

MINUTES  
**HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, February 01, 2016  
**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(s) Barbieri

**GUESTS:** Betsy Russell, Idaho Press Club; Braden Jensen, Idaho Farm Bureau; Wayne Hoffman, Idaho Freedom Foundation; Michael McGrane, self; Jeremy Pisca, Newspaper Association of Idaho; Karen Echeverria, ISBA; Benjamin Kelly, Food Producers of Idaho; Ray Stark, Boise Metro Chamber.

**Chairman Loertscher** called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

**Chairman Loertscher** announced that **H 388** would not be heard.

**H 387:** **Rep. Chaney** presented **H 387**, legislation that provides for community college trustee zones and districts. He stated the legislation utilizes the same processes for zoning and rezoning within the district that the Idaho Code already requires of school districts. In the event a community college seeks to expand, the bill appends the existing process of seeking State Board of Education approval by adding the rezoning plan to the request for approval. He stated legislation controlling the zoning for community colleges first came about in 1969.

In response to committee questions, **Rep. Chaney** stated the ultimate reason for the bill is to provide community colleges with the same provisions as school districts to allow for all districts to be fairly represented. He stated he has not spoken to all of the community colleges in the State but did speak with the College of Western Idaho who had concerns with annexation. He stated the districts should be represented by people in their own geographical area because the trustees will know the needs of their community. He stated the appointment of the board of trustees for a district, that was formed before the legislation, would occur after the first board meeting after July 1, 2017. He stated the first election for the board of trustees would occur in 2018, they would be required to have a zoning plan in place by July 1, 2017 and to reorganize the board accordingly. He stated the legislation mirrors the language from Chapter 3, Title 33, Idaho Code that regulates school districts and has proven to work well.

**Braden Jensen**, Farm Bureau, spoke **in support** of **H 387** and stated they support the legislation because it offers fair and equal representation of rural residents as part of the community college district, it allows for the presence of a more diverse economic and academic perspective by trustee members, and it offers the promotion of educational initiatives that would best serve the interest of all community members.

**Mark Browning**, Vice President for Community and Governmental Relations, North Idaho College (NIC), spoke regarding **H 387** and stated the NIC Board does not hold a position on the legislation. He stated NIC was the first community college in Idaho and only had one district when the original statute was created in 1963.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Palmer** made a motion to send **H 387** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**Rep. Wintrow** spoke in opposition to the motion and stated she would like to hear feedback from the other community college boards before passing the bill along.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:**

**Rep. McCrostie** made a substitute motion to **HOLD H 387** in committee. He spoke to the motion and stated he has concerns with the boards of the community colleges not being given the opportunity to testify on the issue. He stated it is important because they are the stakeholders.

**Rep. Batt** spoke in opposition to the substitute motion and stated the issue of zoning for community colleges has been a work in the making since 2011, so it should not be held up any longer. She stated other legislation has come and gone a few times over the years but always had issues. She stated this legislation was created because of problems with small counties not getting represented. She also stated Boise and Caldwell are not the only counties affected, many counties have shown interest in the prior hearings to have this legislation passed. She stated the demographics are different in every district and should be represented accordingly.

**Rep. Crane** spoke in opposition to the substitute motion and stated the committee has had proposed legislation on this issue many times but there were always problems with the language. He stated the boards are centered around larger urban areas not rural Idaho and that needs to change so all are represented.

**VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION:**

**Chairman Loertscher** called for a vote on the substitute motion to **HOLD H 387** in committee. **Motion failed by voice vote.**

**VOTE ON ORIGINAL VOTE:**

Roll Call vote was requested on the original motion to send **H 387** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Original Motion carried by a vote of 13 AYE, 3 NAY and 1 Absent/Excused.** Voting in favor of the motion: **Chairman Loertscher, Reps. Batt, Andrus, Luker, Crane, Palmer, Sims, Holtzclaw, McMillan, Bateman, Cheatham, Nielsen and Jordan.** Voting in opposition to the motion: **Reps. Smith, McCrostie and Wintrow.** Absent/Excused: **Rep. Barbieri.** **Rep. Chaney** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

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Representative Loertscher  
Chair

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Kasey Winder  
Secretary