

MINUTES

HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 15, 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:** Representative(s) Lake, Simpson, Loertscher

GUESTS: Russ Barron, Rob Luce, Dave Taylor, Jodi Osborn, Drew Hall, and Lori Wolff, Department of Health & Welfare; Sara Stover, Department of Financial Management; Matt Ellsworth, Legislative Services Office; Dustin Hurst, Idaho Reports.com

Mr. Matt Ellsworth, Legislative Services Office, updated the committee on the approved Health & Welfare budget requests that were heard in JFAC today. He reviewed this committee's compiled Health & Welfare budget scores based on the five responding committee members' preferences.

A question-and-answer period followed. Responses were provided by Mr. Matt Ellsworth, Legislative Services; Mr. Russ Barron, Department of Health & Welfare; and Ms. Sara Stover, Department of Financial Management.

ORIGINAL MOTION: **Representative Ringo** made a motion to recommend Priority No. 1 for Medicaid Readiness, HC Reform, in the amount of the Governor's recommendation of \$400,000 from the General Fund.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Representative Thayn** made a motion to recommend the **FY 2012** budget priorities as: Priority No. 1 - Medicaid Readiness, with the remaining five items to be of equal importance in accordance with the Governor's recommendation.

WITHDRAWAL OF MOTION: After a full discussion, **Representative Ringo** withdrew her original motion, and the substitute motion became the main motion.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote.**

MOTION: **Representative Ringo** made a motion to recommend the **FY 2013** budget priorities as follows: No. 1 - Medicaid Readiness, No. 2 - SNAP Multiple Day Issuance, with the remaining items to be voted on individually. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

MOTION: **Representative Hartgen** made a motion to approve the budget for the three remaining items according to the Governor's recommendation. Discussion ensued on the foster care program.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Representative Thayn** made a substitute motion to prioritize the **FY 2013** items as follows: No. 1, Medicaid Readiness; No. 2: SNAP Multiple Day Issuance; and No. 3: Increased Foster Care Payments.

In response to questions about increased foster care payments, **Ms. Sara Stover**, Department of Financial Management, stated that line items not funded initially are categorized as they go through the budget process, which could move the foster care program to the recommended items. **Representative Hartgen** suggested that the committee stay with the original motion, giving the three remaining items equal priority, and that the foster care program be voted on separately. **Representative Thayn** suggested giving increased foster care payments third priority, if funds allow.

**AMENDED
SUBSTITUTE
MOTION:**

Representative Thayne made an amended substitute motion to prioritize the **FY 2013** budget items as follows: No. 1 - Medicaid Readiness, No. 2 - SNAP Multiple Day Issuance, and No. 3 - Increased Foster Care payments, if funds are available. The remaining three items would be given equal importance. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Budget recommendations are:

FY 2012: Medicaid Readiness to be Priority No. 1 and the remaining items to be of equal importance.

FY 2013: Priority No. 1 - Medicaid Readiness, Priority No. 2 - SNAP Multiple Day Issuance, Priority No. 3 (if funds are available) - Increased Foster Care Payments, and the remaining line items are not recommended.

Chairman Block asked **Alex Baca**, House Page to speak about his interests and plans for the future, after which he was presented with a gift in appreciation for his work on the committee.

ADJOURN:

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

Representative Block
Chair

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary