

MINUTES

HOUSE JUDICIARY, RULES & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, August 24, 2020

TIME: 3:00 P.M.

PLACE: Lincoln Auditorium

MEMBERS: Chairman Chaney, Acting Vice Chairman Monks, Representatives Kerby, Amador, Zito, Zollinger, Ehardt, Scott, Goesling, Hartgen, Marshall, Ricks, Troy, Young, Gannon, McCrostie, Wintrow, Davis

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: The sign-in sheets will be retained and filed with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

Chairman Chaney called the meeting to order at 3:58 p.m.

Chairman Chaney explained the testimony parameters and decorum.

MOTION: **Rep. Heather Scott** made a motion to hear a brief summary of all of the bills on the agenda prior to hearing testimony. **Chairman Chaney** ruled the motion to be out of order because the agenda is set and this format was used previously by the committee with no objection.

Using the gavel, **Chairman Chaney** asked the guests to quiet down and continue the meeting decorum.

Pam Hemphill, Tammy Kennedy, Nioulina Bistriceann, Ammon Bundy, Susan Proster, Rob Lougue, Rhonda Tomlin, and Matt Raslan, testified **in opposition** to all legislation regarding civil liabilities.

They shared concern regarding destruction of the government system, constitutional rights, the need for any legislative intervention, the fear already being generated unnecessarily, passing any legislation quickly, the false information being circulated regarding the severity of the coronavirus, the inappropriate delay in scheduling the special session, and ending the state of emergency.

Fred Birnbaum, Idaho Freedom Foundation, testified **in support** of **H 2**, which is a better solution, if such legislation is necessary.

Using the gavel, **Chairman Chaney** requested the guests not applause and adhere to the meeting decorum.

Alicia Peterson, testified **in opposition** to all of the legislation, stating the protection of businesses from torts already exists.

Chairman Chaney put the committee at ease at 4:31 p.m. to allow the guests to calm down. The meeting was called back to order at 4:41 p.m. Chairman Chaney reminded the guests to stay within the testimony limits and follow decorum to allow more guests to testify.

Jessica Allison, Nancy Georgeson, Danielle Smith, and David Pittinger, testified **in opposition** to all of the legislation.

They requested the state of emergency be ended and businesses be allowed to reopen. Concern was expressed regarding the emotional impact of social distancing and alienation for persons choosing not to wear masks. The legislation does not protect individual interests. They questioned the origination and necessity of such legislation.

Ken McClure, on behalf of the Idaho Liability Reform Coalition, testified **in support of H 5**. He stated it is hard to know how to comply to uncertain rules during uncertain times.

Chairman Chaney put the committee at ease at 4:53 p.m. to allow the guests to return to decorum. The meeting was brought back to order at 4:54 p.m.

After going at ease, **Mr. Pittinger** continued his testimony. Also testifying were **Scott Maurice, Susan Lang, Robert Jones, Cate Tedeski, Daniel Bobinski,** and **Lareina Chavoya**.

They expressed concern the legislation would result in enforced compliance through new regulations or inspections, other illnesses have not led to any immunity, the legislature is over reaching their authority, the use of faulty models, and the quality of rushed legislation.

Chairman Chaney announced the remaining testimony and the legislation will be further heard at the committee's meeting on August 25, 2020.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Representative Chaney
Chair

Irene Moore
Secretary