

MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 19, 2012

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW05

MEMBERS: Chairman Block, Vice Chairman Hartgen, Representative(s) Lake, Trail, Marriott, Thayn, Simpson, Loertscher, Nessel, Ringo, King

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Loertscher

GUESTS: Col. Jerry Russell, Idaho State Police; Jeanne Goodenough, Human Rights Commission; Woody Richards, Attorney and Lobbyist; Sally Alvarado, Rosie Andueza, M. Jones, Stephanie Miller, Callie King, Erica Feider, Alberto Gonzales, Kathy McGill, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare; Jane McClaran, Nancy Beeson, Mindy Montgomery, Lindsay Egbert, Tom Limbaugh, Industrial Commission; Brad Hunt, Office of Adult Residential Care; Tony Poinelli, Idaho Association of Counties.

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

MOTION: **Rep. Ringo** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2012 meeting. **Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

Chairman Block asked **Rep. Simpson**, Chairman of the Rules subcommittee on the Idaho Human Rights Commission, to report on the outcome of his subcommittee's rules review.

DOCKET NO. 09-0130-1101; **DOCKET NO. 09-0135-1101:** **Rep. Simpson** presented the rule change to **Docket No. 09-0130-1101**, which imposes new restrictions on eligibility for unemployment insurance and **Docket No. 09-0135-1101**, which allows a corporation to exempt its corporate officers from unemployment insurance coverage.

MOTION: **Rep. Ringo** made a motion to approve **Docket Nos. 09-0130-1101** and **09-0135-1101**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 15-0202-1101: **Rep. Simpson** presented **Docket No. 15-0202-1101**, which makes the application process for Vocational Rehabilitation services more accessible.

MOTION: **Rep. Hartgen** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 15-0202-1101**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 15-0401-1101: **Rep. Simpson** presented **Docket No. 15-0401-1101**, which reflects the expansion of veterans preference for disabled veterans and would allow their names to appear in the top 25 of a hiring post.

MOTION: **Rep. Hartgen** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 15-0401-1101**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 21-0107-1101: **Rep. Simpson** presented **Docket No. 21-0107-1101**, which transfers the rule from the State Board of Education to the Veteran's Education Program.

MOTION: **Rep. Ringo** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 21-0107-1101**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 16-0601-1101: **Rep. Simpson** presented **Docket No. 16-0601-1101**. It clarifies the rule regarding compliance with the federal Indian Child Welfare Act, which applies only to Indian children living off the reservation.

MOTION: **Rep. Hartgen** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0601-1101**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 38-0301-1101: **Rep. Simpson** presented **Docket No. 38-0301-1101**, which relates to changes involving group insurance of eligible dependents for both active and retired employees. The state must expand the coverage up to age 26 regardless of dependent status unless the dependent has coverage through their own employer. Subcommittee member **Rep. Hartgen** had moved to reject subparagraph 040.02.a, page 152.

MOTION: **Rep. Hartgen** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 38-0301-1101** with the exception of subparagraph 040.02.a, only, page 152, which is to be rejected. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

MOTION: **Rep. Hartgen** made a motion to draft a concurrent resolution to reflect the action of the previous motion. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 16-0601-1102: **Rep. Simpson** presented **Docket No. 16-0601-1102**, which reflects changes to improve the quality of adoption services in Idaho. It clarifies minimum standards for certified adoption specialists and implements an application fee for certified adoption professionals for use to help offset the expense of providing the increased level of supervision necessary to support the program.

MOTION: **Rep. Ringo** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0601-1102**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Rep. Simpson turned the gavel over to Chairman Block.

Chairman Block called on **Representative Marriott**, Chairman of Rules Review Subcommittee for Department of Health and Welfare, for a report on his subcommittee's rules review.

DOCKET NOS. 16-0301-1003, 16-0303-1101, 16-0304-1004, 16-0305-1003, 16-0308-1002, 16-0612-1003: **Rep. Marriott** reported that 11 of the Subcommittee's assigned rules encompassed the same changes having to do with improving the process for electronic and telephonic signatures. The process of electronic signatures was reported to be better than physical document retention as it allows acknowledgement and verification of client(s) identity and is similar to filing taxes online.

MOTION: **Rep. Marriott** made a motion to approve **Docket Nos. 16-0301-1003, 16-0303-1101, 16-0304-1004, 16-0305-1003, 16-0308-1002, 16-0612-1003**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 16-0301-1101: **Rep. Marriott** presented **Docket No. 16-0301-1101**. This rule change would add the option of using a standard 50% deduction for self-employment expenses when calculating net self-employment income. The second change would list Veterans' Education Benefits among the types of educational income excluded from countable income for Medicaid.

MOTION: **Rep. Marriott** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0301-1101**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 16-0305-1102: **Rep. Marriott** presented **Docket No. 16-0305-1102**. This rule change relates to calculating countable income for Aid of the Aged, Blind and Disabled (AABD) and are the same rules as those that apply to **Docket No. 16-0301-1101**.

MOTION: **Rep. Marriott** made a motion to approve **Docket 16-0305-1102**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 16-0414-1101: **Rep. Marriott** presented **Docket No. 16-0414-1101**. The changes relate to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program based on percent of Federal Poverty Level, which includes households that receive food stamps and SSI as eligible for LIHEAP. The rule removes the additional verification steps to process the increasing number of applicants in a timely manner and deals with vendor fraud when a LIHEAP vendor knowingly falsifies documentation in order to receive payment.

MOTION: **Rep. Marriott** made a motion to approve **Docket 16-0414-1101**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 16-0304-1101: **Rep. Marriott** presented **Docket No. 16-0304-1101**. Five changes to the Food Stamp program are proposed: (1) waive interview requirement for the food stamp six-month recertification to bring in line with federal policy, which requires an interview once every 12 months for an ongoing case; (2) allow the Department to notify food stamp recipients via email and other technology-based methods; (3) revise how work hours are calculated for postsecondary students, computing work hours at 80 hours per month rather than 20 hours per week; (4) exempt pregnant women from participating in the work and training program while in their third trimester of pregnancy; (5) prohibit children from receiving a caretaker relative cash assistance grant concurrent with receiving food stamps in a different household

MOTION: **Rep. Marriott** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0304-1101**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 16-0308-1101: **Rep. Marriott** presented **Docket No. 16-0308-1101**. There are two rule changes in the Temporary Assistance for Families in Idaho program, which defines a household composition of step-parents and allows the department to pursue overpayments in all situations where a family has incorrectly received TAFI benefits.

MOTION: **Rep. Marriott** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0308-1101**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 20807: **Col. Jerry Russell, Idaho State Police**, presented **RS 20807**, which relates to the Temporary Disability Act. He called for questions and comments, and after a thorough question-and-answer period, the committee decided the language needed more specificity to avoid confusion as to who qualifies.

MOTION: **Rep. Simpson** made a motion to return **RS 20807** to the author for additional specificity in the language. **Motion carried on voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 45-0101-1102: **Ms. Jeanne Goodenough**, Human Rights Commission, presented **Docket No. 45-0101-1102**, which allows complaints to be filed by email.

MOTION: **Rep. King** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 45-0101-1102**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 16-0504-1101: **Ms. Sally Alvarado**, Idaho Council on Domestic Violence, presented **Docket No. 16-0504-1101**, which would allow for state-approved offender intervention programs to implement interventions while specifically stating that the intervention shall not include couples/conjoint treatments. Ms. Alvarado answered questions from committee members.

MOTION: **Rep. Thayne** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0504-1101**. **Motion carried on voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Representative Block
Chair

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary