

MINUTES  
**HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Thursday, March 05, 2015

**TIME:** 9:00 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 Bateman and McMillan

**GUESTS:** Justin Ruen, Association of Idaho Cities; Phil McGrane, Ada County Clerk's Office; Dan Blocksom, Idaho Association of Counties.

**Chairman Loertscher** called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**Rep. Holtzclaw** reported the Holtzclaw Subcommittee reviewed the Pending Rules for the Idaho Public Utility Commission, **Docket No. 31-0201-1401**, and are recommended to be approved in their entirety. He stated the Pending Rules for the Idaho State Liquor Division, **Docket No. 15-1001-1401**, were reviewed and are recommended to be approved in their entirety. He also stated the Pending Fee Rules for Capitol Mall Parking of the Department of Administration, **Docket No. 38-0404-1401**, were reviewed and are recommended to be approved in their entirety.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Holtzclaw** made a motion to approve the report of the Holtzclaw Subcommittee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**H 212:** **Tim Hurst**, Chief Deputy, Secretary of State, presented **H 212**, a bill that addresses procedural issues in the election laws of the State. It authorizes the use of electronic poll books, prohibits judicial candidates from running for more than one seat at a single election, addresses the cancellation of an elector's registration for not voting in a 4-year period, and expands the condition of a free recount.

In response to committee questions, **Mr. Hurst** stated the electronic poll book registration is more accurate because each section of the registration has to be filled out completely, where as the hard copy is not always completed by the voter. He stated the electronic poll books are not connected to the internet or network. He stated there is only a one-time cost for purchasing the poll book and for any technical help service agreement if the vendor offers the service. He stated this is just an option for counties, it is not a requirement.

**Phil McGrane**, Ada County Clerk's Office, spoke **in support** of **H 212** and stated the electronic poll books allow the counties to have more accurate information when dealing with voters and finding their respective polling places. He stated the bill focuses on strengthening the integrity of elections and provides ease and more security for poll information.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Cheatham** made a motion to send **H 212** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**Rep. Crane** spoke **in opposition** to the motion and stated there is not enough security with the machines. **Rep. Sims** spoke **in opposition** to the motion and stated the 4-year term in cancelling a voter's registration is too short.

**Rep. Wintrow** spoke **in support** of the motion and stated many states are already using the technology and the bill doesn't affect the ballots.

**ROLL CALL  
VOTE:**

A roll call vote was requested. **Motion carried by a vote of 12 AYE, 3 NAY, 2 Absent/Excused. Voting in favor of the motion: Chairman Loertscher, Reps. Batt, Andrus, Luker, Palmer, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, Cheatham, Smith, Jordan, McCrostie and Wintrow. Voting in opposition to the motion: Reps. Crane, Sims, and Nielsen. Rep. McMillan and Bateman were Absent/Excused. Chairman Loertscher will sponsor the bill on the floor.**

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

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Representative Loertscher  
Chair

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Kasey Winder  
Secretary