

MINUTES
HOUSE TRANSPORTATION & DEFENSE COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 20, 2020

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Palmer, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Gestrin, Kauffman, Youngblood, Dixon, Harris, Holtzclaw, Monks, DeMordaunt, Syme, Blanksma, Addis, Ricks, Wintrow, Gannon, Davis, Rubel

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Youngblood, Addis, Wintrow

GUESTS: Bryan Norton, City of Boise; Matthew Conde, AAA; Nick Veldhouse, Idaho Assn. of Highway Districts; Savannah Renslow, IAHD; Holly Cook, Idaho Public Safety UAF Council; David Barker, Idaho Falls Police Dept.; Steve Price, ACHD; Sara Westbrook, Assoc. of Counties

Chairman Palmer called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

H 486: **Rep. Ricks** presented **H 486**, legislation to clarify and enhance restrictions on the use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems, aka Drones. The bill strengthens prohibition of surveillance by unmanned aircraft on individuals and private property. It provides a narrow scope for law enforcement and fire department use of unmanned aircraft systems without a warrant.

Speaking **in support** of the bill were **Holly Cook**, Idaho Public Safety UAF Council, **Bryan Norton**, City Attorney for Boise and **David Barker**, Idaho Falls Police officer and Director of the Idaho Public Safety UAF Council. Points they mentioned were 1) Drones are a valuable tool to detect occupants in a house fire, 2) drones can get to a crash sight quicker than police and detail damage within a fraction of an inch, 3) drones can be dispatched quickly in the case of a missing child. Drones are useful in monitoring traffic flow at large public events. In answer to committee questions, Mr. Norton said privacy and trespass issues of drone use by individuals are being worked out with the FAA.

MOTION: **Rep. Harris** made a motion to send **H 486** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Ricks** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 513: **Rep. Monks** presented **H 513**. This bill creates an Economic Reserve and Investment Fund to provide money for meeting general fund revenue shortfalls, meeting expenses incurred as the result of a major disaster declared by the governor and to provide money for the highway distribution account.

Keith Bybee, Deputy Division Manager, Budget and Policy Analysis, Legislative Services Office, and **Rep. Monks** answered committee questions about how the funds will be invested, who will invest the funds, and safe routes to school funding.

MOTION: **Rep. Blanksma** made a motion to send **H 513** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Monks** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

MOTION: **Rep. Harris** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2020, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

Representative Palmer
Chair

Joyce McKenzie
Secretary