

MINUTES
SENATE RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, March 12, 2018

TIME: 1:00 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW55

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Bair, Vice Chairman Siddoway, Senators Brackett, Heider, Vick, Bayer, Stennett, and Jordan

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Senator Johnson

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 Bair** called the meeting of the Senate Resources and Environment Committee (Committee) to order at 1:00 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Jordan** moved to approve the Minutes of February 26, 2018. **Senator Bayer** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Heider** moved to approve the Minutes of February 28, 2018. **Senator Bayer** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Brackett** moved to approve the Minutes of March 2, 2018. **Senator Jordan** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

H 538 **Representative Boyle** presented **H 538**. She stated this bill proposes to revise a sunset provision to become effective June 30, 2020, rather than June 30, 2019.

Senator Stennett inquired as to the amount in the fund for wolf control. **Representative Boyle** replied that she was uncertain of the final amount.

Senator Jordan asked why the extension was only for one year. **Representative Boyle** said it was needed because of the cycle of the budget.

DISCUSSION: **Senator Brackett** said oftentimes the livestock industry and the sportsmen are not in agreement on issues. However, this is a case where the sportsmen have been very supportive of the program, as well as the livestock industry. **Senator Brackett** asked why the Legislature should not simply eliminate the sunset clause. **Representative Boyle** said a five-year commitment was made by all three parties, including the Governor. **Senator Brackett** inquired if the sunset clause would be eliminated after this one-year extension. **Representative Boyle** said all three parties would have to make that decision.

TESTIMONY: **Dennis Tanikuni**, Assistant Director of Governmental Affairs for the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation (IFBF) said IFBF is in support of **H 538**. He said the IFBF supported the formation of the Wolf Depredation Control Board and their policy speaks extensively to wolf management.

TESTIMONY: **Wyatt Prescott**, a registered lobbyist for the Idaho Cattle Association (ICA), said ICA supports **H 538** and the Governor's Wolf Depredation Control Board. **Mr. Prescott** said the Wolf Depredation Control Board serves a vital function for cattle producers. ICA feels the Wolf Depredation Control Board is well-represented by the three parties.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: **Tucker Shaw**, President, Idaho Cattle Association (ICA), submitted written testimony supporting **H 538**. The letter stated wolf depredation is a constant threat to cattle producers in wolf populated regions of Idaho. The Wolf Depredation Control Board has served a vital function in addressing problem wolves in response to depredation and ICA supports the Wolf Depredation Control Board.

TESTIMONY: **Brandy Kay**, Executive Director, Idaho Wool Growers Association (IWGA), said IWGA is in support of **H 538** and asked for a do pass recommendation.

MOTION: **Vice Chairman Siddoway** moved to send **H 538** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Heider** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**. **Senators Stennett** and **Jordan** asked to be recorded as voting **nay**. Senator Heider will be the floor sponsor.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Bair** adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p.m.

Senator Bair
Chair

Juanita Budell
Secretary