

MINUTES
HOUSE TRANSPORTATION & DEFENSE COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 20, 2014

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Palmer, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representative(s) Wood(35), Wills, Bateman, Henderson, Denney (Rynearson), Gestrin, Gibbs, Hixon, Kauffman, Packer, Youngblood, McDonald, Ringo, King, Gannon

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representatives Packer, Gibbs and Wills

GUESTS: Haden Claiborne, Idaho UTV and Idaho Recreation Council; Ray Harrison, Idaho UTV/RGPA; Danny Prochaska, Idaho UTV/IGPA; Tony Smith, Lobbyist; Becky Johnston, Back Country Recreation Club; Jim Kuln, Idaho Recreation Council; David Claiborne, Idaho ATV Assoc.; Zayden Gabby, IRC; Nancy Merrill, Idaho State Parks; Cliff Code, IGPA; Amy Smith, ITD; David Lincoln, IAHD; Sandra Mitchell, IRC; Danyelle Harbauer, Idaho Trucking; Bill Bennett, self; Pat Niemer, self

Chairman Palmer called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

Chairman Palmer welcomed **Rep. Harold Rynearson** to the Committee.

David Lincoln of the Golden Gate Highway District presented "*Reports from the Front Lines - the Highway Districts.*" Mr. Lincoln stated there are 64 highway jurisdictions in Idaho that over see transportation infrastructure. His district consists of 223 miles of roads out of the 1,043 miles in Canyon County, with 120 bridges. He gave examples of failing culverts undermining roads, and washouts. Mr. Lincoln explained the highway districts are doing their best to maintain the roads and bridges; however the time is getting close for a major overhaul. Keeping our roads paved and in good repair helps reduce dust during the harvest time, he said. The Highway Districts are looking at new cost efficient ways to upgrade the road system with limited funds. He stated the road jurisdictions and local governments are now collaborating and planning together to meet the needs of the transportation system which include waterways.

H 491: **Rep. Gestrin** provided a recap of **H 491** stating the legislation addresses the definition of a snowmobile by weight. Today many all terrain vehicles can use snow tracks to travel on groomed trails. UTVs, motorcycles, ATVs, and snowmobiles weigh more than 1,000 lb. and less than 2,000 lb., he said. The Counties have the option to allow the heavier vehicles on their trails. Stakeholders have been contacted, and he stated there has been no opposition to this increase in weight to 2,000 lb.

MOTION: **Rep. Wood** made a motion to send **H 491** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Gestrin** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 492: **Rep. Gestrin** reported discussions began last year to clarify the confusion between the terms registration and certificate of number/number certificate. A task force was put together by the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) that included stakeholders to find a way to distinguish between the terms. The task force concluded the changes in **H 492** will bring clarity by removing the term registration. He stated recreational use and certificate of numbering, commonly referred to the 'Pay to Play' sticker, is a function of IDPR. The function of registration ownership is with the Department of Motor Vehicles. He explained another change is an increase in the fine to \$50 for not having a number certificate. The last change is requiring an annual fee for vessels which is consistent with other recreational fees and will bring in \$60,000 more a year.

MOTION: **Rep. Hixon** made a motion to send **H 492** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Gestrin** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

Representative Palmer
Chair

Linda Mott
Secretary