

SENATE JOURNAL
OF THE
IDAHO LEGISLATURE

ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION
SIXTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST LEGISLATIVE DAY
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2024

Senate Chamber

At the hour of 8 a.m. on Thursday, December 5, 2024, the members-elect of the Senate of the Sixty-eighth Idaho Legislature convened in the Senate Chamber of the Capitol in the City of Boise for an organizational session, President Scott Bedke presiding.

The following Certificate of Election was read by the Secretary of the Senate:

STATE OF IDAHO
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION

I, Phil McGrane, Secretary of State of the State of Idaho and legal custodian of the records of elections held in the State of Idaho, do hereby certify that the following is a full, true, and complete list of those elected to serve as members of the Senate of the First Regular Session of the Sixty-eighth Legislature, as shown by official records on file in my office:

Table with 2 columns: DISTRICT and NAME. Lists members of the Senate by district from 1 to 25.

Table with 2 columns: District number and Member Name (e.g., 26 Ron Taylor (D), 27 Kelly Anthon (R), etc.).

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho. Done at Boise, the Capital of Idaho, this Twenty-sixth day of November, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-ninth.

/s/ PHIL MCGRANE
Secretary of State

The Certificate of Election was ordered filed in the office of the Secretary of the Senate.

Roll call showed all members present.

The Oath of Office was administered to the members of the Senate by President Bedke.

Prayer was offered by Senator Burtenshaw.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sarah Jane McDonald, Senate Sergeant-at-Arms.

On request by Senator Anthon, granted by unanimous consent, the Senate advanced to the Fourth Order of Business.

Reading of Communications

June 28, 2024

Dear Pro Tem,

I have accepted a job out of state and will be moving to Oregon. I will therefore be resigning my position as Senator for District 9 as of July 1, 2024. I am so grateful for this opportunity and for the support I received from my constituents. I wish you and the legislature the best.

Sincerely,
/s/ Senator Abby Lee, District 9

On request by Senator Anthon, granted by unanimous consent, the Senate advanced to the Eighth Order of Business.

Messages from the Governor

July 17, 2024

The Honorable Scott Bedke
President of the Senate
Idaho State Senate

Dear Mr. President:

I have the honor to inform you that I have appointed Brandon Shippy of New Plymouth, Idaho, to the office of State Senator for Legislative District 9, Payette, Washington, and Canyon Counties, State of Idaho.

This appointment is effective Wednesday, July 17, 2024 and will continue until the next general election when the term of office expires.

Sincerely,  
/s/ Brad Little  
Governor

The correspondence was ordered to be filed in the office of the Secretary of the Senate.

On request by Senator Anthon, granted by unanimous consent, the Senate advanced to the Tenth Order of Business.

**Motions and Resolutions**

On motion by Senator Harris, seconded by Senator Wintrow, by unanimous voice vote Senator Kelly Anthon was elected President Pro Tempore of the Senate for the Sixty-eighth Idaho Legislature.

The President administered the Oath of Office to President Pro Tempore Anthon.

On motion by President Pro Tempore Anthon, seconded by Senator Wintrow, by unanimous voice vote Jennifer Novak was elected Secretary of the Senate for the Sixty-eighth Idaho Legislature.

The President administered the Oath of Office to Secretary of the Senate Jennifer Novak.

On motion by President Pro Tempore Anthon, seconded by Senator Wintrow, by voice vote the Rules of the Senate and Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives as adopted by the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-seventh Idaho Legislature were adopted as the permanent Rules of the Senate and Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Sixty-eighth Legislature of the State of Idaho.

On request by President Pro Tempore Anthon, granted by unanimous consent, the following roster of majority and minority leadership was ordered spread upon the pages of the Journal:

Majority Leader ..... Senator Lori Den Hartog  
Assistant Majority Leader ..... Senator Mark Harris  
Majority Caucus Chairman..... Senator Ben Toews  
Minority Leader ..... Senator Melissa Wintrow  
Assistant Minority Leader ..... Senator James D. Ruchti  
Minority Caucus Chairman ..... Senator Janie Ward-Engelking

At this time, the Senators selected their seats pursuant to Senate Rule 3(B). On request by Senator Den Hartog, granted by unanimous consent, the seats, as presently occupied, were permanently assigned to the Senators for the Sixty-eighth Idaho Legislature.

