

MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 15, 2022

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Crane, Vice Chairman Armstrong (Armstrong), Representatives Palmer, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, Monks, Scott, Andrus, Young, Furniss, Hanks, Skaug, Gannon, Mathias

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representatives Skaug, Gannon

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in Legislative Library.

Chairman Crane called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Monks** made a motion to postpone presentation of **H 604** as additional information needed was still incoming. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 29470C1: **Rep. Chaney** presented **RS 29470C1**. This legislation proposes community college board trustees would be selected and voted in based on established geographical zones. People can currently vote at-large for trustees which leads to a large population weighing in on leadership for areas where they don't live or pay taxes. It would become effective in two (2) years. The geographic boundary zones have already been redrawn and established across Idaho. In response to committee questions, Rep. Chaney stated this legislation would not address issues related to filling vacated school board seats mid-term, and the at-large voting process has been kept in the past due to general unease about not being able to fill these positions.

MOTION: **Rep. Andrus** made a motion to introduce **RS 29470C1**.

In response to additional committee questions about newer legislation under consideration affecting school board elections, **Rep. Chaney** said there were mixed references to community colleges and other educational institutions so it wasn't feasible at this time to stipulate the differences pertaining to each individual type of school board that could be affected in the future.

**VOTE ON
MOTION:** **Chairman Crane** called for a vote on the motion to introduce **RS 29470C1**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 29524: **Rep. McCrostie** presented **RS 29524** which would provide updates to legislation concerning the products produced and sold by home brewers. It would allow the inclusion of mead, cider, and other fermented beverages to be made by home brewers in addition to beer and wine. It would also allow non-sale taste testing of these items as well as the storage and transportation of these beverages. In response to committee questions, Rep. McCrostie said the proposed legislation did include a technical correction to the current legislation clarifying both the manufacturing of wine and brewing of beer was allowed for home brewers.

MOTION: **Rep. Scott** made a motion to introduce **RS 29524**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 29563: **Rep. Nichols** presented **RS 29563** which seeks to add a section to Idaho Code stating artificial intelligence, inanimate objects, environmental elements, and animals may not be granted personhood status in the state of Idaho. By getting this statute in Code, Idaho would preemptively address the growing trend across the U.S. where objects have been granted the same rights as people. In response to committee questions, Rep. Nichols stated this legislation would not affect anyone's ability to will their estate to a pet. Saudi Arabia's 2017 decision to grant citizenship to a robot or other similar honorary measures in title would not affect or correlate to this proposed legislation.

MOTION: **Rep. Barbieri** made a motion to introduce **RS 29563**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:19 a.m.

Representative Crane
Chair

Rebecca Fisk
Secretary