

MINUTES
SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Thursday, March 03, 2022
- TIME:** 1:30 P.M.
- PLACE:** Room WW53
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Den Hartog, Vice Chairman Woodward, Senators Winder, Lodge, Rice, Vick, Crabtree, Nelson, and Wintrow
- 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:** **Chair Den Hartog** called the meeting of the Senate Transportation Committee (Committee) to order at 1:31 P.M.
- H 523** **TRANSPORTATION – Amends existing law to remove requirements regarding surrender of driver's licenses and to prohibit certain practices regarding canceled driver's licenses.** **Brian Goeke**, Policy Program Manager, Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) explained this legislature was in alignment with Governor Brad Little's Red Tape Reduction Initiative (RTRI). **Mr. Goeke** observed that the practice of having individuals surrender their driver's license when suspended was outdated for a number of reasons. Primarily because driver's licenses had become a primary identity credential. He also pointed out that law enforcement had the ability to view a persons' driving status in real time.
- Senator Rice** sought clarity on Idaho Code § 49-3221 which made having that driver's license in an offenders' possession a misdemeanor. **Mr. Goeke** indicated the misdemeanor provision was only applicable if that person did not qualify for a license in the first place.
- MOTION:** **Senator Nelson** moved to send **H 523** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Woodward** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.
- H 524** **IDAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT – Amends existing law to remove a participant from the Interagency Working Group.** **Ramón Hobdey-Sánchez**, Governmental Affairs Project Manager, ITD, stated that **H 524** also fell under the RTRI. The amendment would remove the Idaho Headstart Association (IHSA) from required participation in the Interagency Working Group (IWG). The IHSA had not participated in the IWG for several years and fully supported their removal from the IWG.
- MOTION:** **Senator Wintrow** moved to send **H 524** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Rice** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.
- H 525** **MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENSES – Amends existing law to extend the duration of commercial learner's permits.** **Brian Goeke**, Policy Program Manager, ITD, briefly outlined the effort to extend the length of a commercial learner's permit from six months to one year. He reported it was related to two recent federal changes to entry level driver training that added time for new Commercial Drivers' License (CDL) applicants. The legislation was backed by the Idaho Trucking Association, and endorsed by ITD's Trucking Advisory Council (Attachment 1).

- MOTION:** **Senator Crabtree** moved to send **H 525** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Rice** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.
- H 528** **TRANSPORTATION – Amends existing law to revise provisions regarding personal delivery devices.** **Jason Kreizenbeck**, FedEx, provided a brief introduction to the bill. He called out a couple of minor changes that expanded the operating area of personal delivery devices (PDDs) and increased the weight limit. **Evan Oneto**, Senior State and Local Government Affairs Representative, FedEx Corporation, introduced their ROXO bot. He reported that the legislation amendments allowed for faster introduction of this technology for deployment in the market while maintaining safety and local control priorities. **Mr. Oneto** specified that no additional state requirements were requested and that local governments were free to regulate other aspects of PPD operations as needed.
- DISCUSSION:** **Senator Nelson** asked what occurred if a bot met someone in a wheelchair on a 48-inch sidewalk. **Mr. Oneto** answered that if ROXO could not get out of the way either the programming or a tele-operator would reverse it as far as needed to escape that path. **Senator Nelson** then inquired if there was anything being inserted in **H 528** that was not already regulated by Federal Code. **Mr. Oneto** replied there were none he was aware of and offered to confirm with FedEx council. He set forth that the change was consistent with language passed in other states and with existing federal standard.
- TESTIMONY:** **Cynthia Gibson**, Executive Director, Idaho Walk Bike Alliance, testified with safety concerns regarding the bill. She noted specific concerns with how PDDs interacted and impacted peoples' right of way. She referred to supplied specifications and diagrams to illustrate concerns. **Ms. Gibson** stated a hope that PDDs would always move towards the lane of motor vehicles rather than forcing the pedestrian towards traffic. She acknowledged the bill proponents had agreed to bring forward technical corrections next year (Attachment 2).
- CLOSING REMARKS:** **Mr. Kreizenbeck** stated that in his review with Ms. Gibson he had indicated the local government level was more appropriate to handle decisions on where PDDs could travel safely. He stated intent to review any proposed state level amendments with Ms. Gibson.
- MOTION:** **Senator Woodward** moved to send **H 528** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Winder** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.
- DISCUSSION:** **Senator Wintrrow** reported that although she missed the presentation, she was comfortable voting in favor due to the financial aspect and assurances in place.
- VOICE VOTE:** The motion carried by **voice vote**.
- H 539** **DRIVER'S LICENSES – Amends existing law to provide for renewal of a suspended noncommercial driver's license in certain instances.** **Jason Slade Spillman**, Legal Counsel, Administrative Office of the Courts, Idaho Supreme Court, stated an error had been caught within existing code language. He highlighted a conflict in the code between one section that prohibited a suspended driver from renewing their license and language elsewhere that granted specific limited driving privileges. **Mr. Spillman** stated the modified language allowed for the limited privileges without conflict. He affirmed that any license renewed for those purposes would still be subject to suspension.
- MOTION:** **Senator Rice** moved to send **H 539** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Vick** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business at this time, **Chair Den Hartog** adjourned the meeting at 1:59 P.M.

Senator Den Hartog
Chair

Cara Beyenka
Secretary