

MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, February 28, 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

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Green

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 for February 26, 2025. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 32581: **Rep. Skaug** presented **RS 32581**. This proposed legislature should further all 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. Palmer** made a motion to introduced **RS 32581**.

A committee member asked if this proposed legislation is addressing schedule 1 drugs.

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

RS 32574C1: **Rep. Gannon** presented **RS 32574C1**. This proposed legislation requires that applicants for buildings with roofs of more than 10,000 square feet or parking lots with more than 5,000 square feet, provide a cost/benefit analysis for solar installation as part of their construction application. The need for energy production in Idaho will only increase as data centers arrive, and Idaho's farms and rural land are being replaced by solar farms to help support them.

Committee members asked questions around additional costs in the permitting process, forcing data centers and AI centers to force their own energy, percentages of energy on site, benefit cost analysis, mandate requirements, city boundaries, giant warehouses within city limits, cost analysis estimate payments, and generating solar sales. There were discussions around free cost based analysis', the concern the application is too broad, and individuals going to solar directly.

MOTION: **Rep. Achilles** made a motion to introduce **RS 32574C1**.

**SUBSTITUTE
MOTION:** **Rep. Palmer** made a substitute motion to return **RS 32574C1** to the sponsor. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 32573: **Rep. Leavitt** presented **RS 32573**. This proposed legislation provides that a conditional use permit is required for all energy facilities and that the product of those energy facilities must first be offered to an Idaho electric supplier at Idaho market rates before making an offer to any other electric supplier that does not furnish electricity to Idaho consumers. Any conditional use permit that does not include this language is void. This will sunset on July 1, 2030.

Committee members had questions around market prices to consumers, other state examples, current process of customer needs and selling power, compliance with first rights with power, seasonality of import/export energy, and obligations to purchase due to building in Idaho.

MOTION: **Rep. Barbieri** made a motion to introduce **RS 32573**.

A committee member asked if power generation issues would come back to State Affairs

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

S 1038: **Sen. Foreman** presented **S 1038**. This legislation amends Idaho Code which states the State of Idaho shall not be compelled to engage in the enforcement of requirements or mandates issued by the World Health Organization.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to send **S 1038** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

A committee member asked if Idaho is compelled to adopt any mandates from the World Health Organization.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Scott** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

DOCKET NO. 34-0801-2401: **Robert McQuade**, Assistant Chief Deputy Idaho Secretary of State, presented the docket explaining the Secretary of State implemented a temporary and proposed rule relating to the badge required to be worn by paid signature gatherers for initiatives and referendums. The rule sets forth the badge's font, shape, color, and size requirements.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to approve Temporary **Docket No. 34-0801-2401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to approve Pending **Docket No. 34-0801-2401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 52-0103-2401: **Andrew Arulanandam**, Director of Idaho State Lottery Commission, presented the docket and explained the statute requires Lottery retailers to pay winning ticket prizes up to \$599. However, staffing challenges and increasing threats of robbery create concerns over employee safety. Retailers are often unable to pay prizes under \$600 when presented winning tickets because safety concerns necessitate keeping no more than \$100 in the cash drawer. The retail industry has offered solutions. They have requested the ability to pay lottery prizes up to \$599 with no-fee prepaid prize payment cards. Lottery Administrative Rules allow only for prize payment by cash, money order, or check. Retailers will not pay by check and money orders are obsolete. The problem cannot be solved by non-regulatory measures.

Committee members asked a question around a card that is for payment that is not a debit or credit card for the purchasing of lottery tickets, card advertisements, no fees associate with the card.

MOTION: **Chairman Crane (13)** made a motion to approve Temporary **Docket No. 52-0103-2401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

MOTION: Chairman Crane (13) made a motion to approve Pending **Docket No. 52-0103-2401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

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