

MINUTES
SENATE RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, March 07, 2022

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW55

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Vick, Vice Chairman Heider, and Senators VanOrden (Bair), Blair (Johnson), Patrick, Guthrie, Burtenshaw, Stennett, and Semmelroth

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

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: **Vice Chairman Heider** called the meeting of the Senate Resources and Environment Committee (Committee) to order at 1:30 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Patrick** moved to approve the Minutes of February 7, 2022. **Senator Semmelroth** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Stennett** moved to approve the Minutes of February 9, 2022. **Senator VanOrden** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Burtenshaw** moved to approve the Minutes of February 14, 2022. **Vice Chairman Heider** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Blair** moved to approve the Minutes of February 16, 2022. **Senator Guthrie** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT: **Committee Consideration of the Gubernatorial Reappointment of Jeffery Allen of Star, ID to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council. Mr. Allen** introduced himself and spoke about the work of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council). He explained the Council included representatives from Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington and their purpose was to develop a regional power plan and fish and wildlife program to balance the Northwest's environment and energy needs. The Council recently completed the Northwest Power Plan, which directs what the region should do for the next six years.

DISCUSSION: **Vice Chairman Heider** asked Mr. Allen how he felt about the breaching of dams. **Mr. Allen** responded the governors of states represented by the Council have not supported the breaching of dams. He stated as more and more renewables have come online, dams have been increasingly important because of the reserves and the capacity that they offer.

Senator Stennett asked who was representing Idaho in the Columbia River Treaty negotiations. **Mr. Allen** responded the person most likely to get an update from the State Department would be Senator Risch's staff. **Senator Stennett** asked how Idaho perceived their position on the Council compared to the other states. **Mr. Allen** responded the Council did a good job of rotating who chairs committees, so they shared the power pretty equally as it related to energy. He thought Pat Oshie from Washington did a phenomenal job of reaching out to Idaho to make sure that the power plan was a true compromise. He believed Montana was a little bit to the right even of the other Idaho Council member, and Oregon was trying to find their footing.

PASSED THE GAVEL:

Vice Chairman Heider then passed the gavel to Chairman Vick.

H 519

Boating - Amends existing law to revise provisions regarding hull identification numbers, certificates of number, exemption from numbering, safety equipment, negligent operation, water skiing, marking of water area, and personal watercraft liveries. **Susan Buxton**, Director, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, explained **H 519** amends Idaho Code related to boating rules throughout the State to align with Coast Guard rules.

DISCUSSION:

Senator Patrick asked if people who build their own boats were still required to have identification numbers. In response, **Ms. Buxton** explained homemade boats were required by law to obtain an identification number and to register that number.

MOTION:

Senator Patrick moved to send **H 519** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Vice Chairman Heider** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**. Senator Lent will carry on the floor.

HCR 34

Miners - States findings of the Legislature and formally acknowledges the loss of all of Idaho's fallen miners and declares every May 2 Miners Memorial Day. **Representative Giddings** explained this resolution acknowledged the importance of miners and miner's lives throughout Idaho's history and the fiftieth anniversary of the tragic Sunshine Mine fire. The Sunshine Mine fire took the lives of 91 miners on May 2, 1972. This legislation will commemorate May 2 from 2022 and every year forward, so that it will be known in Idaho as "Miners' Memorial Day."

TESTIMONY:

Ben Davenport, Executive Vice President, Idaho Mining Association, testified in support of **HCR 34**. He voiced his appreciation for the Sunshine Memorial Committee and Representative Giddings for their willingness to allow the Association's input on the language used in the current legislation. He stated it was important to take the time to memorialize and remember the lives that were lost on May 2, 1972, while also recognizing the first responders who bravely put their lives on the line to lead that rescue effort.

MOTION:

Senator VanOrden moved to send **HCR 34** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Vice Chairman Heider** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**. Senator Vito will carry on the floor.

ADJOURNED:

There being no further business as this time, **Chairman Vick** adjourned the meeting at 1:51 p.m.

Senator Vick
Chair

Shelly Johnson
Secretary