

MINUTES  
**JOINT FINANCE-APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, January 30, 2024  
**TIME:** 8:00 A.M.  
**PLACE:** Room C310  
**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Senators Co-Chairman Grow, Bjerke, Burtenshaw, Lent, Cook, VanOrden, Adams, Herndon, Ward-Engelking, and Just  
Representatives Co-Chairman Horman, Miller, Bundy, Raybould, Furniss, Handy, Lambert, Petzke, Tanner, and Green  
**ABSENT/EXCUSED:** None  
**CONVENED:** **Co-Chairman Grow** called the meeting of the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee (Committee) to order at 8:00 a.m.

**LSO STAFF PRESENTATION:** **EASTERN IDAHO MEDICAL RESIDENCIES(EIMR) LBB 1-93 (Health Education Programs) Keith Bybee, Division Manager, Legislative Services Office (LSO), Budget & Policy Analysis**

**Mr. Bybee** provided a base review and budget request for Eastern Idaho Medical Residencies (see, attachment 1). In FY 2019, the Legislature funded the creation of a new state-funded medical residency program at the Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center in Idaho Falls. EIMR received its institutional accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (GME) in May of 2017. Presently, a total of 52 residents can be enrolled in the residency program, specializing in internal medicine, family medicine, and psychiatry. Residency programs are three years in length, allowing each cohort to include approximately 15 residents.

He outlined the organizational structure and provided a breakdown of appropriation by budgeted program. The EIMR budget is 10% of the total health education budget, with a FY 24 budget of \$2,765,000. He listed five-year appropriations and expenditures for FY 20 – FY 24, FY 23 expenditures, and provided a five-year base snapshot showing FY 20 budget of \$455,000 and the FY 24 budget of \$2,525,000. He discussed enhancements in prior years including the FY 23 line item of \$360,000 for six additional EIMR family medical residents with \$60,000 of support per resident position, in alignment with the ten year strategic plan for graduate medical education, created by the State Board of Education. The FY 24 budget enhancement was \$240,000 for four psychiatry residents to serve in the Idaho Falls area. The FY 25 budget request is \$223,300 to support four additional psychiatry residents at \$56,000 each in eastern Idaho.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Dr. Patricia Howell-Delfufo, MD, Chief Medical Officer** stood to answer questions from the committee. In response to a question from **Senator Ward-Engelking**, she stated they have successfully filled all residency positions every year. In response to a question from **Representative Raybould**, she stated there is a 40% retention rate for keeping graduates in Idaho post residency. In response to a question from **Senator Bjerke**, she stated medical residents are sent out of Idaho following residency in order to complete specialty fellowships that are not available in Idaho. In response to a question from **Senator Herndon** requesting further detail on psychiatry residents, she stated there are four psychiatry residents per year, and second year psychiatry residents are already being incorporated into psychiatry work at hospitals.

**LSO STAFF  
PRESENTATION:**

**BOISE INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENCY, LBB 1-93 Keith Bybee, Division Manager, LSO, Budget & Policy Analysis**

**Mr. Bybee** provided a base review for Boise Internal Medicine (BIM) (see, attachment 2). BIM provides internal medicine residency training at rural and under-served sites in Idaho. This program is a partnership with the federal Department of Veterans Affairs, St. Alphonsus Regional Health Care System, St. Luke's Regional Health Care System, University of Washington Medical Center, and Harborview Medical Center. This program supports 34 residents specializing in internal medicine. He reviewed organizational structure (with BIM making up 4% of total health education program spending), five-year appropriations and expenditures for FY 20 — FY 24, five-year base snapshot from FY 20 — FY 24 showing the base almost doubled, FY 23 budget enhancements of \$180,000 for two Addiction Medicine Residents and one Internal Medicine Resident, FY 24 Budget enhancements of \$96,000 (\$60,000 supporting a new Internal Medicine resident and \$36,000 toward existing residents), and FY 25 \$56,000 budget request for a new Internal Medicine resident.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Dr. Melissa Hagman, MD, Boise Internal Medicine Residency Program Director** stood for questions from the Committee. In response to questions from **Senator Ward-Engleking** and **Representative Raybould** she stated there are 950 applications to BIM per year for 15 positions. BIM is ranked 7th in the nation for retaining residents in-state post residency, with a 54% retention rate for internal medicine residents staying in Idaho post residency and a 60% retention rate for internal medicine and family medicine residencies combined. In response to a question from **Senator Bjerke**, she provided a review of the education and training requirements to become a physician, including undergraduate, medical, residency and fellowship training. She explained there is a strong need for physicians in Idaho as it is ranked 50th for the number of physicians to citizens in the state. In response to a question from **Representative Bundy**, she said priority is given to residency applicants with Idaho ties in the hope they will stay in Idaho. In response to a questions from **Senator Ward-Engelking**, she stated 23% of physicians in Idaho are above the age of 60. She stated there is currently not an OB-GYN residency in Idaho and a General Surgery residency would be required in tandem with OB-GYN, which is a long way off. **Dr. Hagman** provided an update on the ten year plan for residents training in Idaho. In the first six years of funding, it has grown from nine residency programs to sixteen, from four to nine fellowship

programs, and from 134 resident positions six years ago to 248 residents every year in the state of Idaho.

