

MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, March 14, 2019

TIME: 1:30 pm or Upon Adjournment

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Boyle, Vice Chairman Troy, Representatives Dayley, Kerby, Stevenson, Zito, Andrus, Giddings, Goesling, Marshall, Nichols, Raymond, Erpelding, Toone, Abernathy

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Jesse Smith, Self; Jeffrey Braga, Self; Dennis Stevenson, Rules Coordinator; Hannah Syphus, Student; Jaiden Syphus, Mother; Michelle Gooding, Gooding Farms Inc; Lloyd Knight, ISDA; Jonathan Parker, IFH; Nic Zurflud, ISDA

Chairman Boyle called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

H 122: **Rep. Troy** explained testimony was heard last month on **H 122** and said it is now time to vote. She said they know what hemp is and what it is not. She said they will work with the Idaho Agriculture Department to implement safe policies conforming with Federal Laws.

MOTION: **Rep. Goesling** made a motion to send **H 122** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Troy** will sponsor the bill on the floor. **Rep. Marshall** and **Rep. Raymond** requested they be recorded as voting **NAY**.

Michelle Gooding, President of Idaho Hops Association, reviewed the history of the hops industry in Idaho starting in the 1930's. She said their operation started in 1944 and is now a 5th and 6th generation led company. She gave a brief explanation of how hops are grown and harvested. She explained it can take up to 15 years to develop a new hop variety and stated they are currently growing 56 different varieties. She said they have changed from furrow irrigation to drip irrigation reducing water usage from 3.5 ac/ft to 2.5 ac/ft per year. She said their focus is on quality and innovation, exploring new varieties and expanding in foreign markets and exports.

Chairman Boyle turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Troy**.

Nic Zurfluh, ISDA Section Manager, provided an update and brief history of the Invasive Species Program. Mr. Zurfluh reviewed the budget and the funding for the program. He said their focus is prevention, early detection, management and control and education and outreach. He said this is the tenth year of the inspection program and in 2018 they performed over 110,000 inspections in the 3 roving and twenty inspection stations. He reported with the 2018 analysis complete, there is no suspicious detection in Idaho.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Representative Boyle
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary