

MINUTES  
**HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, March 21, 2022  
**TIME:** 8:00 A.M.  
**PLACE:** Room EW20  
**MEMBERS:** Chairman Wood, Vice Chairman Vander Woude, Representatives Gibbs, Blanksma, Kingsley, Christensen, Lickley, Erickson, Ferch, Mitchell, Chew, Rubel, Burns  
**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Blanksma, Christensen

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

**Chairman Wood** called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Erickson** made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 14, 15, and 16, 2022, meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**S 1399:** **Rep. Marco Erickson**, District 33, presented **S 1399** to move the administration of the Extended Employment Services program from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to the Department of Health and Welfare (DHW).

**Kelly Keele**, Idaho Association of Community Providers, testified **in support of S 1399**. This legislation covers the most important things necessary for these individuals to get the services needed to find employment. The programs will be developed through a person-centered principle. All providers must be accredited and comply with a provider agreement developed by the DHW.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Gibbs** made a motion to send **S 1399** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**Hannah Liedkie**, President, CEO, Opportunities Unlimited, Access Idaho, testified **in support of S 1399**. This collaborative bill shows successfully the need to come together to serve this population with requirements for further protection. The administrative move is to a division very familiar with working with people with disabilities and with whom the providers work well. Answering a question, she said the expansion clarifies the administration in this statute instead of through rules.

**Christine Pisani**, Executive Director, Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities, testified **in support of S 1399**. This is the result of intentional collaboration and the best attempt to address the most concerns of each party. Responding to a question, she explained the original draft legislation had a lot of accountability measures which were viewed to be federal overlay. **Sen. Cook** brought all of the stakeholders together to determine the most valuable pieces needed and developed this legislation.

**Terry Fredrickson**, New Day Products and Resources, testified **in support of S 1399**. This is a good bill to promote community. It will continue to allow people with disabilities to be a part of the community and work force.

**McKayla Matlack**, President, CEO, Development Workshop, testified **in support of S 1399**. This topic has been in discussion for a long time and the collaborative effort is exciting. This provides inclusion and allows individuals with developmental disabilities to move forward with choices, which is their right.

**Rep. Erickson**, in closing, noted this is a change from federal oversight to allowing Idaho to focus on the program the Idaho way.

**Dave Jeppesen**, Director, DHW, was asked to clarify a question. He explained a trailer appropriations bill will move the funding to the DHW if **S 1399** passes the House floor. There would be no new funding.

**VOTE ON MOTION:**

**Chairman Wood** called for a vote on the motion to send **S 1399** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Erickson** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 8:19 a.m.

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Representative Wood  
Chair

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Irene Moore  
Secretary