

MINUTES  
**SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Wednesday, February 01, 2023

**TIME:** 3:00 P.M.

**PLACE:** Room WW54

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman VanOrden, Vice Chairman Zuiderveld, Senators Lee, Harris, Bjerke, Wintrow, and Taylor

**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:** **Chairman VanOrden** called the meeting of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee (Committee) to order at 3:02 p.m. **Chairman VanOrden** instructed the Committee that the dockets heard today would be voted on at a later date.

**INTRODUCTION:** **Chairman VanOrden** called Liz Woodruff, Executive director, Idaho Academy of Family Physicians to introduce the visiting physician residents to the Committee. **Ms. Woodruff** stated these physicians had completed medical school and were in their second year of training at Full Circle Health in Boise.

**PASSED THE GAVEL:** Chairman VanOrden passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Zuiderveld.

**DOCKET NO. 16-0324-2201** **The Medically Indigent Program (Chapter Repeal) - Proposed Rule. Kristin Matthews**, Bureau Chief, Division of Health and Welfare Self-reliance Programs, explained that due to the expansion of Medicaid, H 735 removed statute authority for this program, therefore Idahoans may still apply directly for Medicaid and receive benefits if determined eligible.

**DOCKET NO. 16-0414-2201** **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Proposed Rule. Lisa Johnson**, introduced herself to the Committee. She stated the revision of the proposed chapter do not change eligibility requirements for families. She explained the revisions made the rolling language clearer, remove regulatory burden, and have provided the Department the opportunity to ensure the language was in line with program requirements.

**DOCKET NO. 16-0612-2201** **Idaho Child Care Program (ICCP) - Proposed Rule. Aubrie Hunt**, Child Care Program Manager, Department of Health and Welfare, stated the pending changes to this Chapter focus on two categories; eligibility for families and requirements for child care providers as the income for eligible families would raise to 175 percent of the federal poverty limit for program participants.

**DISCUSSION:** **Senator Lee** asked about child care standards. **Ms. Hunt** replied that Federal requirements mandated Idaho had a policy in place to prevent child abuse and maltreatment in care. **Senator Bjerke** asked where the funding source for the child care program came from. **Ms. Hunt** replied the child care subsidy program in Idaho was exclusively funded through the federal Child Care and Development BLOCK grant and some State matched dollars.

16-0504-2101

**Domestic Violence Counsel Grants (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Proposed Rule.** **Heather Cunningham**, Domestic Violence Council Director, explained the current rules were outdated and don't account for the need and demand for victim services. The pending rule changes allow the council to distribute the funds where needed. She further stated they had simplified and streamlined the rules, reduced restrictive words by 80 percent and reduced the word count by 37 percent. They also received 11 letters of support which highlighted the need for the changes. (see Attachment 1).

**Chairman VanOrden** asked what the changes to the rule were. **Ms. Cunningham** stated instead of taking population and square miles into account to distribute the funds, 5 percent of the award would go to each of the seven public health district regions, 5 percent would go to statewide programs, and the remaining 60 percent would be distributed at the discretion of the Council.

She further stated the largest federal funding stream was from the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), and the State Domestic Violence Fund, a dedicated fund that came from the Marriage and Divorce Licenses Act. Other substantive changes made would allow for electronic publication of the grant opportunities, including a required rubric for scoring the application when publishing the grant opportunity.

**Chairman VanOrden** asked if there would be a statute change to deal with the connection to marriage licenses in the county, and what the process was currently. **Ms. Cunningham** stated there was an agency bill with Representative Erickson in the House.

**Senator Wintrow** asked if the letters of support would be provided, and if the council itself was making the rubric decisions. **Ms. Cunningham** replied the process is set forth in our rules that two council members score each application. They cannot score their own region and two staff members score; the grant manager and one other person, either herself or the grant supervisor. **Ms. Cunningham** offered to distribute the letters of support.

**PASSED THE GAVEL:**

Vice Chairman Zuiderveld passed the gavel to Chairman VanOrden.

**ADJOURNED:**

There being no further business at this time, **Chairman VanOrden** adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

---

Senator VanOrden  
Chair

---

Michelle Tierney  
Secretary