

MINUTES
SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Friday, January 10, 2025
- TIME:** 8:00 A.M.
- PLACE:** Room WW55
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Guthrie, Vice Chairman Bernt, Senators Anthon, Den Hartog, Toews, Adams, Shippy, and Ruchti
- ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senator Harris
- NOTE:** The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.
- CONVENED:** **Chairman Guthrie** called the meeting of the Senate State Affairs Committee (Committee) to order at 8:01 a.m. and asked Secretary Wells to take a silent roll.
- INTRODUCTION:** **Introduction of the New Secretary - Kathryn Wells. Ms. Wells** introduced herself, including work and family background. Each Committee member then provided self-introduction, conveying districts represented, personal background and occupation.
- INTRODUCTION:** **Introduction of the New Page - Alexis Abenroth. Ms. Abenroth** shared personal interests and activities, as well as future educational and career plans. **Senator Anthon** asked her a question. **Ms. Abenroth** asked a question of Senator Anthon.
- PRESENTATION:** **Secretary of State Phil McGrane. Secretary McGrane** introduced Donald Palmer, Vice Chairman of the United States Election Assistance Commission (Commission), in Boise for the Idaho Elections Conference.
- 2024 Federal Elections Report and Update. U.S. Election Assistant Commissioner Donald Palmer** summarized the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), established in 2002 by the Help America Vote Act (HAVA). The EAC served to address improvements to voting systems and voter access, through voting system guidelines, certifying voting systems, and accrediting testing laboratories. The EAC collected election data and provided election official support through on-demand training for election officials. **Mr. Palmer** shared voting systems currently in development and testing. **Mr. Palmer** stated HAVA provided funding across the nation, the greatest portion toward cyber and physical security, followed by equipment.
- NOTE:** Chairman Guthrie moved the gubernatorial reappointment to the end of the agenda.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Guthrie passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Bernt.

RULES REVIEW: **Assignment of the Administrative Rules.** Vice Chairman Bernt confirmed the assignment to various Committee members of the pending Administrative Rules assigned to the Committee.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Vice Chairman Bernt passed the gavel back to Chairman Guthrie.

GUBERNATORIAL REAPPOINTMENT: **The Gubernatorial Reappointment of Rob Perez to the Treasurer's Investment Advisory Board** to serve a term commencing July 1, 2024, and expiring July 1, 2028. **Rob Perez** shared his professional experience in finance, banking, real estate investing, corporate leadership, and his service on leadership boards. **Mr. Perez** stated he sought appointment to contribute valuable knowledge and experience in grassroots investment analytics for the benefit of the State. **Senator Anthon** expressed appreciation for the various places Mr. Perez served. Other senators concurred.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Guthrie** adjourned the meeting at 8:54 a.m.

Senator Guthrie
Chair

Kathryn Wells
Secretary