

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, February 23, 2015
TIME: 1:30 P.M.
PLACE: Room EW40
MEMBERS: Chairman Raybould, Vice Chairman Gestrin, Representatives Moyle, Andrus, Shepherd, Wood, Boyle, Vander Woude, Gibbs, Miller, Bateman, Burtenshaw, Mendive, VanOrden, Youngblood, Pence, Erpelding, Rubel
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Andrus
GUESTS: Sharon Kiefer, Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

Chairman Raybould called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

S 1020: **Sharon Kiefer**, Idaho Department of Fish & Game, stated **S 1020** amends Idaho Code to exempt Class 7 licenses, tags and permits from set aside requirements as Class 7 are duplicates for which the set-aside provisions for certain licenses, tags and permits are met at the time of original purchase. Sharon indicated that revenue from sales of duplicates would flow into the fish and game dedicated fund. This fund provides more discretion for funding the full spectrum of fish and game programs and estimate \$25,000 will be shifted from set-asides to this account each year as a result. Ms. Kiefer stated shifting the revenue to the fish and game dedicated fund will not have a significant negative revenue effect on the set-aside accounts. Ms. Kiefer added **S 1020** has a technical correction to the definition of antelope as pronghorn antelope.

MOTION: **Rep. Gibbs** made a motion to send **S 1020** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Pence** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1031: **Senator Keough**, said **S 1031** is to bring consistency to Idaho residency requirements for obtaining fishing and hunting licenses. Senator Keough stated Idaho Code defines "resident" to be someone who has lived in the state for 6 months, but the definition for "Senior Resident", 65 years or older, as someone who has lived in the state of 5 years. She indicated **S 1031** will provide a resident as an individual residing in the state for 6 months for all instances.

Senator Bayer was raised in Idaho, his parents moved to Washington and moved back to Idaho. Senator Bayer stated his father is 80 years old and can't have an Idaho senior resident fishing license for 5 years and there is inconsistency with fairness and equatibility in the code provisions regarding the regulations for licenses, tags and permits. He indicated this is not a good way to show respect and treat our seniors.

Sharon Kiefer, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, stated **S 1031** would revise the current eligibility criteria for a senior reduced fee license and reduced fee for deer, elk, bear, and turkey tags. The Fish and Game Commission's position for this bill is to monitor and provide technical and fiscal information regarding the effect to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. The senior license tags are substantially reduced if an individual is over the age of 65 and has lived in Idaho for 5 years and is similar to reduced tags for the disabled. Ms. Kiefer said the Idaho Department of Fish and Game was unable to locate a reason, rationale, or any testimony for the specific reason for this policy. Ms. Kiefer indicated the fiscal effect to be approximately \$56,000 and there may be other negative effects, but the Idaho Department of Fish and Game has no stance on the issue.

MOTION: **Rep. Bateman** made a motion to send **S 1031** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Bateman** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Chairman Raybould introduced the new Page, **Marilyn Clements**, to the House Resources and Conservation Committee.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Representative Raybould
Chair

Jennifer Smith
Secretary