

MINUTES
SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, March 14, 2019

TIME: 1:00 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Brackett, Vice Chairman Crabtree, Senators Winder, Den Hartog, Lodge, Rice, Buckner-Webb, and Nelson

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Senator Burtenshaw

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 Brackett** convened the meeting of the Senate Transportation Committee (Committee) at 1:04 p.m. He commented that he had to present a bill in the House Transportation and Defense Committee at 1:30 p.m.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Brackett passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Crabtree.

S 1126 **Vice Chairman Crabtree** invited Chairman Brackett to present **S 1126**.
Chairman Brackett said that **S 1126** extends the sunset clause on the surplus eliminator for five years; it is currently set to end on May 30, 2019. He explained how and why the surplus eliminator was created in 2015 and extended in 2017. Originally the funds were split 50/50 between the Strategic Initiatives Fund (these funds went only to the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) for projects) and the Budget Stabilization Fund, or the rainy day fund. In 2017, the 50 percent that went to the Strategic Initiatives Fund was split so that 60 percent went to ITD and 40 percent went to local jurisdictions managed by the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC). This legislation includes a new addition to the distribution formula: It places a \$100 million cap on the total amount that can go into the surplus eliminator. Therefore, **S 1126** continues the 50/50 split between the Strategic Initiatives Fund programs and the Budget Stabilization Fund, but only up to \$50 million per fiscal year for each fund. **Chairman Brackett** concluded by stating that last year was the first year the surplus eliminator exceeded \$100 million.

MOTION: **Senator Rice** moved to send **S 1126** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Winder** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**. Chairman Brackett will carry the bill on the Senate floor.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Buckner-Webb** moved to approve the Minutes of January 17, 2019. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.
Senator Winder moved to approve the Minutes of February 14, 2019. **Vice Chairman Crabtree** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

VOTE ON GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT: **Senator Winder** reminded the Committee that Robert Hoff was filling the vacancy created on the Idaho Transportation Board's (ITB) District 6 by Lee Gagner of Idaho Falls. He personally knew Mr. Hoff and his wife and thought he would make an excellent addition to the ITB.

MOTION: **Senator Winder** moved to send the Gubernatorial appointment of Robert "Bob" Hoff to the ITB to the floor with the recommendation that it be confirmed by the Senate. **Senator Lodge** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**. Senator Mortimer will carry the appointment on the floor.

VOTE ON GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT: **Senator Winder** said that Mark Sweeney is the son of Bruce Sweeney of Lewiston who served in the Idaho Legislature and was a member of the ITB. This was a reappointment to the State Aeronautics Advisory Board for Mr. Sweeney.

MOTION: **Senator Nelson** moved to send the Gubernatorial reappointment of Mark H. Sweeney to the State Aeronautics Advisory Board to the floor with the recommendation that it be confirmed by the Senate. **Senator Winder** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**. Senator Johnson will carry the appointment on the floor.

S 1175 **Vice Chairman Crabtree** invited Senator Buckner-Webb to present **S 1175**.

Senator Buckner-Webb said that proceeds from this license plate, "Too Great For Hate," will sustain and expand the educational programming at the Idaho Anne Frank Memorial located in Boise. The Idaho Human Rights Education Center was constructed and dedicated as the Anne Frank Human Rights Memorial in 2002 as a testament to the human spirit. The license plate will help dispel the myth that Idaho is a place of intolerance. **Senator Buckner-Webb** concluded by listing how the proceeds would be used: 1.) support docent training; 2.) create a fund for schools needing assistance to pay for buses to bring students to the Idaho Anne Frank Memorial; 3.) maintain and expand solar audio technology for self-guided tours; 4.) expand the "History of Human Rights in Idaho" video series; 5.) provide free annual training for Idaho school teachers; 6.) create a fund to ship the portable exhibit of the Idaho Anne Frank Memorial to Idaho communities; 7.) provide classroom resources designed to include the Idaho Anne Frank Memorial's message; 8.) establish an annual free "lunch and learn" summer series; and 9.) establish an annual community program recognizing young writers from throughout Idaho.

DISCUSSION: **Senator Winder** commented that Idaho is a unique state and Boise is a unique community. Idaho celebrates electing the first Jewish governor west of the Mississippi River, and it was one of the first states to support women's suffrage. Anne Frank has touched millions throughout the world, and Boise was one of the first communities to create a human rights memorial to honor her.

Senator Lodge asked if there was still a requirement that a minimum of 1,000 specialty license plates need to be sold annually for the plate to continue to be available to customers. **Senator Winder** indicated that was correct and some specialty license plates have been eliminated because they did not meet that threshold.

Senator Buckner-Webb reminded the Committee that this is not just for Boise, but it is a statewide license plate to help all Idahoans come together and eradicate hate.

MOTION: **Senator Nelson** moved to send **S 1175** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Winder** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**. Senator Buckner-Webb will carry the bill on the Senate floor.

ADJOURNED: With no further business before the Committee, **Vice Chairman Crabtree** adjourned the meeting at 1:26 p.m.

Senator Brackett
Chair

Gaye Bennett
Secretary