

MINUTES  
**HOUSE REVENUE & TAXATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Thursday, February 16, 2017

**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW42

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Collins, Vice Chairman Trujillo, Representatives Moyle, Raybould, Anderst, Dayley, Hartgen, Kauffman, Chaney, Nate, Thompson, Gestrin, Stevenson, Troy, Erpelding, Gannon

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Rep. Thompson

**GUESTS:** Kelli D. Brassfield, Donna D. Peterson, Idaho Association of Counties; Emily McClure, Hancock, Stimson, and Molpus; Brian Stutzman, Larry Lyon, Donald Shanz, taxpayers; Miguel Legarreta, ATI

**Chairman Collins** called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

**H 153:** **Steve Fiscus**, Property Tax Administrator, Idaho State Tax Commission, presented **H 153** concerning timber valuation. The legislation amends **Idaho Code 63-1705** by creating a continuation of methodology in relation to timber valuations for tax purposes.

**Emily McClure**, Hancock, Stimson and Moplus, spoke **in support** of **H 153** because it was negotiated and will help the state.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Trujillo** made a motion to send **H 153** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Troy** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**H 154:** **Rep. Nate** presented **H 154** concerning property tax notices. The legislation amends **Idaho Code 63-902** by putting bond information directly on tax statements. The goal of the legislation is to promote transparency for taxpayers. In response to various questions concerned with potential costs, Rep. Nate explained that any costs would be outweighed by the benefits of transparency.

**Kelli Brassfield**, Idaho Association of Counties, spoke **in opposition** of **H 154** with concerns about the potential costs. She estimates the change would cause a three minute increase in the time it takes to create each individual tax notice and could cause significant reprogramming costs.

**Donna Peterson**, County Treasurer, Idaho Association of Counties, spoke **in opposition** of **H 154** because of the complexity and costs involved in providing individualized notices. In response to various questions concerning the actual costs of implementing the considered changes, she could not provide an accurate estimate but believes the cost would be significant.

**Brian Stutzman**, an Idaho taxpayer, spoke **in support** of **H 154** for transparency reasons. As the person who brought the legislation to **Rep. Nate**, Mr. Stutzman had to go through a long and confusing process to find out how much he was actually paying in taxes toward a local bond. He believes the taxpayers deserve transparency as to where their tax money is going. Various questions identified concerns about inconsistencies in how taxpayers receive their tax notices.

**Larry Lyon**, an Idaho taxpayer, spoke **in support** of **H 154** because he believes the potential costs incurred from the legislation are outweighed by the benefits in transparency. He dismissed ideas that adding a simple notice on a tax statement would be a difficult task given the technology available.

**Donald Shanz**, an Idaho taxpayer, spoke **in support of H 154** because taxpayers deserve to know where their money goes. He provided the analogy that something as simple as a grocery bill will indicate exactly what is being charged and he believes the state should extend the same courtesy to taxpayers.

**Rep. Nate** dismissed concerns the bill would lead to burdensome costs and reiterated the benefits of transparency.

**ORIGINAL MOTION:**

**Rep. Trujillo** made a motion to send **H 154** to General Orders with an amendment as follows: Remove the "two years" requirement on page 2, lines 1 and 2, and change the word "may" on the fiscal note to "will."

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:**

**Rep. Hartgen** made a motion to send **H 154** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**ROLL CALL VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION:**

**Chairman Collins** requested a roll call vote on the substitute motion. **Motion failed by a vote of 6 AYE, 8 NAY, and 2 absent/excused. Voting in favor of the motion: Reps. Moyle, Hartgen, Chaney, Nate, Gannon, and Collins. Voting in opposition to the motion: Reps. Trujillo, Raybould, Anderst, Dayley, Gestrin, Stevenson, Troy, and Erpelding. Reps. Kauffman and Thompson were absent/excused.**

**VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION:**

**Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Nate** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**RS 25070:**

**Rep. Kerby** presented **RS 25070** concerning tax exemptions for qualified projects. The proposed legislation would help existing business expand and grow by altering the required investment amount and implementing a variety of pro-small business components.

**MOTION:**

**Rep. Raybould** made a motion to introduce **RS 25070. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:26 A.M.

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Representative Collins  
Chair

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Fred Swanstrum  
Secretary