

MINUTES
HOUSE COMMERCE & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, January 17, 2017

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW05

MEMBERS: Chairman Hartgen, Vice Chairman Anderson, Representatives Harris, Holtzclaw, Horman, Packer, Redman, Kingsley, Moon, Syme, King, Chew

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Horman

GUESTS: Larry Ingram, Department of Labor; Matt Borud, Carmen Achabal and Megan Ronk, Department of Commerce; Soren Dorius, John Eaton and Max Pond, Realtors; Dennis Stevenson and Brad Hunt, Department of Administration

Chairman Hartgen called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

MOTION: **Rep. King** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2017, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Chairman Hartgen discussed **HJR 5** with the Committee and noted that it enshrines the Legislative Rules Review process in the Idaho Constitution.

Dennis Stevenson, Administrative Rules Coordinator, Department of Administration, provided the Committee with an overview of the Rules Review process. In response to Committee questions, Mr. Stevenson clarified how to find the Administrative Bulletin online and discussed what the Department does to raise public awareness of agency rules and provide opportunities for public comment.

DOCKET NO. 28-0207-1601: **Megan Ronk**, Director, Department of Commerce, presented **Docket No. 28-0207-1601**. This rule clarifies the Department of Commerce will issue RFPs, defines "industry partner" and "commercialization revenue", clarifies the matching requirement must be met by the industry partners and clarifies the process for termination of grant funding. She explained these changes are due to both partner feedback from the universities and the growth and maturing of the program, which is now in its fifth year.

In response to Committee questions, **Megan Ronk** and **Carmen Achabal**, IGEM Program Manager, said \$4.3 million from the state's General Fund has been invested in the program, with \$0 in returns to date. As the new businesses grow or the new product begins to sell, the Department anticipates a return on state investment as the grants are repaid. The process by which the IGEM Council evaluates proposals was explained, as well as the terms of the contracts between the Department, universities and industry partners. Program safeguards to ensure the funds are spent appropriately and new technology developed benefits to the Idaho economy, were also discussed.

MOTION: **Rep. Harris** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 28-0207-1601**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 09-0135-1601: **Larry Ingram**, Bureau Chief, Department of Labor, presented **Docket No. 09-0135-1601**. This rule adds partnership payments to a partner and from a sole proprietor to themselves as exclusions to wages.

In response to questions from the Committee, **Larry Ingram** clarified such payments are already classified as incorrect, the rule change is meant to be a method to educate new business owners and prevent them from making this reporting mistake.

MOTION: Rep. Packer made a motion to approve **Docket No. 09-0135-1601. Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm.

Representative Hartgen
Chair

Erica McGinnis
Secretary