

MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 26, 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: Larry Johnson, EFIB; Tyler Mallard, Risch Pisca; Russell Westerberg, Westerberg and Associates.

Chairman Loertscher called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Packer** made a motion to correct the minutes of 2/14/13 to change "RS 21904C1" to "RS 21904". **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 22096: **Rep. Eskridge** presented **RS 22096**, proposed legislation will separate funds to benefit Idaho Veterans. He stated the Division of Veterans Service conducted a survey regarding the fund division and it was approved.

In response to committee questions, **Rep. Eskridge** stated the fund is currently in excess of \$20 million and is only able to be invested in short term investments. He stated with the new fund, the monies can be invested in long term investments which would benefit the veterans directly instead of the General Fund. He stated that one goal is to separate the funds for any buildings they might need in the near future.

MOTION: **Rep. Smith** made a motion to introduce **RS 22096**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 22119: **Rep. Nielsen** presented **RS 22119**, proposed legislation clarifying language regarding concealed weapons and permits for lawfully possessing knives stun guns, or pepper spray. He stated that he also added kitchen type utensils to the text for cooks and chefs.

MOTION: **Rep. Andrus** made a motion to introduce **RS 22119**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 181: **Jeff Youtz**, Capitol Commission, presented **H 181**, a bill that creates a Capitol Maintenance Reserve Fund. He stated the real need is to fund the repair and maintenance of the Capitol Building. He stated the permanent fund would deposit up to 5% of the balance of the existing fund into the new fund each year.

In response to committee questions, **Mr. Youtz** stated the Endowment Fund was set up to grow and it was not intended to have money taken out which is why there is a need for the separate fund.

Larry Johnson, Manager of Investments of the Endowment Fund, stated the Endowment Fund was set up to always exist and the new fund is needed to fund new projects, repairs and maintenance to the Capitol Building.

MOTION: **Rep. Woodings** made a motion to send **H 181** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Reps. Barbieri, Gannon, Luker, and Monks** requested that they be recorded as voting **NAY**. **Rep. Hartgen** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

In opposition to the motion, **Rep. Gannon** stated he believes by creating another fund, the Legislature would be encouraging spending.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Representative Loertscher
Chair

Kasey Perkins
Secretary