

MINUTES

HOUSE ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY, & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Friday, March 18, 2016
- TIME:** 1:30 PM or Upon Adjournment
- PLACE:** Room EW41
- MEMBERS:** Chairman Thompson, Vice Chairman Anderst, Representatives Raybould, Hartgen, Vander Woude, Nielsen, Anderson, Mendive, Trujillo, Beyeler, Chaney, Nate, Scott, Smith, Rusche, Jordan, Rubel
- ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Hartgen, Vander Woude, Anderson, Rusche
- GUESTS:** None
- Vice Chairman Anderst** called the meeting to order at 12:47 p.m.
- RS 24776:** **Chairman Thompson**, Representative from District 30, presented **RS 24776** to the committee. The purpose of the resolution is to urge **Attorney General Lawrence Wasden** to allow the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) the materials it needs to fulfill its clean energy research and national security missions by allowing research quantities of spent fuel into Idaho for research and development at the INL. It encourages the negotiations process between the federal government and the Attorney General's office, showing that the House and Senate concur with those negotiations.
- Chairman Thompson** then outlined a change to wording on lines 24 and 25 as follows: "Whereas: **Attorney General Lawrence Wasden** has so far been unable to reach an agreement with DOE to allow two small shipments of commercial spent fuel into Idaho for vital research at INL; and." Chairman Thompson urged the committee to adopt the changes in wording and move to approve **RS 24776** for the Second Reading Calendar.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to introduce **RS 24776** with the new language on lines 24-25 and recommend it be sent directly to the Second Reading Calendar.
- Rep. Rubel** spoke in opposition to sending **RS 24776** to the Second Reading Calendar, saying it is a hot topic with many people interested in it. She stated it would be inappropriate to bypass a committee hearing. **Rep. Smith** spoke in opposition to sending **RS 24776** to the Second Reading Calendar, and not allowing people to come in to discuss the issue, stating the Attorney General was upholding Idaho agreements and refusing to admit spent fuel.
- Rep. Nielsen** spoke in support of **RS 24776**, saying the INL is very important to Idaho and is the best lab to do nuclear research in the United States.
- SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** **Rep. Nate** made a substitute motion to introduce **RS 24776** with the amended language.
- Rep. Rubel** spoke in support of the substitute motion, stating that the committee needs to inform stakeholders and the public of the issue, and that just because it is late in the session it is not good to skip steps. **Rep. Scott** spoke in support of the substitute motion, saying she would like to hear more information about the issue and the process.

Rep. Thompson explained that because it is late in the session, it would be good to move the bill to the Senate as soon as possible. The INL is the only lab in the United States that can do this research. The public is familiar with the issue, as it has been in consideration since 1995. The first shipment of spent fuel was made in 2015. The purpose of this resolution is simply to show the House and Senate support the Attorney General in receiving the spent fuel. The shipment weighs about 100 pounds, and would bring revenue into Idaho in the amount of \$50 to \$100 million from research.

**MOTION
WITHDRAWN:**

Rep. Nate requested unanimous consent to withdraw the substitute motion with the amended language. There being no objection the request was granted.

**SUBSTITUTE
MOTION:**

Rep. Rubel made a substitute motion to introduce **RS 24776** with the amended language, stating it was a matter of looking out for the legitimacy of the institution of the government and public confidence in the steps the legislature takes, saying if the public is not allowed to come to a hearing with an opportunity for comment, it damages the institution of the government.

**ROLL CALL
VOTE ON
SUBSTITUTE
MOTION:**

Vice Chairman Anderst called for a vote on the substitute motion. **Rep. Rubel** requested a roll call vote. **Motion failed by a vote of 2 AYE and 9 NAY, 6 absent/excused. Voting in favor of the motion: Reps. Smith and Rubel. Voting in opposition to the motion: Reps. Anderst, Raybould, Nielsen, Mendive, Trujillo, Beyeler, Chaney, Nate, and Scott.** Members who were absent/excused: **Reps. Hartgen, Vander Woude, Anderson, Rusche, and Jordan.**

**ROLL CALL
VOTE ON
ORIGINAL
MOTION:**

Vice Chairman Anderst called for a vote on the original motion. **Rep. Rubel** requested a roll call vote. **Motion carried by a vote of 9 AYE and 2 NAY, 6 absent/excused. Voting in favor of the motion: Reps. Anderst, Raybould, Nielsen, Mendive, Trujillo, Beyeler, Chaney, Nate, and Scott. Voting in opposition to the motion: Reps. Smith and Rubel.** Members who were absent/excused: **Reps. Hartgen, Vander Woude, Anderson, Rusche, and Jordan.**

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Representative Anderst
Vice Chair

Diana Seba
Secretary