On motion by Senator Den Hartog, seconded by Senator Wintrow, by voice vote the Senate recessed at 8:48 a.m. until the hour of 3 p.m. of this day.

**RECESS  
AFTERNOON SESSION**

The Senate reconvened at 4:13 p.m., pursuant to recess, President Bedke presiding.

Roll call showed all members present except Senators Carlson, Lakey, Nichols, VanOrden, and Ward-Engelking, absent and excused.

Prior to recess the Senate was at the Tenth Order of Business, Motions and Resolutions.

Senators Nichols and VanOrden were recorded present at this order of business.

On motion by Senator Den Hartog, seconded by Senator Harris, by voice vote the following committee assignments were approved for the Sixty-eighth Idaho Legislature:

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS (9)  
Nichols, Chairman  
Zito, Vice Chairman

Lakey  
Lent  
VanOrden  
Blaylock  
Kohl  
Sommelroth  
Taylor

COMMERCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES (9)  
Foreman, Chairman  
Lenney, Vice Chairman

Lakey  
Guthrie  
Nichols  
Bernt  
Zito  
Ward-Engelking  
Ruchti

EDUCATION (9)  
Lent, Chairman  
Cook, Vice Chairman

Woodward  
Nichols  
Carlson  
Burtenshaw  
Zito  
Ward-Engelking  
Sommelroth

FINANCE (10)  
Grow, Chairman  
Woodward, Vice Chairman

Cook  
Bjerke  
Hart  
Carlson  
Zuiderveld  
Galloway  
Ward-Engelking  
Wintrow

HEALTH AND WELFARE (9)  
VanOrden, Chairman  
Bjerke, Vice Chairman

Harris  
Zuiderveld  
Lenney  
Shippy  
Blaylock  
Keyser  
Wintrow

JUDICIARY AND RULES (9)  
Lakey, Chairman  
Shippy, Vice Chairman

Ricks  
Foreman  
Lent  
Wintrow  
Ruchti

Lenney  
Keyser

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TAXATION (9)  
Ricks, Chairman  
Adams, Vice Chairman

Grow  
Anthon  
Bernt  
Den Hartog  
Toews

Rabe  
Taylor

On request by Senator Den Hartog, granted by unanimous consent, the Senate advanced to the Fifteenth Order of Business.

**Miscellaneous Business**

On motion by Senator Den Hartog, seconded by Senator Wintrow, by voice vote the Organizational Session of the Idaho Senate of the Sixty-eighth Legislature adjourned *Sine Die* at 4:40 p.m., Thursday, December 5, 2024.

SCOTT BEDKE, President

RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT (9)  
Burtenshaw, Chairman  
Hart, Vice Chairman

Guthrie  
Harris  
Okuniewicz  
Cook  
VanOrden  
Kohl

Taylor

Attest: JENNIFER NOVAK, Secretary

STATE AFFAIRS (9)  
Guthrie, Chairman  
Bernt, Vice Chairman

Anthon  
Harris  
Toews  
Den Hartog  
Adams  
Shippy

Ruchti

TRANSPORTATION (9)  
Okuniewicz, Chairman  
Keyser, Vice Chairman

Burtenshaw  
Hart  
Adams  
Galloway  
Kohl

Rabe  
Sammelroth

On request by Senator Den Hartog, granted by unanimous consent, President Bedke appointed a committee consisting of Senator Cook, Chairman, and Senators Foreman and Wintrow to notify the Governor that the Senate is now organized and ready to conduct business.

The committee was excused.

On request by Senator Den Hartog, granted by unanimous consent, President Bedke appointed a committee consisting of Senator Guthrie, Chairman, and Senators Adams and Ruchti to notify the House of Representatives that the Senate is now organized and ready to conduct business.

The committee was excused.

The committee appointed to wait upon the Governor returned and reported that the Governor sent his best wishes to the Senate members.

The committee was discharged.

The committee appointed to wait upon the House of Representatives returned and reported that they had conveyed the message to the House and the House expressed their best wishes for a productive session.

The committee was discharged.