

MINUTES
HOUSE TRANSPORTATION & DEFENSE COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 10, 2022

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

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

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative Okuniewicz

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the secretary's office; following the end of the session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative library.

Chairman Palmer called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

RS 29449C1: This resolution honors **Brian H. Ness**, Director, Idaho Transportation Department, for his dedicated leadership and service to the Great State of Idaho. **Vincent Tromboli**, ITD Chief Communication Officer, presented the proposed legislation. He said Mr. Ness is the longest-serving Director of Transportation in the State and nation. Mr. Tromboli noted Mr. Ness has made ITD a model for all other state agencies in terms of customer service, employee satisfaction, and cost-cutting solutions. Many of the programs and policies Director Ness created at ITD have been adopted as regional and national models.

MOTION: **Rep. Blanksma** made a motion to introduce **RS 29449C1** and recommend it be sent directly to the second reading calendar. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Palmer** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

RS 29411: **Rep. Ferch** said the proposed legislation modifies code to clarify language regarding covered loads and provide a measure of increased safety on Idaho roads. Committee members expressed concerns about the over reach of the proposed legislation.

MOTION: **Rep. Manwaring** made a motion to return **RS 29411** to the sponsor. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 29504: **Bobby Peterson**, Education Committee Chairman, Independent Automobile Dealers Association, presented **RS 29504**. The proposed legislation amends code to clarify automobile dealer and salesman education classes are taught with live, interactive, instructor led training.

MOTION: **Rep. Addis** made a motion to introduce **RS 29504**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 479: **Steve Thomas**, lobbyist for Polaris, presented **H 479**. This legislation removes the maximum wheelbase criteria on the definition of a UTV (utility type vehicle). The topics of ATV, UTV and HOV definition, weight, width, length, licensing of the vehicles and where they can operate were discussed.

MOTION: **Rep. Monks** made a motion to send **H 479** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Reps. Monks** and **Manwaring** declared Rule 80 stating a possible conflict of interest but they would be voting on the motion. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Manwaring** requested he be recorded as voting **NAY**. **Rep. Monks** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 526: Representing Associated Logging Contractors of Idaho, **Shawn Keough** presented **H 526**. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has adopted new rules that allow jurisdictions the ability, after ten years have elapsed, to reinstate driving privileges to commercial drivers with lifetime disqualification offenses. The rules require states to have a rehabilitation program, but do not specify what the program must include. This legislation allows Idaho to implement a program that would include criteria such as a clean driving record for 3 years, completion of online defensive driving classes, truck driver safety, and successful completion of knowledge and skills testing.

MOTION: **Rep. Rubel** made a motion to send **H 526** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Vander Woude** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

Representative Palmer
Chair

Joyce McKenzie
Secretary