

MINUTES
HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Tuesday, February 17, 2015
- TIME:** 8:00 A.M.
- PLACE:** Room EW20
- MEMBERS:** Chairman Wood, Vice Chairman Packer, Representatives Hixon, Perry, Romrell, Vander Woude, Beyeler, Redman, Troy, Rusche, Chew
- ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** Julie Taylor, Blue Cross; Jim Baugh, DRI; Elizabeth Criner, ACSCAN; Dan Blocksom, Idaho Ass'n Counties; Dave Taylor, IDHW.
- Chairman Wood** called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.
- RS 23588:** **Rep. Luke Malek**, presented **RS 23588**, proposed legislation that creates a platform for diverse communities to fill existing healthcare access gaps and extend healthcare provider reach using the emergency medical services (EMS) and Community Health EMS (CHEMS) programs.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to introduce **RS 23588**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- RS 23518:** **Vice Chairman Kelley Packer**, District 28, presented **RS 23518**. Recently, four major contact lens manufacturers set a minimum retailer price, creating a retail price floor. Some of the retail prices have increased dramatically. This proposed legislation prohibits that price floor in Idaho.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Perry** made a motion to introduce **RS 23518**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- RS 23613:** **Rep. John Rusche**, District 6, presented **RS 23613**, proposed legislation to recognize social workers and proclaim March Social Worker Recognition Month.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Chew** made a motion to introduce **RS 23613**.
- SUBSTITUTE
MOTION:** **Vice Chairman Packer** made a substitute motion to introduce **RS 23613** and recommended it be sent directly to the Second Reading Calendar. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Rusche** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- RS 23557:** **Rep. John Rusche**, District 6, presented **RS 23557**. This proposed legislation allows participation in the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, developed by statewide medical board representatives. Each state has their own standards for physician licensure. Physicians work across state lines through telemedicine, locum tenens positions, large practices in multiple states, and traveling medical teams. The Compact provides adherence to common rules, accepts the home state's licensing, and expedites licensing applications in a non-home state.
- Answering questions, **Rep. Rusche** said approximately thirteen states are considering Compact participation legislation. This supports telehealth and telemedicine.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Romrell** made a motion to introduce **RS 23557**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 23562: **Rep. Christy Perry**, District 11, presented **RS 23562**, proposed legislation requesting the Your Health Idaho (YHI) Health Insurance Exchange provide certain information regarding health benefit plans to its online users. It also requests the information be provided to consumers prior to the 2016 open enrollment date. There is no expense to the General Fund and the cost to YHI appears minimal.

MOTION: **Rep. Redman** made a motion to introduce **RS 23562. Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 23577: **Rep. Kelley Packer**, District 28, presented **RS 23577**. Many Idaho citizens rely on sign language interpreting services. Currently there are no quality controls in place for this component. This proposed legislation assures the sign language service providers are licensed and sets qualification standards, ensuring consumers receive appropriate interpreting services.

MOTION: **Rep. Beyeler** made a motion to introduce **RS 23577. Motion carried by voice vote.**

The committee then discussed the upcoming germane committee presentation to the Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee (JFAC).

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:09 a.m.

Representative Wood
Chair

Irene Moore
Secretary