

MINUTES  
**HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, January 28, 2025

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

**PLACE:** Room EW20

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Vander Woude, Vice Chairman Erickson, Representatives Healey, Redman, Wheeler, Beiswenger, Burgoyne, Cayler, Fuhriman, 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.

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

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

**RS 31996:** **Rep. John Vander Woude**, District 22, presented **RS 31996**, proposed legislation to change the Medicaid value-based payment agreement dates from January through December to Idaho's fiscal year of July 1 through June 30. This will improve the legislature's ability to review performance of the contracts. Answering a question he said the existing contracts would have a six-month carry over.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to introduce **RS 31996**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

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

**RS 32064:** **Rep. Jordan Redman**, District 3, presented **RS 32064**, creating a three-year physician license to expand the current physician bridge-year program.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Healey** made a motion to introduce **RS 32064**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Pat Kelley**, Executive Director, Your Health Idaho (YHI), presented their annual report.

With 120,000 Idahoans enrolled, YHI experienced their highest customer retention. Of the enrollees, 68% are renewals and 32% are new customers. Agents or brokers were used for 71% of the enrollments. Income sources include the assessment fee, building rent, and cash reserve interest.

Improvements include implementing an affordability calculator, enrollment counselors in community centers, and targeted campaigns to increase brand and option awareness.

Future efforts will focus on partnerships, teams, education, and continuation of the existing fiscal conservative business principles. YHI has the lowest operating costs of all state-based exchanges and one of the highest per capita enrollment rates.

Responding to questions, **Mr. Kelley** explained states without Medicaid expansion have a federal poverty level (FPL) of 100%, as opposed to Idaho's FPL of 139%. Tax credits are being utilized by 120,000 Idahoans. People leave the exchange for a variety of reasons, including Medicare eligibility and employment coverage. The United States Treasury pays the tax credits directly to the insurance companies. YHI uses three primary releases to assure their technology remains up to date, avoiding the costs and time of a large refresh.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:41 a.m.

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Representative Vander Woude  
Chair

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Irene Moore  
Secretary