

MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, March 06, 2024

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Raymond, Representatives Boyle, Cannon, McCann, Ehlers, Gallagher, Garner, Nelsen, Pickett, Sauter, Mathias (Church), Roberts, Achilles

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Roberts

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 Andrus called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Gallagher** made a motion to approve the minutes of March 4, 2024. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

SJM 102: **Senator Jim Guthrie** presented **SJM 102**, highlighting federal responsibility for immigration, criticizes border security failures, and calls for a modernized system with legal guest-worker options. It opposes amnesty and urges Idaho's delegation to take a leading role in national immigration reform.

Fred Birnbaum, Idaho Freedom Foundation, spoke **in opposition** to **SJM 102**, saying the legislation isn't strong enough.

Braden Jensen, Idaho Farm Bureau, and **Bob Naerebout**, Idaho Dairymen's Association, spoke **in support** of **SJM 102**, saying this legislation tackles border security, immigration, and guest worker issues, emphasizing the impact on farmers and ranchers and advocating for state-level solutions to be sent to Congress.

MOTION: **Rep. Garner** made a motion to send **SJM 102** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Raymond** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

SCR 111: **Rep. McCann** introduced **Braden Jensen** who explained **SCR 111** would allow the Idaho State Board of Education to explore partnering with the State of Utah and Utah State University for Idaho students to join Utah's veterinary program, akin to Idaho's existing collaboration with Washington State University. **Patxi Larrocea-Phillips**, Idaho Cattle Association, noted a decrease in documented individuals expressing interest in practicing veterinary medicine in rural Idaho, particularly in the critical area of large animal care.

MOTION: **Rep. Cannon** made a motion to send **SCR 111** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. McCann** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Jayne Feik
Secretary