

MINUTES

## HOUSE ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

**DATE:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017

**TIME:** 1:30 PM OR UPON ADJOURNMENT

**PLACE:** Room EW41

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Raybould, Vice Chairman Thompson, Representatives Hartgen, Vander Woude, Anderson, Anderst, Mendive, Trujillo, Chaney, Nate, Cheatham, Horman, Malek, Moon, Smith, Scott, Jordan, Rubel

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Rep. Hartgen and Rep. Malek.

**GUESTS:** Mitch Coats, Food Producers.

**Chairman Raybould** called the meeting to order at 2:47 p.m.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Trujillo** made a motion to approve the minutes of February 28, 2017. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**MOTION:** **Rep. Rubel** made a motion to approve the minutes of March 2, 2017. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**H 278:** **Rep. Thompson** presented **H 278** explaining on March 2, 2017, this committee approved **H 236**. Subsequent to the committee meeting, some of the committee members pointed out redundant language in **H 236** and proposed an addition to the language at lines 6 and 7, clarifying that the authority of first informers should not be over emergency personnel. **H 278** contains all the suggested committee changes to **H 236**.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Chaney.** made a motion to send **H 278** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Reps. Nate** and **Scott** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**. **Rep. Thompson** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**Chairman Raybould** addressed the committee regarding sending individual letters to each of Idaho's four U. S. congressmen requesting allocation of monies to Idaho for invasive species prevention, specifically quagga/zebra mussels. He reminded them that at the March 8, 2017, committee meeting, **Rep. Horman** made a motion for the committee to send Idaho's congressional delegation the letters, and although no vote was held on the motion, the letters were printed and signed by all but two committee members. Since the committee members who declined to sign the letters stated they had some concerns about the letters and since the matter was not discussed or voted upon at the last meeting, Chairman Raybould opened the matter for discussion.

**Rep. Scott** stated that she had concerns the letters were not the proper procedure for asking for funding from the federal government. She opined a better approach would be to extend the opportunity to the entire body through a House or Joint Resolution rather than letters from a committee.

**Rep. Nate** spoke up saying that his concern with signing the proposed letters is because it is procedurally premature for the reason that the committee did not vote on the motion of March 8, 2017. Rep. Nate also opined that he has concerns asking for \$8 million in federal funding because he does not find anything in the Constitution allowing the federal government to give money to just one state, and he stated that money from the federal government comes back with a lot of strings attached.

In discussing a House or Joint Resolution without a request for funding, committee members stressed that \$20 million in federal funds are already authorized, and it is appropriate to request the funds from the U.S. Congress because funding recipients cross state lines, which is actionable federally as interstate commerce. Committee members discussed whether there was time and support for a Joint Resolution and the means of drafting and passing a Joint Resolution.

**ORIGINAL MOTION:**

**Rep. Thompson** made a motion for **Rep. Scott** to draft a Joint Resolution with the exact same language as in the draft letter to Idaho's U.S. Congressmen, including language requesting the appropriated \$8 million.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:**

**Rep. Scott** made a substitute motion that the Joint Resolution be drafted with almost the same language as that proposed in **Rep. Thompson's** motion.

After discussion, the committee decided a motion was not procedurally necessary.

**ORIGINAL MOTION WITHDRAWN:**

**Rep. Thompson** withdrew his motion for **Rep. Scott** to draft a Joint Resolution with the exact same language as in the draft letter to Idaho's U.S. Congressmen, including language requesting the appropriated \$8 million.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION WITHDRAWN:**

**Rep. Scott** withdrew her substitute motion that the Joint Resolution be drafted with almost the same language as that proposed in **Rep. Thompson's** motion.

**Chairman Raybould** stated that since the motions were withdrawn, no voting was necessary. The committee decided that **Chairman Raybould** and **Rep. Scott** should share the responsibility of having a Joint Resolution drawn up with the same language and intent as the drafted letters to Idaho's U.S. Congressmen and have the Joint Resolution placed on the Second Reading Calendar.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:19 p.m.

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Representative Raybould  
Chair

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Lorrie Byerly  
Secretary