**LSO STAFF  
PRESENTATION:**

**FAMILY MEDICAL RESIDENCIES, LBB 1-93 Keith Bybee, Division  
Manager, LSO, Budget & Policy Analysis**

**Mr. Bybee** provided a base review for Family Medicine Residencies (see, attachment 3). Idaho's three Family Medicine Residency programs (the Family Medicine Residency of Idaho in Boise, the Idaho State University Family Medicine Residency in Pocatello, and the Kootenai Health Family Medicine Residency in Coeur d'Alene) deliver the final three years of formal family physician training to newly graduated medical doctors. The goal is to produce family doctors to practice in Idaho's underserved rural areas. The Boise program has 54 residents, the ISU program has 27 residents, and the Kootenai program has 19 residents. The Family Medicine Residencies are largest part of the total health education budget (27%) with a budget of \$7,288,600. He reviewed the five-year appropriations and expenditures for FY 20 – FY 24, FY 23 expenditures, five-year base snapshot FY 20 – FY 24 showing \$2.2 million dollar growth, FY 23 Budget enhancements totaling \$585,000, and FY 24 budget enhancements totaled \$488,300. The FY 25 budget request totalled \$168,000 including \$56,000 for Family Medicine resident, CDA and \$112,000 for Family Medicine residents in Pocatello and Rupert.

**DISCUSSION:**

In response to a question from **Co-Chairman Horman**, **Mr. Bybee** stated residents are funded at \$60,000 per year. In response to a question from **Senator VanOrden** regarding the FY 23 Support Disparity Offset line item of \$75,000, **Janet Jessup, LSO**, stated that historically the legislature has added residents at a lower rate than the current \$60,000, but the rate has increased as the cost of educating residents has increased. In the budgets, there are amounts added for new residents and amounts added for existing residents to bring all residents up to a higher level of support. The \$75,000 brings the other residents who were already in the program up to the same level of support. In response to a question from **Senator Cook** about why FY 25 does not include the full amount of \$60,000 per resident, **Ms. Jessup** stated that divisions within the state were asked to conform to a 3% increase on the general fund. The 3% cap limited the Family Medical Residencies to requesting \$56,000 for support for those residents within their program.

**Dr. Abby Davids, MD , Family Medicine Program Director** stood to answer questions from the Committee. She provided a program overview, stating there are currently seven family medicine residencies in the state. For FY 25, her program is looking to add one new resident position in each of the following places: Coeur d'Alene, Pocatello, and Rupert.

**LSO STAFF  
PRESENTATION:**

**IDAHO DENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS, LBB 1-93 Keith Bybee,  
Division Manager, LSO, Budget & Policy Analysis**

**Mr. Bybee** provided a base review for Idaho Dental Education Program including organizational structure and detailed budget information (see, attachment 4). The Idaho Dental Education Program (IDEP) provides access to postgraduate dental education for Idaho students annually through a cooperative program at Idaho State University and Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. A total of 32 Idaho students can be enrolled in this four-year program, or eight per year. The budget for IDEP is \$2,196,900 or 8% of funding of health education programs. He outlined five-year appropriations and expenditures, FY 23 expenditures broken out by percentages, and a five-year base snapshot for FY 20 — FY 24. The FY 25 budget request was \$50,000 for an additional dental student seat.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Dr. Jeff Ybarguen, DDS, Idaho Dental Education Program Director** stood to answer questions from the Committee. In response to a question from **Co-Chairman Horman** about how many apply that are not accepted, Dr. Ybarguen stated there are an average of 25-100 applicants, and 8 are accepted. He stated there is a need for Idaho applicants to receive affordable dental education. In response to a question from **Representative Petzke**, he stated there is not a large shortage of dentists in Idaho. However, there is a shortage in rural areas and an applicants desired practice location is taken into account in determining applicant acceptance.

**ADJOURNED:**

There being no further business before the Committee, **Co-Chairman Grow** adjourned the meeting at 9:18 a.m.

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Senator Grow  
Chair

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Linsy Heiner  
Secretary