MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE:	Thursday, January 25, 2024
TIME:	1:30 P.M.
PLACE:	Room EW05
MEMBERS:	Chairman Holtzclaw, Vice Chairman Bundy, Representatives Kingsley, Wisniewski, Weber, McCann, Cheatum, Hawkins, Healey, Miller, Price, Wheeler, Chew (Wilson), Roberts
ABSENT/ EXCUSED:	None
GUESTS:	The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

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

MOTION:	**Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to approve the minutes from January 23, 2024. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
RS 31014:	**Rep. Bundy** presented **RS 31014**, which will adjust the Unemployment Insurance Fund size multiplier from 1.3 to 1.2 in Idaho Code 72-1350. Without adjusting the multiplier, a large tax increase will happen in 2024 after three years of frozen tax rates. The fiscal impact of this change is an estimate 44 million dollars in savings for Idaho businesses in 2024, and 117 million dollars over five years. There is no fiscal impact of the General Fund as these changes pertain to the Unemployment Insurance Program in the Associated Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund.
VOTE ON MOTION:	**Rep. Cheatum** made a motion to introduce **RS 31014. Motion carried by voice vote.**
RS 30912:	**Rep. Horman** presented **RS 30912**. She stated one of the problems the state has seen recently is hiring. The state has invested money into salaries, but there have been barriers in the way, such as the arbitrary degree requirement. This will expand the applicant pool for state jobs by using skills based hiring. The proposed legislation will require the state to hire based on skills, capabilities and experience to evaluate job applicants.
	Rep. Horman introduced **Rep. Wheeler** to review the jobs the proposed legislation will be effecting. He said a few examples are the IT positions, administration positions, and the career technical jobs. He is enthusiastic about this because it will show students there are other opportunities available.
VOTE ON MOTION:	**Rep. Miller** made a motion to introduce **RS 30912**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
RS 30815:	**Rep. Nelsen** presented **RS 30815.** The RS addresses Idaho Code 59-1363 and the specific time frame when a purchase of member service can be completed. RS 30815 defines how a member may request the cost of purchase of service within 90 days before a member's date of retirement.
VOTE ON MOTION:	**Rep. Weber** made a motion to introduce **RS 30815. Motion carried by voice vote**.

RS 30816:	**Rep. Nelsen** presented **RS 30816.** The RS addresses Idaho Code 59-1352. The creation of the School Employee Member class moved school employees out of the general class into a class of their own. The current state code does not include the new defined class. This correction to statute will codify that the School Employee class will have access to the same disability retirement benefit they had when they were original members of the general class.
VOTE ON MOTION:	**Rep. Weber** made a motion to introduce **RS 30816. Motion carried by voice vote.**
RS 30817:	**Rep. Nelsen** presented **RS 30817**. The RS addresses Idaho Code 59-1308. He stated, in 2022, the Federal Congress passed the Secure Act 2.0 on catch-up contribution regulations. A qualified after-tax contribution investment option must be available to participate in catch-up contributions. Idaho Code 59-1308 will need to be updated to allow compliance with the Secure Act.
	Rep. Nelsen introduced **Mike Hampton**, Deputy Director at PERSI. He stated Idaho Code currently allows for pre-tax contributions and distributions for PERSI to be able to comply with the Secure Act. There needs to be action to update the code.
VOTE ON MOTION:	**Rep. McCann** made a motion to introduce **RS 30817. Motion carried by voice vote.**
RS 30818:	**Rep. Nelsen** presented **RS 30818**, which addresses Idaho Code 59-1316. Current code states that records are confidential; however, is missing the penalties and enforcement code. The RS will provide that member records are confidential but will not provide enforcement in the event of disclosure of confidential information. Additionally, **RS 30818** will provide further support in quashing subpoena for confidential information, without a court ordered directive.
VOTE ON MOTION:	**Rep. Cheatum** made a motion to introduce **RS 30818**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
ADJOURN:	There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:49 p.m.

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Representative Holtzclaw   Jacobi Van Amburg
Chair   Secretary