

MINUTES  
**HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

- DATE:** Monday, February 18, 2013
- TIME:** 9:00 A.M.
- PLACE:** Room EW40
- MEMBERS:** Chairman Loertscher, Vice Chairman Batt, Representatives Anderson(1), Andrus, Luker, Crane, Palmer, Sims, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, McMillan, Monks, Packer, Smith, Gannon, Woodings
- ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** None.
- GUESTS:** Phil McGrane, Ada County Clerk's Office; Chris Yamamoto, Canyon County Clerk's Office; Mike Kane, ISA; Holly Kool, IPAA; Tyler Mallard, Risch Pisca; Bill Jarocki, Arkoosh Eiguren; Tony Poinelli, Idaho Associations of Counties; Eddie Goldsmith, ECC; Skip Smyser, AT&T.
- Vice Chairman Batt** called the meeting to order at 8:59 a.m.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Packer** made a motion to approve the minutes for the meeting of February 13, 2013. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- H 107:** **Tim Hurst**, Secretary of State, presented **H 107**, a bill regarding in-person absentee voting. He stated it is an option for counties and is not mandatory. He also stated 75% of voters go to the polls on election day, and 25% vote absentee. He stated this in-person absentee voting saves time and processing.
- In response to committee questions, **Mr. Hurst** stated the Secretary of State issues directives regarding election laws. He also stated the Secretary of State has the authority to deny a plan. He also stated the purpose of the bill was to ease voting and speed up the entire process. He also stated the Secretary of State will do a press release to let the public know of the change as well as make it the counties' responsibility to notify the residents. He also stated the bill provides for better security of the ballots and the counties are in support of the bill.
- Phil McGrane**, Ada County Clerk's Office, stated the population has grown in Ada County by 33% and the cost of elections has increased 313%. He stated **H 107** helps decrease the amount of processing. He also stated there is dedicated staff assigned to handle early voting.
- In response to committee questions, **Mr. McGrane** stated computers are not used on election day, only on early voting to enter the voter's information and confirm their identity.
- Chris Yamamoto**, Canyon County Clerk's Office, stated in Canyon County there were huge lines last election due to the length of time it took for voters to complete their voting. He stated the two-envelope system was the biggest complaint of the voters, who were confused by the process and needed extra assistance when dealing with their ballots. He also stated the number of times the voter staff handled the ballots was more than needed.
- In response to committee questions, **Mr. Yamamoto** stated voter cans are stored in a locked can in a locked room, and there are always two people together when in the room.
- Vice Chairman Batt** turned the gavel over to **Chairman Loertscher**.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Smith** made a motion to send **H 107** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Andrus, Monks, and Sims** requested that they be recorded as voting **NAY.** **Rep. Smith** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

In opposition to the motion, **Rep. Luker** stated he was concerned by the open-ended nature of the time frame and believes there should be a limit.

In support of the motion, **Rep. Barbieri** stated he liked the flexibility for the counties regarding the time frame. **Rep. Gannon** stated the Secretary of State has an excellent reputation in handling security with our voting and he is in support of the bill.

**H 161:** **Tim Hurst**, Secretary of State, presented **H 161**, a bill cleaning up various sections of the Idaho Code that address changes in election procedures, recalling elected officials and specifies the date by which a political party must give the county clerk wording for a question to be placed on the ballot. He stated the intent of "certified" in the text, was also clarified.

In response to committee questions, **Mr. Hurst** stated recalls are time sensitive and the reason they did not address the parameters of "promptly transmit" is because it varies.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Anderson(1)** made a motion to send **H 161** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Sims** requested that she be recorded as voting **NAY.** **Rep. Gannon** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**RS 22041:** **Skip Smyser**, on behalf of AT&T, presented **RS 22041**, proposed legislation that is a replacement for **H 79**, which helps clarify language regarding charging owners of "go phones" a 911 fee like all other users. He stated the Idaho Attorney General's Office said all 911 users should be charged for the service.

In response to committee questions, **Mr. Smyser** stated on page 5, section 3, subsection 6, should have the following language: "Funds received from the fee imposed under section 31-4813, Idaho Code, shall be maintained by the Idaho Emergency Communications Commission and used solely for the design, migration, implementation and operation of a Next Generation 911 system in accordance and compliance with the New and Emerging Technology Act of 2006."

**MOTION:** **Rep. Crane** made a motion to introduce **RS 22041** with the following changes: on page 5, section 3, subsection 6 should have the following language: "Funds received from the fee imposed under section 31-4813, Idaho Code, shall be maintained by the Idaho Emergency Communications Commission and used solely for the design, migration, implementation and operation of a Next Generation 911 system in accordance and compliance with the New and Emerging Technology Act of 2006" and with the recommendation the bill is sent to Local Government. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**RS 22046:** **Rep. Palmer** presented **RS 22046**, proposed legislation regarding enhanced concealed weapons licenses. He stated Idaho is currently a Level I in regards to training. He also stated the enhancement would move Idaho to a Level 3, which would make the permit recognizable in other states.

In response to committee questions, **Mr. Palmer** stated the enhancement is not mandatory, but an option for a concealed weapons license.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Anderson(1)** made a motion to introduce **RS 22046.** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business for the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

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Representative Loertscher  
Chair

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Kasey Perkins  
Secretary