

MINUTES
HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, February 20, 2015

TIME: 9:00 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: Jennifer Aumeier, Idaho Citizen; Caitlin Rusche, IAC / Health Districts; Elizabeth Criner, ISDA / ACSCAN / NWFPA; Emily McClure, IMA; Kathryn Turner and Patrick Guzzle, DHW - Div. of Public Health; Cassy Solmarger, Gallatin PA; Diana Crumrine and Emily Dickerson, IDAANP; Mary Sheridan, Public Health; Jeremy Pisca, Kootenai Health; Marnie Packard, Select Health; Ryan Fitzgerald, IACP; Dennis Stevenson, Rules Coordinator.

Chairman Wood called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Rusche** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2015, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

MOTION: **Rep. Rusche** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2015, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**UNANIMOUS
CONSENT
REQUEST:** **Chairman Wood** made a unanimous consent request to remove **RS 23662** from the agenda, as requested by the sponsor, and allow the presenter of **RS 23660** to present, instead, **RS 23660C1**, with an explanation of the change. There being no objection, the request was granted.

Chairman Wood turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Packer**.

RS 23639: **Rep. Fred Wood**, District 27, presented **RS 23639**. This is the Rules Resolution for the committee's rejection of one rule, as requested by the presenter, The Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired. The conflict causing this request is between state and federal regulations and will be resolved in Rules presented during the next Legislative Session.

MOTION: **Rep. Rusche** made a motion to introduce **RS 23639** and recommend it be sent directly to the Second Reading Calendar. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Wood** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Vice Chairman Packer turned the gavel over to **Chairman Wood**.

RS 23635: **Rep. Kelley Packer**, District 28, presented **RS 23635**, proposed legislation to increase the amount and number of loan repayment awards through the Rural Physician Incentive Program (RPIP). This is a valuable repayment tool to bring physicians to under-served Idaho communities. It is funded through medical student fees and is currently one of lowest in the area, competing with higher national and other states' programs. Being able to accept only one repayment program, physicians hesitate to take Idaho's RPIP because it is so low. These changes will improve the Idaho physician pool.

MOTION: **Rep. Beyeler** made a motion to introduce **RS 23635**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

- RS 23633:** **Rep. Vander Woude**, District 22, presented **RS 23633**, proposed legislation amending the required parental consent for tattooing, branding, and body piercing to include tanning devices. This applies to teenagers between fourteen and eighteen years of age.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Hixon** made motion to introduce **RS 23633**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- RS 23605C2:** **Rep. Christy Perry**, District 11, presented **RS 23605C2**. This proposed legislation allows notification to a prescriber in the event a pharmacist makes a substitution of a biosimilar medication. It also requires the Board of Pharmacy maintain a website link to the current list of biological interchangeable products.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Hixon** made a motion to introduce **RS 23605C2**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- RS 23616:** **Rep. Christy Perry**, District 11, presented **RS 23616**, proposed legislation for insurers with health care policies providing coverage for prescription drugs. It authorizes medication synchronization and dispensing fee standardization, similar to the Medicare program. The requirement will begin January 1, 2017, to allow adequate adjustment time for insurers.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to introduce **RS 23616**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- RS 23487:** **Rep. John Vander Woude**, District 22, presented **RS 23487**. This Concurrent Resolution requests continuation of the Endowment Asset Issues Interim Committee.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Hixon** made a motion to introduce **RS 23487**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- RS 23545:** **Rep. Luke Malek**, District 4, presented **RS 23545**, proposed legislation allowing public access to Idaho Code by striking a section of copyright law.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Rusche** made a motion to introduce **RS 23545**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- RS 23659:** **Ken McClure**, Attorney, Idaho Medical Association, presented **RS 23659**. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has caused a problem determining patient coverage. Health Insurance Exchange (HIX) policies with a tax credit require a 90-day notice of non-payment cancellation. Claims submitted during this time are held in abeyance until the premium is or is not paid. Healthcare providers scheduling procedures during the grace period have no way of knowing if their claim will be paid. This proposed legislation states any HIX policy with a tax credit needs to have a mechanism to let a provider know if there is a likelihood of payment.
- Answering questions, **Mr. McClure** said a physician knowing their claims may not be paid can have a conversation with their patient. This does not restrict the physician's decision to provide service. Carriers have been included in discussions regarding this legislation and have expressed their intention to provide this information. Plans not receiving the tax credit do not have the grace period.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Troy** made a motion to introduce **RS 23659**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- RS 23660C1:** **Kris Ellis**, Idaho Chapter American Association of Naturopathic Physicians, presented **RS 23660C1**. The naturopathic practice was recognized in Idaho in 1959 by a Supreme Court Decision. Ms. Ellis described the difference between Naturopaths and Naturopathic Physicians. The proposed legislation establishes a Board of Naturopathic Physicians, and framework to allow Naturopathic Physicians the ability to practice to the scope of their training. The original **RS 23660** was changed to correct a statute reference number.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Romrell** made a motion to introduce **RS 23660C1**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 23651C1: **Jeremy Pisca**, Kootenai Health, Attorney, Risch Pisca Law Firm, presented **RS 23651C1**. Through the proposed legislation, a public hospital district or county hospital Treasurer would be given the new duty to invest idle funds the same as the Idaho State Treasurer. Those investments would have an "A" or better rating.

MOTION: **Rep. Hixon** made a motion to introduce **RS 23651C1**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

Representative Wood
Chair

Irene Moore
Secretary