

MINUTES  
**HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Wednesday, January 22, 2020

**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW20

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Wood, Vice Chairman Wagoner, Representatives Vander Woude, Gibbs, Blanksma, Kingsley, Zollinger, Christensen, Lickley, Chew, Rubel, Davis (Burns)

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Zollinger

**GUESTS:** Steven Snow, CDHH; Brian Darcy, IBesDB; Stevana Corder, ISU Student; Fernando Castro, Blake Brumfield, Matt Wimmer, Cam Gilliland, Ericka Rupp, Lisa Hettinger, July Hamman, Shannon Brady, and Aaron Howard, DHW; Colby Cameron, DFM; Richelle Tierney, DD Council; Beth Oppenheimer, Idaho AEYC; Toni Lawson, Id. Hospital Assoc.; Karyn Levin and Christine Tiddens, Idaho Voices for Children

**Chairman Wood** called the meeting to order at 8:58 a.m.

**Chairman Wood** put the committee at ease. Chairman Wood resumed the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Lickley** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2020, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**RS 27398:** **Matt Wimmer**, Administrator, Division of Medicaid, Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) presented **RS 27398**, to reduce the net reimbursements to hospitals and nursing facilities in state fiscal years (SFY) 2020 and 2021 to achieve the Medicaid general fund needs. The DHW is directed to collaborate with hospital and nursing facility providers to update the reimbursement methods. Medicaid payment methods will be moved away from cost-based reimbursements. Answering a question, Mr. Wimmer said the nursing facilities assessment increase will use additional federal funds.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Gibbs** made a motion to introduce **RS 27398**. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Chairman Wood** requested **Mr. Wimmer** provide a net impact at the bill hearing.

**H 314:** **Steven Snow**, Executive Director, Idaho Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, presented **H 314** to replace the archaic terms "hearing impairment" or "hearing impaired" with "deaf or hard of hearing" or "hearing loss." The five agency heads impacted are in agreement with this change.

Other changes include updated statistical information, deleted outdated definitions, alignment with other statutes, and removal of the obsolete hearing aid society ex-officio board member.

In response to a committee question, **Mr. Snow** stated the terms for the visually and speech impaired are still acceptable and supported by their communities.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Chew** made a motion to send **H 314** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**Brian Darcy**, Administrator, Idaho Bureau for Educational Services for the Deaf and Blind, testified **in support** of **H 314**. The outdated term "impaired" refers to defectiveness. The terminology used for individuals who are blind or have low vision are still acceptable, although changing.

For the record, no one else indicated their desire to testify.

**VOTE ON MOTION:**

**Chairman Wood** called for a vote on the motion to send **H 314** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Wintrow** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**H 310:**

**Fernando Castro**, Supervisor, Welfare Criminal History Unit, Bureau of Compliance, DHW, presented **H 310**, which eliminates reference to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). A rule and statute review by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) revealed this reference conferred the Department access to more information than allowed by federal law. The access to their resources authorized by both US Public Laws 92-544 and 113-186 remains intact. When not able to receive information directly from the FBI, other resources will be accessed to provide the same information.

For the record, no one indicated their desire to testify.

**MOTION:**

**Vice Chairman Wagoner** made a motion to send **H 310** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Christensen** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**H 311:**

**Blake Brumfield**, Program Manager, Developmental Disabilities (DD) Crisis Prevention and Court Services Program, Division of Community and Family Services, DHW, presented **H 311**. The designated evaluation committee members for court-ordered Developmental Disability (DD) evaluations are a social worker, a psychologist, and a physician, with specific legal training. This legislation will allow licensed professional counselors (LPC) to serve interchangeably with social workers in this capacity. The change will share duties with existing trained and credentialed DHW LPC staff, relieving the current workload.

**H 311** also allows medically licensed independent practitioners serve in place of the physician on guardianship and conservatorship evaluations for the evaluation committees. This will address the physician member shortage, particularly for specialized populations evaluations.

The changes will improve the DHW's ability to recruit and provide a multi-disciplinary team for the evaluation committees. Additionally, the quality and quantity of court-ordered assessments will be improved with the discipline expansion.

Answering committee questions, **Mr. Brumfield** explained the staff LPCs have been trained in clinical assessments and social history. The discipline differences for clinical psychologists prohibit such an interchange.

**Richelle Tierney**, Policy Analyst, Council on DD, testified **in support of H 311**. Replacing a licensed practitioner is one solution to a common problem when trying to find rural physicians to serve on the committees.

For the record, no one else indicated their desire to testify.

**MOTION:**

**Rep. Lickley** made a motion to send **H 311** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Kingsley** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**H 312:**

**Ericka Rupp**, Program Manager, Day Care Licensing, DHW, presented **H 312**, with changes based on provider input. A new standard requires a disaster preparedness plan, including processes and procedures for evacuation and relocation of children during an emergency. Health inspections are increased to annually. Criminal history background checks are changed to every five years. Current pediatric CPR and first aid training is required.

A new transportation standard requires providers use proper safety restraints when transporting children. Safe sleep, another new standard, requires providers practice safe sleep for infants under twelve months. The current four hours of annual provider training is increased to twelve hours.

**Ms. Rupp**, in response to committee questions, said the free training is available online, in person, via DVD's, and in English or Spanish. The new transportation standard provides recourse when a provider receives an unsafe driving ticket.

**MOTION:**

**Rep. Rubel** made a motion to send **H 312** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**Bart Buckendorf**, Battalion Chief, Ada County Paramedics, testified **in support of H 312**. He stated the importance of the safe sleep environment. Of the county's eleven infant deaths since 2016, two were in day care facilities.

**Karyn Levin**, Intern, Idaho Voices for Children, testified **in support of H 312**. Protecting the health and safety of children in child care programs is critical for both parents and the children's subsequent school and economic success. This is a clear map for running a day care facility in Idaho.

For the record, no one else indicated their desire to testify.

**VOTE ON MOTION:**

**Chairman Wood** called for a vote on the motion to send **H 312** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. Motion carried by voice vote. **Reps. Blanksma, Kingsley, Christensen, Vander Woude, and Zollinger** requested they be recorded as voting **NAY**. **Rep. Rubel** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

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Representative Wood  
Chair

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Irene Moore  
Secretary