

MINUTES
HOUSE TRANSPORTATION & DEFENSE COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 28, 2023

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Palmer, Vice Chairman Mitchell, Representative(s) Dixon(1), Holtzclaw, Monks, Blanksma, Manwaring, Shepherd, Crane(12), Handy, Hill, Lanting, Miller, Petzke, Yamamoto, Gannon, Burns

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Dixon(1), Miller

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 the Legislative Library.

Chairman Palmer called the meeting to order at 1:31pm.

Chairman Palmer introduced the new Page, **Caitlyn Yang**, to the committee.

MOTION: **Rep. Burns** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 14 and 16, 2023 meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 128: **Rep. Mitchell**, District 6, stated this legislation adds mediation as a first step to auto dealer protests against large auto manufacturers, but otherwise continues the long-standing administrative hearing process practice within the auto industry; the goal being to achieve justice at the lowest possible cost in the shortest amount of time. During the protest process, the state will remain impartial and will not incur any costs associated with an administrative hearing. **Rep. Mitchell** yielded the podium to **Jim Addis**.

Jim Addis, representing Idaho Auto Dealers, stated this bill allows for a free, fair, and competitive marketplace, and simply allows existing code to work transparently. He continued, this bill allows for speedy justice, at the lowest cost possible for both litigants, and will keep delaying tactics to a minimum.

MOTION: **Rep. Blanksma** made a motion to send **H 128** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Mitchell** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Chairman Palmer turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Mitchell**.

H 184: **Rep. Palmer**, District 20, stated this legislation helps to clarify what congestion mitigation means; what it does and doesn't do in relation to transportation road projects, by providing a definition for the term.

MOTION: **Rep. Blanksma** made a motion to send **H 184** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Jacob Miller, representing COMPASS (Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho), spoke **in opposition** to **H 184**. He stated, COMPASS has concerns the definition of congestion mitigation relates to terms of projects, when in reality, congestion mitigation is a process. Because of this, they believe the definition is too narrowly defined and will limit their ability to precisely tailor their plans to local projects. Additionally, he commented, this definition diverges from the federal definition, which has been on the books for decades, and will create confusion, making it more difficult for local projects to qualify for both federal and state dollars.

Rep. Palmer stood and closed. He stated he doesn't believe this definition would create any confusion and is comfortable with it as written.

In response to a committee question, **Rep. Palmer** replied, this bill would not preclude using federal funding for bike paths if a congestion mitigation project included those bike paths as part of the mitigation plan.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Vice Chairman Mitchell called for a vote on the motion to send **H 184** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Gannon** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY. Rep. Palmer** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Vice Chairman Mitchell turned the gavel over to **Chairman Palmer**.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:41pm.

Representative Palmer
Chair

Tracey McDonnell
Secretary