

MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 24, 2015

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Loertscher, Vice Chairman Batt, Representatives Andrus, Luker, Crane, Palmer, Sims, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, McMillan, Bateman, Cheatham, Nielsen, Smith, Jordan, McCrostie, Wintrow

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Jordan

GUESTS: Rich Hahn, Idaho Power; Sheila Francis, Idaho Brewers United; Will Hart, ICUA; Jeremy Pisca, Idaho Beer and Wine Distributors Association; Ken Miller, Snake River Alliance; Dan Blocksom, Idaho Association of Counties; Jack Lyman, Idaho Mining Association.

Chairman Loertscher called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

RS 23329C1: **Rep. Dixon** presented **RS 23329C1**, proposed legislation that amends Idaho Code section 40-507 by adding subsections (4) and (5). This change will allow non-profit anti-human trafficking organizations to place signs and posters that contain the contact information for State and National human trafficking hotlines in and around rest areas alongside State and Interstate Highways.

MOTION: **Rep. Wintrow** made a motion to introduce **RS 23329C1**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 23661: **Jeremy Pisca**, Idaho Beer and Wine Distributors Association, presented **RS 23661**, proposed legislation that simply clarifies that self-distribution applies only to beer which is produced by the small brewer, and does not allow a small brewer to distribute beer produced by another brewer. Beer products are regulated by a three-tier system. The three-tier system ensures financial independence between brewers, distributors and retailers. Small brewers (brewers brewing less than 30,000 barrels annually) have an exception from certain provisions of the three-tier system. One of those exceptions is that small brewers may self-distribute the beer they produce. He stated he has spoken to all of the brewers and there is a general consensus with the legislation.

MOTION: **Rep. Andrus** made a motion to introduce **RS 23661**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 23604: **Rich Hahn**, Idaho Power Company, presented **RS 23604**, proposed legislation that would allow the purchase of electricity from a public utility that is resold to charge the batteries of an electric motor vehicle to be conducted under an Order or Rule of the Public Utilities Commission. Electricity purchased from a public utility as defined in Section 61-129, Idaho Code and is resold to other users is an activity that would be subject to the jurisdiction of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission.

In response to committee questions, **Mr. Hahn** stated there are charging stations in Idaho and the Treasure Valley today. They are located at public parking garages and lots of private employers. He stated that the fee will be included in the employees parking fee. He said the charging stations are mainly used to charge for short trips. He stated the legislation does not force people to charge for the service but allows them to if they so choose.

Rep. Sims invoked Rule 38 stating a possible conflict of interest but that she would be voting on the legislation.

MOTION: **Rep. Crane** made a motion to introduce **RS 23604. Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 67: **Rep. Luker** presented **H 67**, a bill that provides procedures for the selection of and exercise of authority by Idaho delegates to an Article V convention, if called by states. This bill does not call for a convention. Under Article V a convention can be called with the requisite number of applications from states, whether or not Idaho has joined in that application. This legislation allows Idaho to be prepared to represent its interests should a convention be convened with or without its application.

In response to committee questions, **Rep. Luker** stated the bill ensures our votes will be cast as the citizens of Idaho wish they are cast. He stated there are other states that have the same type of legislation.

MOTION: **Rep. Bateman** made a motion to send **H 67** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. He spoke to the motion and stated the legislation is a good idea with all the overstepping of federal power happening. He stated it should be 50% to the state and 50% to the federal government. He stated the U.S. Constitution has been changed or reinterpreted by a small group of people, not the people as a whole and we need to stop the centralization of government.

Rep. Batt spoke **in opposition** to the motion and stated the legislation gives false security and should have included penalties.

Rep. Nielsen spoke **in support** of the motion and stated Article V was included into the Constitution for a good reason. He stated conventions are good because the delegates can vote.

Rep. Barbieri spoke **in opposition** to the motion and stated most can agree there are issues with the federal government overstepping their power. He said the legislature needs to collaborate with representatives of other states and build a foundation to see what their views are. He stated we need legislation that is representative of all states.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Chairman Loertscher** called for a vote on the motion to send **H 67** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. Division vote was requested. **By a show of hands, the motion carried by a vote of 11 AYE, 5 NAY, 1 Absent/Excused. Rep. Jordan was Absent/Excused. Rep. Luker** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 a.m.

Representative Loertscher
Chair

Kasey Winder
Secretary