

MINUTES  
**HOUSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Thursday, January 30, 2014

**TIME:** 1:30 P.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW05

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Barrett, Vice Chairman Sims, Representatives Barbieri, Luker, Perry, Clow, Hancey, Harris, Holtzclaw, Horman, Malek, Chew, Kloc, Meline

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Representative Chew

**GUESTS:** Julie Hart, Westerberg and Associates; Courtney Washburn, Idaho Conservation League; Stu Davis, IAHD; Representative Ed Morse; Tony Smith, Benton Ellis; John Eaton, Realtors; Elizabeth Criner, Simplot and NWFPA; Teresa Molitor, LCDR and JURA; Raeleen Welton, RNP; Bob Henry, City of Nampa; Russell Westerberg, Boise; Tom Kleeburg, City of Lewiston; Carry Hall, City of Kimberly; Jeri DeLange, City of Hayden

**Vice Chairman Sims** called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

**RS 22645:** **Rep. Morse** presented **RS 22645**, which would amend two code sections in the Local Planning Act. The first proposed change is to Section 67-6508 (m) which would make community design for buildings a voluntary requirement, rather than a mandatory one. It would also add the need to consider drainage issues, and would make beautification voluntary. The second change would be to Section 67-6511(1)(a)(1) to remove the authority to condition certain permits, and would require all design standards to be clear, rather than based on aesthetics. He explained this would restrict expansive design reviews. He said that current standards are a burden to property owners and the state.

In response to questions, **Rep. Morse** said the State of Idaho is filled with buildings from various time periods and different builders, and they may not all be aesthetically compatible. The RS seeks to stop the redesign of buildings by professional and citizen planners, which he said is expensive, time consuming, and unnecessary. Landscaping is not specifically addressed in this RS, however he said the process of building or updating is currently micromanaged and this issue might need to be addressed. He said, however, the actual building design is expensive and is the focus of this proposed legislation.

Responding to additional questions, **Rep. Morse** said this would only apply to commercial and industrial buildings. Historical districts are specifically addressed. Without defined standards, it would not be possible to arrive at uniformity. The references to specific items including landscaping on page 3, line 34 stand alone as exclusions. A review would only be conducted if a local body had provided for a review process within its ordinance.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Perry** made a motion to introduce **RS 22645**. She spoke to her motion, saying she believed a bill hearing was in order.

**Rep. Clow** spoke in support of the motion, saying he agrees, a bill hearing is in order and his questions were to provide clarification.

**Chairman Barrett** spoke in support of the motion. She stated this involves some private property rights and should receive a bill hearing.

**VOTE ON  
MOTION:**

**Chairman Barrett** called for a vote on the motion to introduce **RS 22645. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

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Representative Sims  
Vice Chairman

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Mary Tipps  
Secretary