

MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 30, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Raymond, Representatives Cannon, McCann, Ehlers, Garner, Nelsen, Pickett, Sauter, Miller, Beiswenger, Dygert, Leavitt, Mendive, Shirts, Mathias, Achilles

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

MOTION: **Rep. Achilles** made a motion to approve the minutes of January 22, and January 28, 2025. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 32079: **Rep. Raymond** explained **RS 32079** amends language to allow for more flexibility for veterinarians regarding to whom they choose to sell their practices and businesses.

MOTION: **Rep. Garner** made a motion to introduce **RS 32079**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 32090: **Rep. Raymond** presented **RS 32090** and explained this legislation removes an outdated provision allowing county commissioners in larger counties to designate fair boards as advisory. Repealing it ensures fair boards retain full authority, supporting Idaho's agricultural economy and preserving the tradition of county fairs.

MOTION: **Rep. Dygert** made a motion to introduce **RS 32090**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Chairman Andrus turned the gavel over to **Chairman Raymond**.

**DOCKET NO.
02-0212-2401:** **Jared Stuart**, Administrator of Agriculture Inspections at the Idaho Department of Agriculture (ISDA), presented **Docket No. 02-0212-2401** outlined the Bonded Warehouse Program's four license types: Warehouse, Commodity Dealer, Seed Buyer, and Co-op (with Washington state). The program enforces ethical practices through inspections and manages two farmer-backed indemnity funds to reimburse farmers if a licensee defaults. This rule sets licensing and annual requirements to protect farmers and ensure compliance.

MOTION: **Rep. McCann** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0212-2401**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO.
02-0214-2401:** **Mr. Stuart** presented **Docket No. 02-0214-2401** on behalf of the ISDA's Weights and Measures (W&M) Bureau, which is responsible for inspecting commercial weighing and measuring devices to ensure accuracy. These devices include fuel pumps, grocery store scales, and large livestock scales. The Bureau's primary objective is to uphold consumer confidence by verifying that customers receive the correct quantity of goods for their purchases, such as ensuring a \$40 fuel transaction dispenses the proper amount. Additionally, the Bureau investigates consumer complaints related to these devices.

MOTION: **Rep. Nelson** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0214-2401**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 02-0301-2401: **Lloyd Knight**, Deputy Director, ISDA, turned the time over to **Brian Slabaugh** who presented **Docket No. 02-0301-2401**, proposing rules for Governing Pesticide Management Plans and Groundwater Protection. Administered by ISDA's Agricultural Resources Division, the rule outlines procedures for groundwater testing and response to pesticide detections, ensuring protection from harmful pesticide levels.

MOTION: **Rep. McCann** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0301-2401**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 02-0303-2402: **Mr. Slabaugh** said **Docket No. 02-0303-2402** outlines certification and training requirements for pesticide applicators, handlers, and dealers. The program sets licensing standards, pesticide labeling protocols, and guidelines for safe handling, usage, and disposal. Its purpose is to ensure that pesticides are managed responsibly by qualified individuals, prioritizing the safety of people, animals, and the environment.

MOTION: **Rep. Mathias** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0303-2402**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 02-0501-2401: **Mr. Stuart** presented **Docket No. 02-0501-2401**, explaining this state-run inspection program enforces federal guidelines and is federally funded. It ensures food safety by conducting on-site inspections of fruit and vegetable growing, harvesting, packing, and storage processes for human consumption.

MOTION: **Rep. Achilles** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0501-2401**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 02-0602-2401: **Andrea Thompson**, Administrator of Plant Industries, ISDA, presented **Docket No. 02-0602-2401**, which includes several subchapters: Commercial Feed, Commercial Fertilizer, Soil and Plant Amendments, Nurseries and Florists, and Bee Inspection, with apiary inspections beginning in 1987. The proposed rule updates focus on Commercial Feed, Commercial Fertilizer, and Soil & Plant Amendments, which apply to registrants selling or distributing products in Idaho. The rule establishes product registration and labeling requirements while ensuring compliance with federal standards through on-site inspections. It also addresses ingredient standards, product adulteration, and label guarantees.

MOTION: **Rep. Cannon** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0501-2401**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 02-0633-2401: **Mr. Stuart** presented **Docket No. 02-0633-2401**, a state-run inspection program established in 1990 to certify and license organic food producers, vendors, and handlers. While voluntary, certification is required for those labeling products as organic. Applicants may choose between private certifiers or the ISDA organics program, both of which follow National Organic Program Regulations. This rule sets standards for organic production, labeling, certification, fees, and enforcement.

MOTION: **Rep. Mathias** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0633-2401**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Chairman Raymond turned the gavel back to **Chairman Andrus**.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Representative Raymond
Chair

Jayne Feik
Secretary