

MINUTES  
**HOUSE WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Thursday, February 29, 2024

**TIME:** 10:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW05

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Weber, Representatives Monks, Dixon(1), Manwaring, Rubel, Necochea, Burns

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Representative Rebel

**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 Weber** called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Burns** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2024, February 23, 2024 and February 26, 2024. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**RS 31529:** **Rep. Andrus** presented **RS 31529**, which defines what qualifies as a work search activity unemployment claimants must engage in to receive unemployment insurance benefits, and prohibits the practice of not showing up for job interviews. Rep. Andrus explained the goal is to get the unemployed back to work and the proposed legislation is intended to hold the unemployed more accountable when they do not actively look for work.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Monks** made a motion to introduce **RS 31529**.

In answer to questions from the committee, **Rep. Andrus** stated some of the required work search activities are preliminary and more one-time in nature, while others are ongoing and shouldn't be a problem to complete weekly, especially with technology that makes it possible.

Committee members speaking in opposition to the motion stated concern this will grow government, only to push more paper. Also, businesses who pay into the unemployment fund are not asking for this. Committee members speaking in support of the motion said employers want to make sure people are actively looking for work and would rather have some requirements versus no requirements.

**VOTE ON MOTION:** **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Necochea** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**.

**RS 31500:** **Rep. Boyle** presented **RS 31500**. This proposed joint memorial states opposition to proposals for the active reintroduction of grizzly bears in Idaho.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Monks** made a motion to introduce **RS 31500. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**RS 31484:** **Rep. Sauter** presented **RS 31484**, which starts the water adjudication process for the Kootenai River Basin and will be overseen by the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR). This will be the last water basin in the state to address its adjudication needs

**MOTION:** **Rep. Burns** made a motion to introduce **RS 31484**.

In answer to questions from the committee, **Rep. Sauter** stated it is not yet known what the issues will be as they relate to the Kootenai River starting in a foreign country, but those are matters IDWR will manage.

**VOTE ON  
MOTION:**

**Motion carried by voice vote.**

**RS 31514:**

**Rep. Monks** presented **RS 31514**, which relates to the use of cameras that record vehicle license plates and limits the use of such cameras to investigating and prosecuting crimes, including searching for plates of stolen vehicles and scanning plates to search for missing, endangered or wanted individuals. It also exempts vehicles without a front license plate bracket from needing two license plates. Rep. Monks explained the license plate readers are being used by law enforcement, but there are not a lot of guidelines on how and when that should happen and this proposed legislation will help.

**MOTION:**

**Rep. Necochea** made a motion to introduce **RS 31514**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

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Representative Weber  
Chair

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Wendy Carver-Herbert  
Secretary