

MINUTES
SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 28, 2018

TIME: 3:00 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW54

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Heider, Senators Martin, Lee, Agenbroad, Foreman, Potts, and Jordan

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Vice Chairman Souza, Senator Harris

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Heider** called the meeting of the Health and Welfare Committee (Committee) to order at 3:03 p.m.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Heider passed the gavel to Senator Martin.

S 1321: **Dentists, License Credentials.** **Chairman Heider** stated Idaho is one of the most restrictive states in regards to licensure for dentists. Current Idaho law requires dentists to have 1,000 clinical practice hours per year for each of the previous five years in order to receive a license. This legislation would reduce the clinical practice requirement to 3,500 hours total over five years. **Chairman Heider** noted that family circumstances may prevent some dentists from reaching the current 1,000 hour per year requirement.

Susan Miller introduced herself as the Executive Director of the Idaho Board of Dentistry (BOD). She stated the BOD considered data from other states' licensure processes when developing this bill. There are currently two avenues for dental licensure in Idaho: 1.) by passing an examination, or 2.) by meeting the criteria listed in statute. **Dr. Miller** clarified that **S 1321** only addresses the second avenue for licensure. She asserted the Idaho State Dental Association supports this bill.

DISCUSSION: **Senator Jordan** asked Dr. Miller to verify that data do not show a link between fewer required hours and an increase in incidents. **Dr. Miller** responded in the affirmative.

MOTION: There being no more questions or testimony, **Senator Potts** moved to send **S 1321** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Lee** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business, **Chairman Heider** adjourned the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

Senator Heider
Chair

Rachel Goodman
Secretary