

MINUTES  
**HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

- DATE:** Thursday, February 18, 2021
- TIME:** 9:00 A.M.
- PLACE:** Room EW20
- MEMBERS:** Chairman Wood, Vice Chairman Vander Woude, Representatives Gibbs, Blanksma, Kingsley, Christensen, Lickley, Erickson, Ferch, Mitchell, Chew, Rubel, Davis
- ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Vice Chairman Vander Woude
- GUESTS:** Brody Aston, Westerberg Assoc.
- Chairman Wood** called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Lickley** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 11 and 15, 2021, meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- UNANIMOUS  
CONSENT  
REQUEST:** **Chairman Wood** made a unanimous consent request to move **RS 28547C1** to the end of the agenda. There being no objection, the request was granted.
- RS 28471:** **Rep. Marco Erickson**, District 33, presented **RS 28471**, which updates the Pharmacy Practice Act by removing an obsolete provision that was waived during COVID-19.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Chew** made a motion to introduce **RS 28471**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- S 1038:** **Matt Wimmer**, Administrator, Division of Medicaid, Department of Health & Welfare (DHW), presented **S 1038**. This legislation removes references to obsolete or replaced programs. The weight management pilot program was completed and incorporated into the broader emphasis on preventive services in 2006. The Small Business Health Insurance Pilot Program and the Idaho Health Insurance Access Card Program have been replaced by better approaches through the Idaho Health Insurance Exchange.
- For the record, no one indicated their desire to testify in person or remotely.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Gibbs** made a motion to send **S 1038** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Kingsley** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- S 1016:** **Anne Lawler**, Executive Director, Idaho Board of Medicine, on behalf of the Respiratory Therapist (RT) Board, presented **S 1016**, the complete rework, reorganization, and update of the Respiratory Care Practice Act. The changes reflect current practice to better align with the Idaho Medical Practice Act and the practice acts of other allied health boards. This repeal and replacement decreases the current statute to eight pages. There is no added regulation or creation of any new licensure.
- Updates include obsolete language, outdated sections, definitions, licensure, and permits. Board membership and term changes are now consistent with the Medical Practice and other allied health board acts. The temporary permit has been replaced with a provisional license. Polysomnography student or trainee permits are aligned with other allied health professions. A two-year licensure renewal option has been added.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Erickson** made a motion to send **S 1016** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Answering a committee question, **Ms. Lawler** said the lack of a temporary permit time limit has led to working RTs not completing their national exam two or more years later. The provisional license eliminates this issue.

For the record, no one indicated their desire to testify in person or remotely.

**VOTE ON MOTION:**

**Chairman Wood** called for a vote on the motion to send **S 1016** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Davis** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**Chairman Wood** put the committee at ease at 9:20 a.m. The committee was called back to order at 9:22 a.m.

**Chairman Wood** turned the gavel over to **Rep. Gibbs**.

**RS 28547C1:**

**Rep. Fred Wood**, District 27, presented **RS 28547C1**, proposed legislation to create a Medicaid Budget Stabilization Fund for Medicaid benefits and services. The Families First Coronavirus Response Act increase in the Medicaid federal match amount will create a \$55M surplus in Fiscal Year 2021. These funds need to be retained to offset future Medicaid budget shortfalls. The proposed legislation creates an interest bearing account with appropriation only by the Legislature. There is a four-year sunset clause which can be extended, if necessary.

**MOTION:**

**Rep. Rubel** made a motion to introduce **RS 28547C1**.

Answering a question, **Rep. Wood** said this account provides an excess funds tracking mechanism, which has not existed. Budget stabilization accounts have a 15% statewide cap. He will provide additional historical data at the bill hearing.

**VOTE ON MOTION:**

**Rep. Gibbs** called for a vote on the motion to introduce **RS 28547C1. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Rep. Gibbs** turned the gavel over to **Chairman Wood**.

**Chairman Wood** and the committee thanked **Matthew Chrysler** for his service as the committee page during the first half of the session.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

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Representative Wood  
Chair

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Irene Moore  
Secretary