

MINUTES  
**SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, April 12, 2021

**TIME:** 8:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room WW55

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairwoman Lodge, Vice Chairman Guthrie, Senators Winder, Harris, Lee, Heider, and Burgoyne

**ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senators Anthon and Stennett

**NOTE:** The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

**CONVENED:** **Chairwoman Lodge** called the meeting of the Senate State Affairs Committee (Committee) to order at 8:10 a.m.

**Chairwoman Lodge** introduced Jeff Anderson, Director, Idaho State Lottery (ISL). She asked him to provide some information about how loss of the Powerball monies will affect the ISL and to introduce Peter Smith.

**Mr. Anderson** explained that Powerball has existed for 32 years, since 1989, and Idaho was one of the first states to participate. Now 44 states plus the US Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia participate. Over the last decade, Powerball has generated about \$14.5 million a year that went toward public schools and the permanent building fund in Idaho. **Mr. Anderson** said growth for Powerball in the U.S. is at its maximum potential so the Multi-State Lottery Association (Association) is looking to expand internationally. Idaho has laws that prohibit it from participating internationally with the exception of Canadian provinces. Originally, August would have been the final month Idaho could participate but the Association has encountered some obstacles in the expansion so Powerball will continue in the State for a while longer.

**GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT:** **The Gubernatorial Appointment of Peter Smith to the Idaho State Lottery Commission (Commission)**

**Mr. Anderson** stated that Mr. Smith has been appointed by the Governor to fill a vacancy left by Mel Fisher who is retiring. Mr. Fisher served for many years in a variety of positions as a committee member, chairman, and attorney for the Commission. Mr. Smith is an attorney and has a professional background that is relative to the Commission. He will represent the northern part of Idaho.

**Mr. Smith** provided the Committee with some history about his family, education, and professional background as an attorney dealing in real estate and business law. He also spent a year teaching middle school in Costa Rica. **Mr. Smith** said when he was approached for the Commission appointment he investigated what the Commission does and discovered the dividends it pays back to education. **Mr. Smith** decided it would be a great opportunity to serve the State and, hopefully, fulfill the mission of ISL, which is to become the most well-run lottery in the Association. **Mr. Smith** commented that the Commission is doing very well to meet that goal and it has an excellent staff. The mission also fits his personal beliefs to give back to kids so they can be educated and pursue their endeavors in life.

**Chairwoman Lodge** announced that voting on the appointment would take place at the next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business at this time, **Chairwoman Lodge** adjourned the meeting at 8:22 a.m.

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Senator Lodge, Chair

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Twyla Melton, Secretary