

MINUTES
HOUSE TRANSPORTATION & DEFENSE COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 08, 2024

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Palmer, Vice Chairman Mitchell, Representatives Dixon(1), Holtzclaw, Monks, Blanksma, Manwaring, Shepherd, Crane(12), Handy, Hill, Lanting, Miller, Petzke, Yamamoto, Gannon, Burns

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Chairman Palmer, Representative(s) Monks, Blanksma, Miller, Yamamoto

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 Mitchell called the meeting to order at 1:30pm.

RS 31203: **Rep. Mendive**, District 5, stated this proposed legislation would allow qualifying parents and legal guardians to be private educators for Class D Driver's Training Instruction Permits in rural school districts or in school districts that do not offer driver's education courses.

MOTION: **Rep. Shepherd** made a motion to introduce **RS 31203. Motion carried by voice vote.**

Chairman Mitchell turned the gavel over to **Rep. Dixon (1).**

RS 31152: **Rep. Mitchell**, District 6, stated this proposed legislation removes the six-month waiting period to qualify for a no-fee identification card through the Idaho Transportation Department, for the purpose of complying with voter registration and voting requirements.

MOTION: **Rep Crane (12)** made a motion to introduce **RS 31152. Motion carried by voice vote.**

Rep. Dixon (1) turned the gavel over to **Chairman Mitchell.**

RS 31092: **Rep. Handy**, District 27, stated this proposed legislation adds two new provisions to **Idaho Code, Section 49-937**, on vehicle mufflers and noise prevention. He explained, it first allows a commercial vehicle to idle for the purposes of using a vehicle's heating and air conditioning system when a driver is resting, and second, when vehicles are parked for purposes of refrigerating perishable commodities, pharmaceuticals, or both.

MOTION: **Rep. Dixon (1)** made a motion to introduce **RS 31092. Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 31094: **Rep. Shepherd**, District 7, stated this proposed legislation creates a definition of "electric fuel" for commercial vehicles in Idaho and imposes a one cent/kilowatt hour tax on electric fuel, making it equivalent to the existing tax on motor fuel found in **Idaho Code, Section 63-2402.**

MOTION: **Rep. Lanting** made a motion to introduce **RS 31094. Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 31243: **Rep. Shepherd**, District 7, stated this proposed legislation has three components. First, it increases the fines associated with illegally passing school buses to deter unsafe driving behaviors. Second, it will change first-time offenses from a misdemeanor to an infraction, with the second and subsequent convictions remaining a misdemeanor. He explained, reducing the first offense to an infraction allows the defendant to resolve the fines imposed online, by phone, or by email, eliminating multiple court appearances and dropped cases. Third, this proposed legislation will grant the Department of Education administrative rights to the School Bus Camera Fund, which is where fines are deposited, and will be used for the purchase of school bus stop arm cameras, software, equipment, and training.

MOTION: **Rep. Burns** made a motion to introduce **RS 31243. Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:48pm.

Representative Mitchell
Chair

Tracey McDonnell
Secretary