

MINUTES
HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 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:** Representative(s) Vander Woude, Troy, Chew

GUESTS: Julie Taylor, Blue Cross of Idaho; Luke Werner and Tom Patterson, MD, Idaho Citizens; Norm Varin, Pacific Source Health Plans; Shad Priest, Regence / Idaho Association of Health Plans; Mitch Scoggins and Lihan Lu, Idaho Dept. of H&W; Kathryn Turner, IDHW Division of Public Health; Kate Muldoon, Idaho Immun. Coalition; Carmela Gupta, American Immunization Registry Assoc.; Rebecca Coyle, AIRA; Perry Brown, AAV; Emily McClure and Patricia Jackson, March of Dimes; Molly Steckel, IMA; Emily Patchin, St. Alphonsus; Ryan Fitzgerald, IACP; Dan Blocksom, Idaho Assn. Counties; Scott Carn, IHDE;

Chairman Wood called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

S 1121: **Sen. Fred Martin**, presented **S 1121**, which amends Idaho Code § 39-4803 to allow the Immunization Registry Information System (IRIS) to share data with the Health Data Exchange, creating a single healthcare record on the health data exchange.

IRIS, a confidential, computerized system, allows healthcare providers access to immunization records and creates vaccine reminders for parents or guardians of children in the registry. It is not mandatory and citizens can opt in or opt out of IRIS at any time.

The Health Data Exchange was created to compile data into a single electronic medical record to give healthcare providers a more complete picture of the care their patients are receiving. It is not part of the Health Insurance Exchange (HIX).

Shad Priest, Government Affairs Director, Regence Blue Shield of Idaho, Idaho Association of Health Plans (IAHP), further presented **S 1121**. This bill adds a subsection permitting IRIS information disclosure to the Health Data Exchange. It also removes the requirement that IRIS delete information from third party systems and clarifies information is subject to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and other health information restrictions.

Mr. Priest said the IAHP is **in support** of **S 1121**, which is consistent with the goal to provide medical information to all providers. Health plans use the data exchange information to measure both care and plan service performance. None of the changes require anyone to receive a vaccination or make it more difficult for anyone to choose not to participate in any vaccination or IRIS.

Mitchell Scoggins, Manager, Idaho Immunization Program, Department of Health and Welfare (DHW), testified **in support** of **S 1121**, which is not about vaccination requirements, exemptions, or parental refusal rights. This legislation provides knowledge to reduce duplicate or unneeded vaccination costs. It will also eliminate the need for paper copies of immunization records.

Answering questions, **Mr. Scoggins** explained the third party record reference is being deleted because the State cannot remove records from other systems and the information is not sent to other systems. Information on the Health Data Exchange records is re-disclosed into provider and hospital systems, with insurance carrier reporting tools in development. The system is hosted and maintained by a contract with Hewlett Packard, who is obligated to follow federal confidentiality and security requirements, including HIPAA.

Kate Muldoon, Idaho Immunization Coalition, testified **in support of S 1121**. This registry allows schools quick access for determination of satisfied requirements. Partial, missing, conflicting, and other information issues can cause delays in attending school. Everyone deserves accurate and up-to-date records to meet state requirements and protect the health of all school children.

Rebecca Coyle, Idaho Citizen, Executive Director, Immunization Registry Association, testified **in support of S 1121**. The health information exchange has evolved into an electronic system that uses complex algorithms to review records and forecast patient needs. This provides accurate patient information and more efficient use of office resources.

Dr. Perry Brown, Pediatrician, Boise, Family Medicine Residency, Legislative Coach, American Academy of Pediatrics, Idaho Chapter, testified **in support of S 1121**. Improved health outcomes are linked to hand washing, clean water, and immunizations. The most up-to-date and accurate information prevents under or extra vaccinations. Sharing the information back to providers will be a participation incentive.

Molly Steckel, IMA, testified **in support of S 1121**. Teachers, as well as students, must prove their immunizations are current. Roadblocks to such proof impacts teachers' income in the event of a school outbreak that puts them on a forced leave or quarantine.

Dr. Tom Patterson, Pediatrician, testified **in support of S 1121**. His incomplete paper immunization record led to additional vaccines and attendance delay when he entered the college of medicine. Electronic records are extremely confidential and further protected with access identification. He cannot move IRIS information to his office records because inadvertent disclosure to other medical professionals cannot be controlled.

Dr. Thomas Rand, Physician, testified **in support of S 1121**, which uses privileged, secure, and accurate immunization information to alleviate the time and cost of unnecessary vaccinations.

For the record, no one else indicated their desire to testify.

Responding to a question, **Sen. Martin** stated parental immunization approval forms are given by providers. The data exchange has a downloadable opt out form for immunization or to prevent information going into IRIS. A request can also be made to remove the information from the registry at any time.

Mr. Scoggins further answered the question. He said some facilities have their own consent form. Any family not wishing to participate in the registry has the obligation to opt out. If they have never had immunizations, there is no vaccination information to associate with the child's record.

MOTION:

Rep. Perry made a motion to send **S 1121** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Rep. Rusche, Vice Chairman Packer, Rep. Hixon, Rep. Beyeler, and Chairman Wood commented in support of **S 1121**. To allow the concerns of those who would never be a part of IRIS to drive policy would not support our citizens' health. Provider knowledge assures children receive the best science and practice. This legislation maintains HIPAA compliancy. Parental rights include accountability and responsibility when they have the ability to opt out. This is an information technology bill that addresses communication and accurate records.

Rep. Redman commented in opposition to **S 1121**, stating he will vote with respect to his constituents' concerns regarding the opt in and opt out ability.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Chairman Wood called for a vote on the motion to send **S 1121** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Redman** requested he be recorded as voting **NAY. Rep. Rusche** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

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

RS 23876:

Rep. Fred Wood, District 27, presented **RS 23876**, a proposed resolution that rejects a scope of practice Rule of the State Board of Chiropractic Physicians. This has been discussed with the chiropractic physicians board. During the interim, they will work on an amendment to IDAPA 24.03.01, Section 20. This gives the Board of Chiropractic Physicians the notice and opportunity to fix the issue.

MOTION:

Rep. Perry made a motion to introduce **RS 23876. Motion carried by voice vote.**

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

MOTION:

Vice Chairman Packer made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 19, March 11, and 12, 2015, meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN:

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

Representative Wood
Chair

Irene Moore
Secretary