

MINUTES
HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014
- TIME:** 9:00 A.M.
- PLACE:** Room EW20
- MEMBERS:** Chairman Wood(27), Vice Chairman Perry, Representative(s) Hancey, Henderson, Hixon, Malek, Morse, Romrell, Vander Woude, Rusche, Chew
- ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Morse, Vander Woude
- GUESTS:** Julie Taylor, Blue Cross of Idaho; Bill Roden, Delta Dental of Idaho; Fernando Castro, Department of Health & Welfare (DHW); Sandy Evans and Kathleen Pollard, Board of Nursing; Elizabeth Criner, ISDA
- Chairman Wood(27)** called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
- S 1291:** **Bill Roden**, Delta Dental of Idaho, presented **S 1291**. He said Delta Dental is a 501(c)4 professional service corporation comprised of dentists who, if the corporation fails, are obligated to fulfill existing contracts. Current Idaho Code lists which programs can be offered by 501(c)3 and 501(c)4 corporations. Without a change in Code, Delta Dental would be forced to terminate business or reorganize as a 501(c)3 in order to continue their existing programs. This legislation adds to the listed programs that a 501(c)4 corporation can provide. Other changes make terms gender neutral, adds school districts to the list of program providers, and changes reference to migrant health center to federally qualified health center. The final addition allows the Board of Dentistry reapproval of oral health care programs annually, or at other times deemed necessary by the Board.
- Answering Committee questions, **Mr. Roden** said the oral health care program lists have been placed into two subsections to better identify and separate reduced fee programs from the 501(c)3 or 501(c)4 programs. Children participate in school programs voluntarily and with parental permission. If any problem is detected, parents are advised and urged to get the appropriate dental care, without any solicitation of their business.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Malek** made a motion to send **S 1291** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.
- Elizabeth Criner**, Idaho State Dental Association, testified that they **support S 1291**.
- For the record, no one else indicated their desire to testify.
- VOTE ON MOTION:** **Chairman Wood(27)** called for a vote on the motion to send **S 1291** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Chew** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- S 1261:** **Sandra Evans**, Executive Director, Board of Nursing, presented **S 1261**, which amends the Board's ability to conduct fingerprint-based criminal background checks on nurse licensure applicants. Participating agencies must adhere to standards of the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact, which governs the exchange of criminal history record information for noncriminal justice purposes.

Updates include clarification that applicants submit fingerprints and related fees directly to the Board for forwarding to the appropriate law enforcement agency for processing. Proposed modification is made to clearly indicate criminal background reports shall be used only for making licensing decisions, with handling and disposal consistent with requirements of the Idaho State Police (ISP) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). These changes are the result of discrepancies identified in the 2011 audits by the FBI and ISP.

For the record, no one indicated their desire to testify.

MOTION: **Vice Chairman Perry** made a motion to send **S 1261** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Vice Chairman Perry** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

RS 22938: **Rep. John Rusche**, District 6, presented **RS 22938**, a Resolution calling for a DHW Council to develop telehealth and telemedicine guidelines. Telehealth delivers health services removed from the health professional's location and is expanding along with technology, where broadband is available. With this new avenue of health care, questions arise about appropriate professional standards, regulation of telecommunication use by a variety of professions, differences from face-to-face communication, record keeping, workflow, technology security, and reimbursements. To address these and other issues while treating patients in their homes over the internet, a standardized approach for Idaho is necessary. The suggested council membership is a broad stakeholder list. There is an unofficial board in existence, which is formalized by this legislation.

Responding to questions, **Rep. Rusche** said several states have already enacted this type of legislation in a variety of ways, including a separate governmental department and a council in the governor's office. They all exist because the states see the same proliferation of use and desire standardization for use of services, particularly in rural areas.

MOTION: **Rep. Hixon** made a motion to introduce **RS 22938**. He commented this is a beneficial piece of legislation for the rural areas of Idaho.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Chairman Wood(27)** called for a vote on the motion to introduce **RS 22938**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 22978: **Chairman Wood(27)** announced **RS 22978** will be carried over until tomorrow's committee meeting.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

Representative Wood(27)
Chair

Irene Moore
Secretary