

MINUTES  
**HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Wednesday, February 28, 2018

**TIME:** 8:30 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW20

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Wood, Vice Chairman Packer, Representatives Perry, Vander Woude, Redman, Blanksma, Hanks, Kingsley, Zollinger, Wagoner, Chew, Rubel

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Vander Woude

**GUESTS:** The sign-in sheet will be retained with the minutes in the committee secretary's office until the end of the session. Following the end of the session, the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

**Chairman Wood** called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**MOTION:** **Vice Chairman Packer** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 21 and 22, 2018, meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**H 649:** **Rep. Sue Chew**, District 17, presented **H 649**, an update of the Good Samaritan Law to address the opioid crisis.

**Paul Panther**, Chief, Criminal Law Division, Attorney General's Office, further presented **H 649**, without endorsement. This legislation helps persons experiencing, or with someone experiencing, a drug overdose or other medical emergency to call for assistance without fear of prosecution for the possession of the paraphernalia or being under the influence. Other non-listed drug related situations would still carry prosecution. Provision is made for future prosecution involving evidence found at the scene.

**Don Hayes**, Director, Operations, Peer Wellness Center, testified **in support of H 649**. He shared the story of his daughter's heroine overdose and how she was dumped on the curb by persons fearful of being caught.

**Rosie Andueza**, Manager, Substance Abuse Program, Division of Behavioral Health, Department of Health and Welfare (DHW), shared opioid crisis statistics. The federal funding for Idaho's Response to the Opioid Crisis (IROC) has led to medication-assisted treatment, recovery supports and centers, prescriber education, and purchases of naloxone. The DHW is **neutral** on **H 649** until their bill analysis is completed.

**Margi Strohl**, Social Worker, Ada County Drug Court, testified **in support of H 649**. Her clients want to make a call for help for their friends instead of leaving them somewhere. Young people need support to do the right thing at a critical time.

**Monica Forbes**, Recovery Community Centers of Idaho, testified **in support of H 649**. Without this opportunity to get help and fight their way out of the addiction, the numbers of deaths will continue to rise. This is a non-socio-economic addiction.

Answering a question, **Ms. Forbes** estimated 30 lives were lost by accidental overdose over the last three years. She knew of five specific Boiseans who would have been saved, had this been in effect.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to send **H 649** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

No one else indicated their desire to testify.

In closing remarks, **Rep. Chew** said **H 649** was designed to work well with victims, prosecutors, law enforcement, and communities.

**VOTE ON MOTION:**

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

**H 563:**

**Rep. Mat Erpelding**, District 19, presented **H 563**, Plan First Idaho. This legislation provides family planning services and supplies to women ages 19-44, with incomes at or below 133% of the federal poverty level (FPL), who are ineligible for healthcare, Medicare, or Medicaid.

Women in this population are at higher risk for unintended pregnancies and delayed pre-natal care. Medicaid covers 43% of all Idaho births. Of those births, 54% of the infants go onto Medicaid coverage.

Through **H 563**, the Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) is directed to apply for a Medicaid 1115 Waiver with a five-year demonstration program. This legislation does not include abortions. If the waiver is not approved, this legislation would not move forward. The waiver provides a 90/10 federal fund match, as opposed to the 71/29 Medicaid match. The estimated state cost is \$630,000 per year.

Answering a question, **Rep. Erpelding** said the primary focus is long-term planning mechanisms to avoid unintended pregnancies, which includes birth control access.

**Russ Duke**, Director, Central District Health Department, Public Health District 4, was invited to provide additional information. The included preconception planning provides other health screenings. Two public health districts no longer offer reproductive health services and there are no federally-qualified health centers in those areas. In Public Health District 5, Planned Parenthood received Title 10 funding to be used only in that county.

**Ian Troesoyer**, Southeast Public District 6, Registered Nurse, testified **in support of H 563**. This would improve access and likely reduce abortions and provider costs.

**Nirmala Sandhu**, Southwest Idaho Chapter, National Organization for Women (NOW), testified **in support of H 563**. Nearly half of all pregnancies are unintended. Delayed access to prenatal care has negative outcomes. The state's investment would be minimal and the cost savings would be substantial.

**Andrew Baron**, Chief Medical Officer, Terry Reilly Health Services, testified **in support of H 563** because planned pregnancies lead to healthy babies and children. Office visit and prescription costs are often too much for this group of women. They need the chance to establish a family physician relationship and prepare for the baby through their health choices.

**Gina Pannell**, Resident, Public Health Professional, Public Health Department, Parent, testified **in support of H 563**. This legislation empowers families.

**Dr. Billy Gallagher**, Family Medicine Resident, testified **in support of H 563**. His patient family planning discussions include drugs, alcohol habits, cigarettes, sexual activities, obesity, blood pressure, education, career, and two parent households.

**MOTION:**

**Rep. Blanksma** made a motion to send **H 563** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**Nichole Stull**, Self, testified **in support of H 563**. She described her insurance loss, husband's job loss, health issues, unintended pregnancy, and complications. She wants, but cannot afford, a doctor to answer questions and help with her issues.

**Hillare Hagen**, Self, testified **in support of H 563**, describing her marriage, struggle to pay bills, living in rural Idaho, lack of health coverage to plan for starting their family, and unintended pregnancies. She has noticed families without family planning services are larger, which leads to more financial instability.

**Lauren Necochea**, Idaho Voices for Children, requested the committee be **in support** of **H 563**. Many women can benefit and have healthier babies.

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

Responding to questions, **Rep. Erpelding** explained Planned Parenthood would receive resources in payment for services; however, funds would not be funneled to them and would not be used for abortions.

**VOTE ON  
MOTION:**

**Motion carried by voice vote. Reps. Zollinger, Hanks, and Kingsley** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**. **Rep. Erpelding** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

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Representative Wood  
Chair

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Irene Moore  
Secretary