lloyd Knight, ISDA; Celcia Gould, ISDA

**Chairman Boyle** called the meeting to order at 2:58 p.m.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Erpelding** made a motion to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, February 26, 2019 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**S 1082:** **Sen. Lodge**, said she will defer to those who are directly affected by this legislation and allow them to explain why they are willing to tax themselves at a higher rate in order to keep the Idaho livestock industry healthy and traceable.

**Cody Burlile**, Director of State Brand Inspections, explained this legislation is to raise the cap so that through Rule Making the board can increase the equine brand fee making it solvent.

**Cheryl Keshia**, Idaho Horse Council; and **Ed McNelis**, Idaho Horse Council; spoke **in support** of **S 1082**. They were of the opinion that equine inspections and branding helps to deter theft, certifies the health of the horses and makes it easy to track stolen or lost equine. They said they are willing to pay a higher fee for this vital service to their industry.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Raymond** made a motion to send **S 1082** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**Dixie Christensen**, Idaho Horse Council, spoke **in support** of **S 1082** explaining the benefits received from the grants given to the 4-H horse camps and working ranch camps.

**DeLon Lee**, Idaho Farm Bureau, spoke **in opposition** to **S 1082** stating although they stand in full support of the Brand Board, they feel this legislation is premature noting that with the improved software program recently implemented, the data would be more accurate in the coming year. He said they would be able to track activity and make a more accurate prediction of the necessary fee increase.

**Bob Naerebout**, Dairymen's Association, and **Wyatt Prescott**, ICA, spoke **in support** of **S 1082** stating it is important to adequately fund the board noting those who pay the assessment are in support of raising the fee.

**Sheri Arkooshi**, President of Miss Rodeo Idaho, spoke **in support** explaining the educational opportunities provided through the grants received from the Brand Board for the contestants.

**Sen. Lodge** in closing, detailed the areas the Brand Board has seen increased costs noting how frugal they have been in their purchases. She said this bill has received wide support from all entities involved.

**VOTE ON MOTION:**

**Chairman Boyle** called for a vote on the motion to send **S 1082** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Andrus** and **Rep. Nichols** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY.** **Rep. Raymond** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

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Representative Boyle  
Chair

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Joan Majors  
Secretary