

MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, February 07, 2025

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Crane(13), Vice Chairman Scott, Representatives Palmer, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, Skaug, Alfieri, Crane(12), Boyle, Dygert, Hostetler, Mickelsen, Pohanka, Achilles, Green (Casner)

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Crane (12)

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 Crane (13) called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

MOTION: **Rep. Dygert** made a motion to approve the minutes of February 3, 2025 and February 4, 2025. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 32255: **Rep. Miller** presented **RS 32255**. This legislation declares gold and silver coin shall be legal tender in the State of Idaho. No person or entity may compel another person or entity to tender or accept gold or silver coin unless agreed upon by both parties.

MOTION: **Rep. Scott** made a motion to introduce **RS 32255**.

A committee member asked questions around anything in our current statutes that would hinder people from doing this now and why we need a bill when people can already trade this way if they want to.

**VOTE ON
MOTION:** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 32324: **Rep. Skaug** presented **RS 32324** which talks about a primary legislative responsibility as stated in the Idaho Constitution is that the "first concern of all good government is the virtue and sobriety of the people, and the purity of the home." It also states that the "legislature should further all wise and well directed efforts for the promotion of temperance and morality." The legalization and normalization of unlawful drugs is in direct conflict with the Constitutional mandate. Such legalization is detrimental to the community, to the environment, to the economy and to the health of individuals and families. Therefore, a constitutional amendment addressing these findings is hereby declared to be reasonable and necessary.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to introduce **RS 32324**.

Committee members had questions around the term 'investigational', prior FDA's definitions bill from four years ago, and the intent to move the legislation or to just get it printed.

**VOTE ON
MOTION:** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 85: **Rep. Skaug** presented **H 85** which address the initiative process to implement veto power to the Governor over any initiative legislation passed by the people.

Rep. Achilles had comments around mapping out the incremental steps that would be inserting into the process. Rep. Achilles gave a clarification of the process, can the Legislature still have the ability to amend the law, and deviating around the Supreme Courts guidance.

Dr. Jean Henscheid, League of Woman Voters of Idaho; **Ryan McGoldrick**, Conservation Voters of Idaho; **Stephen Qui**, Self; **Kathy Dawes**, Self; **Jeffrey Watkins**, Self; **spoke in opposition to H 85**.

Russ Hendricks, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation; **spoke in support of H 0085**.

Committee members had questions around how rural and urban interests are being left out of the process, how the legislation changes the voice of the rural urban voters, changing of decades of water law with negative effects on members, invalid Governor's veto power, differences between Legislature and non-elected people's veto's by the Governor, Governor's recourse when deception and lies have been discovered, and legislative staff delayed emails.

Rep. Skaug made closing comments around ownership of this legislation and not a part of any group or national play book and how it helps the State of Idaho.

MOTION:

Rep. Barbieri made a motion to send **H 85** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. He commented on the balancing between pure democracy and a representative republic.

Committee members debated against the motion around concerns the Legislature would be giving away political power in this legislation, data analysis results the majority of Idahoans would be against this legislation, good initiative processes have been passed in the State, people's fundamental rights to legislature-not equal footing, violating principals of one person, one vote, and the silencing of the Constitution.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Roll call vote was requested. **Motion failed by a tie vote of 7 AYE and 7 NAY and 1 Absent/Excused. Voting in favor of the motion: Chairman Crane (13), Reps. Scott, Palmer, Barbieri, Skaug, Alfieri, Hostetler. Voting in opposition to the motion: Reps. Holtzclaw, Boyle, Dygert, Mickelsen, Pohanka, Achilles, Casnor. Rep. Crane (12) was absent/excused.**

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:52 AM.

Representative Crane (13)
Chair

Liaza Richardson
Secretary