

MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 15, 2024

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Crane(13), Vice Chairman Young, Representatives Palmer, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, Scott, Andrus, Skaug, Alfieri, Allgood, Crane(12), Gannon, Nash (Stinson)

**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.

Vice Chairman Young called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

H 496: **Rep. Boyle** presented **H 496** explaining this legislation is clean-up for legislation passed last year. The previous legislation did not outline the Native American in Idaho are not included in the bill's definition of foreign governments. This legislation also adds forestry as a state owned land not available for sale to foreign governments. In response to committee questions, Rep. Boyle clarified this legislation only applies to state-owned or private-owned lands.

Blake Youde testified in support of **H 496** on behalf of the Shoshone Bannock Tribes who are in favor of the bill.

MOTION: **Rep. Palmer** made a motion to send **H 496** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Boyle** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

RS 30953: **Rep. Hawkins** presented **RS 30953** explaining this proposed legislation places a prohibition on any kind of universal basic income. In response to committee questions, Rep. Hawkins clarified there are discussions of implementing a universal basic income following some European countries who have already done so, this would prevent that from being implemented in Idaho.

MOTION: **Rep. Alfieri** made a motion to introduce **RS 30953.** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 31025: **Rep. Hawkins** presented **RS 31025** explaining this proposed legislation is a joint memorial which sends a message to the congressional delegation expressing the desire to hold the federal government accountable for the southern boarder crisis. In response to committee questions, Rep. Hawkins clarified the current administration removed the boarder controls in process and now immigration numbers are at an all time high.

MOTION: **Rep. Scott** made a motion to introduce **RS 31025.** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 31366: **Rep. Kingsley** presented **RS 31366** explaining this proposed legislation would stop mass mailing by parties of absentee ballots. In response to committee questions, Rep. Kingsley clarified the Secretary of State has seen a previous version of this bill, but not the most recent one.

MOTION: **Rep. Andrus** made a motion to introduce **RS 31366.**

Rep. Stinson spoke to the motion stating he would like to see examples of these mailings at a full hearing.

VOTE ON MOTION: Motion carried by voice vote.

RS 31363: Rep. Andrus presented **RS 31363** explaining this proposed legislation ensures no ballot questions can include wording about tax relief funds unless the amount and duration is guaranteed and it must be stated in writing when they will expire.

MOTION: Rep. Crane (12) made a motion to introduce **RS 31363**. Motion carried by voice vote.

RS 31381: Rep. Crane (13) presented **RS 31381** explaining this proposed legislation was drafted to deal with the University of Idaho's acquisition of the University of Phoenix. It has been extremely difficult to get information about this 550 million dollar acquisition which was primarily handled behind closed doors. The Idaho Legislature is responsible for the debt of the state, but were not included in this process. This resolution makes clear to the university and State Board of Education the legislature believes process matters.

Rep. Gannon spoke in support of **RS 31381** calling the acquisition purchase by ambush. He further stated as representatives of the people, the legislature cannot support a process which did not include the people. He stated he is looking forward to a full hearing on this legislation and hearing commentary from the State Board of Education.

MOTION: Rep. Skaug made a motion to introduce **RS 31381**.

Rep. Stinson spoke in support of the motion saying there are three standout good things in this proposed legislation. It is bipartisan, it addresses the positions and organizations not individuals, and it values the process as paramount.

VOTE ON MOTION: Motion carried by voice vote.

RS 31341: Rep. Young presented **RS 31341** explaining this proposed legislation addresses the increased availability of AI technology by creating a criminal penalty for AI generated pornographic content used to bribe, threaten, or extort. In response to committee questions, Rep. Young clarified the definition for synthetic media is included on page two line 40 of the draft legislation. She also clarified this legislation differs from other AI legislation seen this session because it protects all Idahoans, not only political candidates and children.

Rep. Gannon continued the presentation stating this proposed legislation has been reviewed by a number of attorneys who specialize in AI law as well as the Attorney General's office. In response to committee questions, Rep. Gannon clarified synthetic media includes any AI generated image or video which realistically misrepresents something.

MOTION: Rep. Crane (12) made a motion to introduce **RS 31341**.

Rep. Crane (12) spoke to his motion stating this is a large issue and he likes that this bill doesn't just protect a small group of people, but all Idahoans.

VOTE ON MOTION: Motion carried by voice vote.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:33 AM.

Representative Young
Chair

Kennedy Jones
Secretary