

MINUTES
HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, March 01, 2023

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW20

MEMBERS: Chairman Vander Woude, Vice Chairman Erickson, Representatives Blanksma, Kingsley (Crawford), Mitchell, Dixon(24), Gallagher, Healey, Redman, Wheeler, Chew, Rubel, Roberts

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

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 Vander Woude called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Roberts** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2023, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Chairman Vander Woude turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Erickson**.

H 192: **Rep. John Vander Woude**, District 22, presented **H 192** to clarify public assistance program benefit eligibility changes must be done by statute, not by rule. Answering a question, he said program increases are normally in statute.

MOTION: **Rep. Dixon (24)** made a motion to send **H 192** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Reps. Roberts, Chew, and Rubel** requested they be recorded as voting **NAY.** **Rep. Vander Woude** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Vice Chairman Erickson turned the gavel over to **Chairman Vander Woude**.

H 213: **Rep. Dori Healey**, District 15, presented **H 213** which replaces **H 84**. This legislation is for an education payback incentive to attract new nurses to work in specified locations. Nursing shortages are anticipated in the near future due to an aging nursing population and the growing need for specialized care. Of the 775 annual nursing program graduates, only 80% remain in Idaho. This program is expected to increase that percentage. She explained the graduated costs of the five-year program.

Fred Birnbaum, Idaho Freedom Foundation, testified in **opposition** to **H 213**. He expressed concern regarding the nurses not asking for this program, the possibility of other ways to attract nurses, broad standards, and using public assistance to solve a shortage.

MOTION: **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to send **H 213** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Reps. Gallagher, Crawford, Mitchell, and Redman** requested they be recorded as voting **NAY.** **Rep. Healey** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

RS 30518: **Rep. Dori Healey**, District 15, presented **RS 30518**, proposed legislation to remove three rule sections of Idaho Code which are an unnecessary burden to assisted living and nursing facilities. The sections are not consistent with legislative intent.

MOTION: **Rep. Redman** made a motion to introduce **RS 30518.** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

Representative Vander Woude
Chair

Irene Moore
Secretary