

MINUTES
HOUSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 26, 2015

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW05

MEMBERS: Chairman Luker, Vice Chairman Sims, Representatives Barbieri, Perry, Clow, Horman, Malek, Collins, Cheatham, Loertscher, Redman, Kloc, McCrostie, Nye

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Perry, Loertscher

GUESTS: Caitlin Rushe, Donna Peterson, IACT

Chairman Luker called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

H 156: **Rep. Kauffman** presented **H 156** which makes it optional for counties to bid on seized personal property. This clarifies that the county does not have to bid on seized property should it cost more to maintain than the county would make from the property. The purpose of the sale of these seized personal property is to recoup the taxes owed. The opening bid on the property is the amount owed to the county. If there is a higher bid that will create excess revenue, then it is given back to the property owner.

In response to questions, **Rep. Kauffman** stated if no one buys the property to include the county treasurer, the personal property remains the responsibility of the property owner. The sale of this personal properties is advertised to the public. Currently in some counties, the treasurer bids on the property regardless of it being a loss. This language change clarifies that the county may purchase, but it is not required to purchase, seized personal property up for auction.

In response to questions, **Donna Peterson**, from the Idaho Association of County Treasurers, stated the personal property is typically purchased for the minimum bid. The fees of properties can be waved.

MOTION: **Rep. Malek** made a motion to send **H 156** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

In response to questions **Ms. Peterson** stated there is a difference between what the prosecutors and the county interpret in the existing laws. The changes would clarify the county may, but is not required, to bid on personal property. Personal property that is put up for auction must exceed \$100,000 in value.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Chairman Luker** called for a vote on the motion to send **H 156** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Kauffman** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

Representative Luker
Chair

Erin Hutto
Secretary