

MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, March 15, 2019

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Harris, Vice Chairman Armstrong, Representatives Crane, Palmer, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, Monks, Zito, Scott(Paterson), Andrus, Hartgen, Young, Smith, Gannon, Green(18)

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Fred Birnbaum, Idaho Freedom Foundation; Jeff Anderson, ISLD

Chairman Harris called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

MOTION: **Rep. Green(18)** made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 25, February 26, February 27, and February 28, 2019 meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 27033: **Rep. Giddings** presented **RS 27033**, relating to Christian persecution. The proposed legislation would be a resolution reemphasizing Idaho's support for fundamental human rights and religious freedom. It calls for every government to recognize the fundamental rights for Christians to practice their faith without persecution.

MOTION: **Rep. Zito** made a motion to introduce **RS 27033**.

Rep. Green(18) spoke in support of the motion to introduce **RS 27033**, because she was in favor of a bill hearing, however stated all religions and rights need to be ensured, and the topic should be revisited in the future.

**VOTE ON
MOTION:** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

S 1076: **Rep. Kauffman** presented **S 1076**, relating to liquor store samples and tastings. The legislation would allow for suppliers to distribute samples of liquor in liquor stores. Each person who is interested in partaking is limited to 3 samples in a 24-hour period. The Alcohol and Beverage Control and the Attorney General agree the language in the bill is enforceable.

Rep. Kauffman introduced **Kate Haas**, Kestrel West, who represented the Distilled Spirits Council. Ms. Haas explained the suppliers have to obtain permission from the Liquor Division Director, and due to a commitment made to the Senate, the Division of Liquor will promulgate rules before any samples take place in order to ensure effective implementation.

In response to committee questions, **Ms. Haas** answered any legal liability will lie with the suppliers and not with the state. She explained there should be no safety issues with the samples because the amount of alcohol distributed would be very low. Additionally, the purpose of the samples is to target people already choosing to buy liquor.

MOTION: **Rep. Green(18)** made a motion to send **S 1076** the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Reps. Zito and **Harris** spoke in opposition to the motion. They were of the opinion it should not be state business to help suppliers market alcohol.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Motion failed by voice vote.

H 251:

Rep. Monks presented **H 251**, legislation striking language that requires the Treasurer's Office to keep money in a vault. The legislation would give the Treasurer's Office the option of storing or depositing the money wherever they prefer.

Fred Birnbaum, Idaho Freedom Foundation, testified in opposition to **H 251**.

MOTION:

Rep. Palmer made a motion to send **H 251** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Roll call vote was requested. **Motion carried by a vote of 8 AYE, 7 NAY. Voting in favor** of the motion: **Reps. Harris, Armstrong, Palmer, Holtzclaw, Monks, Andrus, Hartgen, and Green(18)**. **Voting in opposition** to the motion: **Reps. Crane, Barbieri, Zito, Scott(Paterson), Young, Smith, and Gannon**. **Rep. Monks** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:51 AM.

Representative Harris
Chair

Julia Grief
Secretary