

MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, March 05, 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:** 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 Crane (13) called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

MOTION: **Rep. Dygert** made a motion to approve the minutes for February 28, 2025 and March 3, 2025. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 215: **Rep. Scott** presented **H 215**. This legislation enhances transparency, streamlines the reporting process, and reduces administrative burdens on both reporting entities and the Legislature. It will improve the efficiency and accessibility of reports submitted to the Idaho Legislature by establishing a system where any agency currently required by Idaho Code to submit a report to the Legislature or its committees shall also submit the report electronically to the Legislative Services Office. The bill eliminates outdated statutory reporting requirements by amending or repealing specific provisions in Idaho Code that mandate legislative reports no longer deemed necessary.

Alex Penney, Research Analyst for the Legislative Services Office commented on the research he conducted on reporting access around what the agency is doing, public access, surveys, website, and the efficiency of easy and quick reporting.

Committee members asked questions around steps of notification, assistance to legislators, automation, distribution of reports to the committee, database word searches, and reports accessible to the public.

Rep. Scott spoke about including initial legislation, removal of reporting requirements, the process of reporting, 'Due' dates, and empowering legislators.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to send **H 215** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

A committee member asked if there were 30 other reports or bills such as these.

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

H 222: **Rep. Scott** presented **H 222** which makes administrative rules and policies more transparent for citizens. The language requires state departments and constitutional officers that currently have an online presence to publish their current administrative rules and policies online. These documents must be reviewed and updated at least annually for accuracy.

A committee member asked if there were departments without websites and how to get rules in front of the public.

MOTION: **Rep. Achilles** made a motion to send **H 222** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried voice vote.** **Rep. Scott** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Chairman Crane (13) turned the gavel over to **Vice Chair Scott**.

RS 31909: **Rep. Crane (13)** presented **RS 31909** which honors the historic heritage that prayer has played in America's rise as a new country. It outlines the traditional role both at the Federal and State level of government.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to introduce **RS 31909.** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 32552: **Rep. Crane (13)** presented **RS 32552** which states Antisemitism has grown dramatically in the last few years and has been prevalent in many parts of the country and threatened many of those of the Jewish faith. This legislation strengthens that bond and also amends Idaho Code.

A committee member had a concern around singling out any people for a special consideration when all people should be considered equal and treated well.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to introduce **RS 32552.**

Committee members had concerns around the First Amendment, prohibition against discrimination, race, sex, natural origin, how to enforce this proposed legislation, prohibitions on Antisemitism and the Human Rights Act, protection of other sexual preferences and gender identity.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Achilles** made a substitute motion to introduce **RS 32552** with the following changes on line 23 after the word sex, sexual orientation and gender identity, or.

Vice Chair Scott put the committee at ease at 9:27 AM.

Vice Chair Scott called the meeting back to order at 9:29 AM.

A member of the committee commented that this RS has ballooned and is a much larger conversation and would not support the motion.

AMENDED SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Skaug** made an amended substitute motion to return **RS 32552** to the sponsor. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:31 AM.

Representative Crane (13)
Chair

Liaza Richardson
Secretary