MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE:	Monday, August 24, 2020
TIME:	10:30 A.M.
PLACE:	Room EW40
MEMBERS:	Chairman Harris, Vice Chairman Armstrong, Representatives Crane, Palmer, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, Monks, Zito, Scott, Andrus, Hartgen, Young, Smith, Gannon, Green
ABSENT/ EXCUSED:	None
GUESTS:	None
	Chairman Harris called the meeting to order at 10:34am.
RS 28056:	**Rep. Giddings**, District 7, stated **RS 28056** would amend **Idaho Code, Section 34-1006**, by adding language that would ensure electors be provided the opportunity for in-person voting regardless of a state of emergency, extreme emergency, or disaster emergency.
MOTION:	**Rep. Palmer** made a motion to introduce **RS 28056**.
ROLL CALL VOTE:	**Chairman Harris** requested a roll call vote. **Motion carried by a vote of 14 AYE and 1 NAY. Voting in favor** of the motion: **Chairman Harris, Reps. Armstrong, Crane, Palmer, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, Monks, Zito, Scott, Andrus, Hartgen, Young, Gannon, and Green. Voting in opposition** to the motion: **Rep. Smith.**
RS 28057:	**Rep. Monks**, District 22, stated **RS 28057** encourages **Governor Little** to utilize all necessary options to procure sufficient numbers of poll workers for the November 2020 election. This could include using CARES Act funds to advertise, train, and provide financial incentives to poll workers and if necessary, to activate the National Guard. Rep. Monks explained in the fiscal note he arrived at the $2,000,000 figure by estimating 4,000 poll workers multiplied by $500 per poll worker.
MOTION:	**Rep. Crane** made a motion to introduce **RS 28057**.
ROLL CALL VOTE:	**Chairman Harris** requested a roll call vote. **Motion carried by a vote of 15 AYE and 0 NAY. Voting in favor** of the motion: **Chairman Harris, Reps. Armstrong, Crane, Palmer, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, Monks, Zito, Scott, Andrus, Hartgen, Young, Smith, Gannon, and Green. Voting in opposition** to the motion: **none.**
	Chairman Harris turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Armstrong**.
RS 28052:	**Rep. Harris**, District 21, stated **RS 28052** would end the current state of emergency. He further stated this would not impact CARES Act funding but would impact FEMA funding as well as some other national programs. If passed, this Concurrent Resolution would go into effect immediately if passed by both Houses of the Legislature. He explained, **Idaho Code, Section 46-1008** states in part, that "the legislature by concurrent resolution may terminate a state of disaster emergency at any time. Thereupon, the Governor shall issue an executive order or proclamation ending the state of disaster emergency." He remarked, continuing these extensions are out of order and need to end.
	Rep. Crane applauded the bill sponsor for bringing this legislation forward, remarked it needed to be better tied to the reason the Legislature was called into the Special Session, and offered additional language to add that would make it stronger.

MOTION:	**Rep. Crane** made a motion to introduce **RS 28052** with the following two WHEREAS paragraphs, to be inserted on page one, beginning on line 37.
	"WHEREAS, an extraordinary session was called to address proposed voting centers and ballot handling issues due to the anticipated increased numbers of absentee ballots and to address the "unprecedented uncertainty as to liability due to the existence and spread of COVID-19 in Idaho"; and"
	"WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic emergency disaster declaration has opened up the opportunity for the Legislature, in a special session, to change the election process and liability laws due to the governor's proclamation claims on these topics; and"
SUBSTITUTE MOTION:	**Rep. Gannon** made a substitute motion to return **RS 28052** to the sponsor. He spoke to his motion by stating this legislation is too broad and repeals too much. He continued, the virus is the enemy, it is not a political philosophy. The virus has disrupted everyone's lives and the country, individuals, and legislators need to fight the virus, not each other, to get it under control. He stated this Concurrent Resolution does the opposite.
ROLL CALL VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION:	**Vice Chairman Armstrong** requested a roll call vote on the substitute motion to return **RS 28052** to the sponsor. The **substitute motion failed by a vote of 4 AYE and 11 NAY. Voting in favor** of the substitute motion: **Reps. Hartgen, Smith, Gannon, and Green. Voting in opposition** to the substitute motion: **Chairman Harris, Reps. Armstrong, Crane, Palmer, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, Monks, Zito, Scott, Andrus, and Young.**
ROLL CALL VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION:	**Vice Chairman Armstrong** requested a roll call vote on the original motion to introduce **RS 28052 with the additional language. Motion carried by a vote of 11 AYE and 4 NAY. Voting in favor** of the original motion: **Chairman Harris, Reps. Armstrong, Crane, Palmer, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, Monks, Zito, Scott, Andrus, and Young. Voting in opposition** to the original motion: **Reps. Hartgen, Smith, Gannon, and Green.**
ADJOURN:	There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:14am.

_____   _____
Representative Harris   Tracey McDonnell
Chair   Secretary