

Senate Commerce & Human Resources Committee

Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 1:30 P.M.

TESTIMONY ON: All Subjects

Written Testimony

Name (First & Last)	Subject	Manner Testifying	Representing Company/Organization	City	For / Against	Wish to Testify	District #
Thomas Judge	S 1298	V	Self	Boise	For	Y	15

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee,

As the former Deputy Director for the Board of Engineers and Surveyors, I helped prepare amendments to the statutes related to plans and surveys. The last package I worked on was completed after I left my position. During the legislative process, an unfortunate edit was made. The word 'or' was removed between what was supposed to be two choices. The result is that two options for expressing the basis of directions on surveys became a list of requirements. While the Board has set a reasonable policy, the statutes are now flawed and confusing.

I respectfully request you support this housekeeping measure, and will gladly stand for any questions.

Respectfully, Thomas A. Judge, PLS, CFedS

David Reilly	S 1296	V	Self	Post Falls	For	Y	5
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I would like to express my DEEP support for this bill. Idaho, which was built on the mining of precious metals should be one the forefront of mining the world's hardest money, Bitcoin. Over 64% of the county I live in, Kootenai, moved to Idaho to get away from the craziness, and violence that has been brought about in this country, one way or another, by both the unlimited printing of fiat money, and usury.

In the past 111 years, we have seen U.S. dollars devalue against gold by 1000%. \$20 of gold at the time the fed was created in 1913 is now worth over \$2,000 in 2024. This is a form of theft from the laborer, who trades his time for something of value. Gold was replaced by FIAT paper, and has allowed the Federal Reserve to enact a programme of devaluation has cheated the citizens of the United States, especially younger generations like the Millenials, Zoomers and generation Alpha, out of their wages, effectively turning everyone into a slave that needs to labor not for his own good, or his own family's good, but instead to labor for the state - to pay off what is now the over 31 Trillion dollars of debt that Washington D.C. owes to the Federal Reserve.

Bitcoin, with its fixed supply of 21 Million coins, means that no corporation or government can inflate or devalue this currency. As

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David Reilly	<i>cont.</i>						5
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Idahoans, we pride ourself in fiscal responsibility, and Bitcoin gives Americans and Idahoans the ability to take control of their own destiny, and custody their own Bitcoin, without fear that the government will confiscate it from them. To quote former President Barack Obama, Bitcoin is "like having a Swiss bank account in your pocket." Former president Obama isn't very happy about the fact that the Federal Government cannot hack or control Bitcoin.

With Bitcoin, Idahoans won't need to worry about being "de-banked" because of their politics (whether left-wing or right-wing), and it will allow the poor and minority populations to achieve financial freedom as the dollar continues to debase through uncontrolled printing. Since money is also considered "speech" according to the Supreme Court's ruling on the Citizens United case, the ability to store and spend your own Bitcoin should be considered a First Amendment human right.

This legislation will also roll out the welcome mat for Mining companies who could take advantage of Idaho's hydroelectric dams, and could even generate some action in the field of nuclear power, as Bitcoin miners can be used in conjunction with nuclear power to replace fossil fuels and coal to meet spikes in grid demand.

With the help of Bitcoin, Idaho can become the most financially secure State in the Union. Please pass this bill.

Mary Ollie	S 1296	W	self	Bonnors Ferry	Against	N	1
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I oppose S 1296 for several reasons.

Crypto currency is speculative and it consumes a great deal of energy. The recent scandal with Sam Bankman-Fried and FTX demonstrates that crypto has risks.

Crypto mining consumes vast amounts of energy and for Idaho with its looming water shortages - this bill is not in the best interests of our great State.

But what I found the most interesting is that the Idaho Freedom Foundation has been pushing crypto. This makes me wonder if the bill representing the best interests of Idahoans or the best interests of IFF?

The conservative response would be to put this bill on hold until more is known. I recommend a "no" vote.

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Mary Ollie	<i>cont.</i>						1

Robin Lundgren	S 1296	W	self	Bonnors Ferry	Against	N	1
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If the debacle involving Sam Bankman-Fried has taught us anything it should remind us here in Idaho not to be involved with bit-coin or crypto currency in any shape or form. Let us not forget that even the Chinese government has banned crypto mining.

Please vote No on S-1296

Thank you.