

MINUTES
SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, January 15, 2024
TIME: 3:00 P.M.
PLACE: Room WW54
MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair VanOrden, Senators Lee, Harris, Bjerke, Zuiderveld, 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: **Chair VanOrden** called the meeting of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee (Committee) to order at 3:00 p.m.
GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT: **Committee Consideration of the Gubernatorial Reappointment of John Sigler of Pocatello, Idaho, to the Board of Environmental Quality, term commencing July 1, 2023 and expiring July 1, 2027.** **Mr. Sigler** provided an overview of his education and stated he held a PhD in Fisheries Biology and Management. He also relayed his work background which included water quality work on Bear Lake, environmental work at Eglin Air Force Base, Steelhead and Coho losses in the Pacific Northwest, and storm water management.
DISCUSSION: In response to Committee questions, **Mr. Sigler** stated the current challenges in Idaho were the mussel infestation and microplastic issues. He explained the process of cloud seeding and the importance of managing this resource. **Mr. Sigler** relayed that he had filled a board position vacancy midterm and was now back for the reappointment.
PRESENTATION: **Administrative Rules Overview.** **Josh Scholer**, Bureau Chief Regulatory & Legislative Affairs, provided a process overview on how the agencies made changes and received stakeholder input. He explained that rules were reviewed every 8 years and no longer expired each year as they had in the past. Approved rules would go into effect at sine die unless they were tied to a bill that had an effective date of July 1st. **Mr. Scholer** stated the fee and non fee rules had been combined into one book. The dockets had a clean copy which showed as it would if approved and were followed by the dockets redline version.
DISCUSSION: **Senator Bjerke** asked for clarification on temporary rules. **Mr. Scholer** explained the process and used the mussel infestation as an example.
ADJOURNED: There being no further business at this time, **Chair VanOrden** adjourned the meeting at 3:54 p.m.

Senator VanOrden
Chair

Lena Amoah
Secretary