

MINUTES

HOUSE JUDICIARY, RULES, & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Tuesday, January 31, 2012
- TIME:** 1:30 P.M.
- PLACE:** Room EW42
- MEMBERS:** Chairman Wills, Vice Chairman Luker, Representative(s) Smith(24), Nielsen, Shirley, Hart, Bolz, Ellsworth, Bateman, McMillan, Perry, Sims, Burgoyne, Jaquet, Killen
- ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Ellsworth, Nielsen, and Smith(24)
- GUESTS:** William Flink, Peace Officer Standards & Training (POST), Idaho State Police (ISP); Ken Harward, Association of Idaho Cities (AIC); Vaughn Killeen, Sheriff's Association; Dan Chadwick, Idaho Association of Counties (IAC)
- Chairman Wills** called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Bolz** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2012 committee meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- RS 20805:** **William Flink**, Division Administrator, POST/ISP, presented **RS 20805**. He explained the proposed legislation which amends Idaho Code § 31-3201B from ten dollars to fifteen dollars. He stated there are a vast number of resources governed by POST and the fee increase will provide the revenue necessary to meet the training demands of the profession. Revenues from the Chapter 3201B authorized fees account for 72% of POST's total revenues.
- Mr. Flink** then stated that POST projects the decline in revenues by the end of this year will be upwards of \$800,000 and at the current revenue projections for 2012, POST expects to have revenue fall below the 2006 and 2007 revenue levels. The proposed five dollar fee increase should generate an additional 1.1 million dollars and allow POST to accomplish its mission to protect all citizens throughout the state, which is done through proper training of all POST officers. Most importantly, he stated, the fee increase will create revenue that will allow POST to maintain the public's trust in POST services.
- Mr. Flink** pointed out the projected revenue that will be gained from the fee increase should support POST services for the next five years and emphasized that POST has been operating at a deficit for several years and the need for additional revenue is now. In closing, he stated this increase in fees will affect only those who fail to obey the law.
- In response to committee questions, **Mr. Flink** confirmed that this proposed legislation is the same type of legislation, with the same fee structure, but at \$5.00 not \$1.50, that was brought before committee last year. He then proposed four possible reasons for the decline in revenue in recent years: 1) people are more careful in not violating the law, due largely to a declining economy, 2) law enforcement doesn't have as many officers as they once did, 3) the rise in the price of gas has reduced the number of officers devoted to traffic violations, and 4) other resources are using the POST fees. Committee members requested some statistics on collection rates and comparisons of conviction rates, perhaps in the form of a pie chart. Mr. Flink then clarified that the requested fee increase last year was \$1.50. Lastly, Mr. Flink noted that if this proposed legislation were not to pass, POST would have to receive statutory authority to increase charges for those going through the POST certification process as a means of increasing revenue.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Bolz** made a motion to introduce **RS 20805**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Representative Wills
Chair

Stephanie Nemore
Secretary