



IDAHO LEGISLATURE

URBAN RENEWAL INTERIM COMMITTEE

Capitol Statehouse
Room 305
Boise ID 83720
(208) 334 - 3531

February 23, 2016

Senator Brent Hill
President Pro Tempore

Representative Scott Bedke
Speaker of the House

SENATE

Dan Johnson
Co-Chairman

Jeff Siddoway

Chuck Winder

Mary Souza

Maryanne Jordan

HOUSE

Rick Youngblood
Co-Chairman

Kathy Sims

Robert Anderst

Lance Clow

Hy Kloc

Idaho State Capitol
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720

Dear President Pro Tempore Hill and Speaker Bedke,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as co-chairmen of the Urban Renewal Interim Study committee, created by HCR 17 during the 2015 legislative session. The committee has completed its work and has the following comments and recommendations for your review and consideration.

As directed in HCR 17, the committee studied the statutes and laws regarding urban renewal agencies, revenue allocation areas and the Economic Development Act contained in Chapters 20 and 29, Title 50, Idaho Code.

In addition, the committee asked for testimony from the public, experts in urban renewal law, and members of urban renewal agencies. The committee provided several opportunities for interested and affected parties from throughout the state to participate in person or by telephone in our deliberations. The committee received, reviewed and responded to written comments. We believe that the committee's efforts to include others in this important study were both extensive and inclusive.

After careful study, the committee has five key recommendations.

1. Board members shall be appointed including vacancies, unless by enactment of an ordinance, the local governing body provides that members shall be elected.
2. Urban renewal plans may be modified; however, certain modifications shall result in a base reset.
3. Any changes to an urban renewal plan under certain circumstances shall be noticed and shall be completed in an open public meeting.
4. Expenditures on public buildings constituting more than fifty-one percent of the total project cost shall be approved in an election by fifty-five percent of electors residing within the borders of the qualified municipality.
5. Urban renewal agencies shall register on the newly created central registry with the state tax commission. Failure to properly and timely register, upon notification to the board of county commissioners, shall be subject to appropriate compliance measures.

We are pleased to report to you that we have the committee's unanimous consent on these recommendations. Also, all committee members have agreed to be a sponsor of RS24576, the draft legislation containing these recommendations.

Sincerely,

Senator Dan Johnson, Co Chairman

Representative Rick Youngblood, Co-Chairman

CC: Eric Milstead, Director, LSO
Mike Nugent, LSO
Keith Bybee, LSO