

MINUTES  
**HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, January 14, 2025

**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW20

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Vander Woude, Vice Chairman Erickson, Representatives Healey, Redman, Wheeler, Beiswenger, Burgoyne, Cayler, Fuhrihan, Leavitt, McCann, Rasor, Thompson, Rubel, Egbert

**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.

**MOTION:** **Chairman Vander Woude** called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Thompson** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2025, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Chairman Vander Woude** turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Erickson.**

**Dr. Alex Adams**, Director, Department of Health and Welfare (DHW), gave a synopsis of the DHW's improved direction, emphasis, and how Administrative Rule changes will return decision making to Idaho lawmakers.

**DOCKET NO. 16-0314-2401:** **Jared Larsen**, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0314-2401**, to repeal hospital licensing requirements which already exist in Title 39 Chapter 13 of Idaho Code. To be eligible for federal funding, hospitals must also be certified through The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The certification process is comprehensive and requires an on-site survey to ensure compliance, mirroring the Administrative Rule. Given this duplication, the department will pursue a legislative proposal in 2025 to consolidate the licensing process, using the CMS certification standards as the benchmark for obtaining a hospital license and deeming all licensed CMS hospitals also licensed in the state of Idaho.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0314-2401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 16-0601-2402:** **Jared Larsen**, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0601-2402**, to extend this temporary Administrative Rule which addresses crisis levels of need by allowing the DHW discretion in certain foster care situations.

**Andrea Blackwood**, Bureau Chief, Division of Child Welfare, DHW, was invited to answer questions. She stated this Administrative Rule assists foster care families who have large sibling groups or children with special needs. The incident notification prior to any placement on the Child Protection Central Registry includes a requirement for the DHW staff to provide documentation within fourteen days and a recipient response within twenty-eight days. As a closed registry, only verification of a listing on the registry is released. During this process a safety decision for the child's placement is made in collaboration with the courts.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0601-2402. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 16-0601-2403:** **Jared Larsen**, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0601-2403**. The DHW is requesting extension of this temporary Administrative Rule to July 1, 2025. Changes include an enhanced definition for "kin" and waiver of adoption fees as specified. It does not require any additional home study and simplifies adopting a child out of the state's custody.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0601-2403**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 16-0601-2404:** **Jared Larsen**, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0601-2404**, which sets the visitation protection levels for children in cases of child abuse.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Fuhrman** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0601-2404**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 16-0601-2405:** **Jared Larsen**, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0601-2405**, a Zero-Based Regulation (ZBR) chapter rewrite to incorporate all of the foster care temporary Administrative Rules and align with Idaho Code.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0601-2405**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 16-0602-2401:** **Jared Larsen**, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0602-2401**. Temporary and pending Administrative Rules to repeal a chapter which is rewritten in **Docket No. 16-0602-2402**.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0602-2401**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 16-0602-2402:** **Jared Larsen**, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0602-2402**. This temporary and pending Administrative Rule chapter rewrite incorporates the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard (RPPS). It also lowers the foster parent minimum age to eighteen years of age to allow for situations where an older sibling might provide the best placement.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Healey** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0602-2402**.

Answering a question, **Julie Subchek**, Program Manager, Child Welfare Division, stated the requirements for firearm and ammunition storage follows the extra level of safety provided in the national model. This prevents easy access for a child who may be experiencing a mental health crisis.

**VOTE ON MOTION:** **Vice Chairman Erickson** called for a vote on the motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0602-2402**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 16-0602-2403:** **Jared Larsen**, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0602-2403**. This is a temporary and pending Administrative Rule designed to address the increase in the number of foster parents by providing previous foster parents a fast-track to re-enter the program.

Addressing committee concerns, **Julie Subchek** explained a returning family must attest they have maintained conformity, including their household, to use the fast track.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0602-2403**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 16-0101-2401:** **Jared Larsen**, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0101-2401**. In response to **H 704**, which passed in 2024, the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) chapters have been streamlined and consolidated into a single easy-access chapter.

**MOTION:** Rep. Redman made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0101-2401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 16-0102-2401:** Jared Larsen, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0102-2401**, which is a full EMS chapter repeal and consolidation into **Docket No. 16-0101-2401.**

**MOTION:** Rep. Healey made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0102-2401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 16-0105-2401:** Jared Larsen, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0105-2401**, which is a full EMS chapter repeal and consolidation into **Docket No. 16-0101-2401.**

**MOTION:** Rep. Healey made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0105-2401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 16-0107-2401:** Jared Larsen, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0107-2401**, which is a full EMS chapter repeal and consolidation into **Docket No. 16-0101-2401.**

**MOTION:** Rep. Fuhriman made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0107-2401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 16-0112-2401:** Jared Larsen, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0112-2401**, which is a full EMS chapter repeal and consolidation into **Docket No. 16-0101-2401.**

**MOTION:** Rep. Egbert made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0112-2401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 16-0201-2401:** Jared Larsen, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0201-2401**, which is a full EMS chapter repeal and consolidation into **Docket No. 16-0101-2401.**

**MOTION:** Rep. Fuhriman made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0201-2401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 16-0202-2401:** Jared Larsen, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0202-2401**, which is a full EMS chapter repeal and consolidation into **Docket No. 16-0101-2401.**

**MOTION:** Rep. Cayler made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0202-2401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Vice Chairman Erickson** turned the gavel over to **Chairman Vander Woude.**

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

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Representative Erickson  
Chair

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Irene Moore  
Secretary