

MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, January 14, 2020

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Guthrie, Vice Chairwoman Den Hartog, Senators Patrick, Harris, Mortimer, Lent, Bayer, Jordan, and Nelson

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

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 Guthrie** called the Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee (Committee) to order at 8:00 a.m.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Guthrie passed the gavel to Vice Chairwoman Den Hartog.

PRESENTATION: **Brian Oakey**, Deputy Director, Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), explained the efforts ISDA completed for the Red Tape Reduction Act (RTRA). He said the RTRA provided the ISDA the opportunity to review every line of code and reduce or eliminate outdated rules. He said they were able to reduce the chapters from 77 to 40. He detailed the process ISDA undertook for the rule promulgation and negotiated rulemaking.

DOCKET NO. 02-0616-1900 **Ben Kelly**, Executive Assistant, Idaho Honey Commission, presented **Docket No. 02-0616-1900**. He said the changes made to the docket were minimal and in-line with the RTRA brought forward from the Office of the Governor.

MOTION: **Senator Harris** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0616-1900**. **Senator Lent** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 43-0101-1900F **Ben Kelly**, Administrator, Idaho Oilseed Commission, presented **Docket No. 43-0101-1900F**. He said the changes to the docket were minimal and there were no changes to the fees.

MOTION: **Senator Nelson** moved to approve **Docket No. 43-0101-1900F**. **Senator Mortimer** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 02-0701-1900F **Candi Fitch**, Executive Director, Idaho Hop Growers Commission presented **Docket No. 02-0701-1900F**. She said the changes to the docket included the elimination of redundant wording. The fees remained the same.

MOTION: **Senator Lent** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0701-1900F**. **Senator Jordan** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 02-0801-1900F **Naomi LeGere-Gordon**, Executive Director Idaho Sheep and Goat Health Board, presented **Docket No. 02-0801-1900F**. She said the changes to the docket removed unnecessary wording and replaced the Latin wording with more commonly used language. She stated there were no changes to the fees.

MOTION: **Senator Bayer** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0801-1900F**. **Senator Nelson** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 42-0101-1900F **Blaine Jacobson**, Executive Director, Idaho Wheat Commission, presented **Docket No. 42-0101-1900F**. He said in 2017 the Wheat Commission made substantial updates to the rules, thereby the changes for the RTRA were minimal. He stated the fees remain the same.

MOTION: **Senator Mortimer** moved to approve **Docket No. 42-0101-1900F**. **Senator Harris** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 51-0101-1900F **T.K. Kuwahara**, Chief Executive Officer, Idaho Beef Council (IBC), presented **Docket No. 51-0101-1900F**. She stated IBC's approach to rules reduction was in line with the RTRA. The reductions made were to remove the common business practices of the IBC which did not need to be in the rule. She said there were no changes made to the fees.

MOTION: **Senator Harris** moved to approve **Docket No. 51-0101-1900F**. **Senator Mortimer** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 53-0101-1900F **Laura Wilder**, Administrator, Idaho Barley Commission presented **Docket No. 53-0101-1900F**. She said the RTRA was an opportunity for the Barley Commission to review the rules line-by-line and make adjustments. She stated the repetitive and restrictive words were removed from the rules. She reported that there were no changes to the fees.

MOTION: **Senator Jordan** moved to approve **Docket No. 53-0101-1900F**. **Chairman Guthrie** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Vice Chairwoman Den Hartog passed the gavel to Chairman Guthrie.

RS 27199 **Chanel Tewalt**, Chief Operating Officer, ISDA, presented **RS 27199**; Relating to Food. She said the purpose of the proposed legislation is to repeal Idaho Code, Title 37 Chapter 16; governing regulations for food labeling on some imported food, and Title 37 Chapter 26; governing the enrichment of bread and flour. She said the past standards have been superseded by other regulations set by federal regulations.

MOTION: **Senator Mortimer** moved to send **RS 27199** to print. **Vice Chairwoman Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

RS 27200 **Ms. Tewalt** presented **RS 27200**; Relating to Weighmaster licensing. She explained the ISDA review of the RTRA from the Office of the Governor and the results. They determined the licensure does not meet the Licensing Freedom Act threshold for continuation as a regulatory requirement. She stated removing the licensure would not harm the public, the benefits of regulation do not outweigh the costs to consumers, and the consumer can be protected in a less restrictive manner, while preserving the weigh ticket standards.

In response to Committee concerns, **Ms. Telwalt** said the scale is inspected and licensed, the scale inspector is licensed, and the specifications on the weight ticket are preserved.

MOTION: **Senator Harris** moved to send **RS 27200** to print. **Vice Chairwoman Den Hartog** seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: **Senator Patrick** stated he will vote to send the proposed legislation to print, but will have questions when the bill returns to the Committee.

VOICE VOTE: The motion to send **RS 27200** to print passed by **voice vote**

RS 27201 **Ms. Tewalt** presented **RS 27201**; Relating to Agriculture. She said the purposed legislation will eliminate obsolete and unnecessary restrictions in Idaho Code §§ 22-103, 22-608, and 22-2208. The purposed legislation removes the requirement for ISDA to set a late payment interest rate in rule. The changes will adjust the fertilizer, and soil and plant amendments tonnage reporting from semi-annual to annual.

MOTION: **Vice Chairwoman Den Hartog** moved to send **RS 27201** to print. **Senator Mortimer** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Guthrie** adjourned the meeting at 8:40 a.m.

Senator Jim Guthrie
Chair

LeAnn Mohr
Secretary