

MINUTES
HOUSE TRANSPORTATION & DEFENSE COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, March 04, 2021

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Palmer, Vice Chairman DeMordaunt, Representative(s) Gestrin, Youngblood, Dixon, Harris, Holtzclaw, Monks, Syme, Blanksma, Addis, Manwaring, Mitchell, Okuniewicz, Shepherd, Gannon, Rubel, McCrostie

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Gestrin, Holtzclaw, Blanksma, Gannon, Rubel

GUESTS: Alberto Gonzalez, ITD; Sara Westbrook, IAC; Darin Freiburghaus, Canyon CO. S. O.; Sheriff Steve Bartlett, Ada County SO

Chairman Palmer called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. McCrostie** made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2021, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 161: **H 161** was presented by **Murphy Olmstead**, representing the Idaho Sheriffs' Association. Mr. Olmstead stated, Idaho is the only State where the Sheriffs are mandated to be the vendor for driver's licenses and identification cards on behalf of the Transportation Department. The fees distributed to counties to operate the Driver's License offices were initially intended to cover the costs of providing the service. Those fees have not been adjusted in more than 30 years. The cost of providing the service has continued to rise, consequently, many counties are spending large amounts of property tax dollars to subsidize the Transportation Department. The increase allowed for in this bill will reduce the amount of property tax dollars going to support driver's license services. With the passage of this bill, the county taxpayer will no longer subsidize a state service. Mr. Olmstead requested sending the bill to General Orders to refine some of the language.

Speaking **in support** of the legislation were **Alberto Gonzalez**, Idaho Transportation Department, Division Administrator; **Sarah Westbrook**, Policy Director, Idaho Association of Counties; and **Steve Bartlett**, Ada County Sheriff.

MOTION: **Rep. McCrostie** made a motion to send **H 161** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**SUBSTITUTE
MOTION:** **Rep. DeMordaunt** made a substitute motion to send **H 161** to General Orders. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Kauffman** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

RS 28733: **Rep. Palmer** presented **RS 28733**. The proposed legislation protects and ensures the Idaho consumer continues to enjoy the benefits of an open, competitive, free market in the purchase of new vehicles. This legislation clarifies existing code that prohibits acts that lessen or eliminate competition or tend to create a monopoly.

MOTION: **Rep. Okuniewicz** made a motion to introduce **RS 28733**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Representative Palmer
Chair

Joyce McKenzie
Secretary