

MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, March 06, 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 of the March 4, 2025, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 31959: **Rep. Hawkins** presented **RS 31959**. This concerns the right to carry a firearm on certain public property in the state of Idaho. The changes proposed in this legislation concern the people's right to carry firearms on property owned by the state and its political subdivisions that is normally and habitually open to the public but is being leased, rented, or provided by contract to private people, organizations, or groups.

Committee members asked questions around Boise State's Policy on firearms, Ford Idaho Center's concert coverage, and the communication with the previous Senator who authored the proposed legislation.

MOTION: **Rep. Alfieri** made a motion to introduce **RS 31959**.

Committee members asked questions regarding how this would relate to schools and school events, College of Idaho and other university confirmation and clarification of involvement, carrying weapons into a BSU game, restrictive ability to provide security at a rented private event with alcohol.

A committee member had concerns around many fundamental questions impacting university policies on weapons in public spaces.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Achilles** requested he be recorded as voting **NAY**.

RS 32582: **Rep. Tanner (13)** presented **RS 32582**. The purpose of this legislation requires when Idaho cities reach a population greater than 100,000 inhabitants as of the last decennial census, that districts within the city shall be established, and one candidate residing in each district shall be elected to the city council. This legislation establishes that a recall petition against a city council member may be filed with the county clerk that is signed by twenty percent (20%) of registered electors that were eligible to vote in the city council member's district in the last election.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to introduce **RS 32582**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 32618: **Rep. Mickelsen** presented **RS 32618** which proposes legislators and nominees to the legislature to self-disclose any state or out-of-state travel related to legislative or governmental purposes, not paid for by themselves to promote public confidence in government and transparency.

MOTION: **Rep. Achilles** made a motion to introduce **RS 32618**.
A committee member asked a question around the removal of the cost of travel.

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

RS 32619: **Rep. Mickelsen** presented **RS 32619** which proposes statewide elected officials and nominees to self-disclose any state or out-of-state travel related to their role or governmental purposes, not paid for by themselves to promote public confidence in government and transparency.

MOTION: **Rep. Skaug** made a motion to introduce **RS 32619**.
A committee member had a concern with **RS 32619** and **RS 32618** being very similar in nature and commented they should have been placed into one bill; fearing one bill passes and not the other.

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

H 339: **Rep. Mitchell** presented **H 339** which addresses the intent of the legislature that only eligible citizens may vote in the United States of America. It is the intent of the legislature, the Secretary of State must strive to maintain the accuracy and integrity of Idaho's statewide registration system, ensure that only eligible voters are registered to vote in Idaho, and cooperate with other government entities to prevent and fight against voter fraud in the United States. This legislation requires the Secretary of State to request information from agencies and government entities to carry out the intent of the legislature.

Committee members had questions around protecting peoples data from the Chinese, additional database protection, defined processes, and new code verses existing code.

Rep. Holtzclaw declared rule 80 due to a family member lobbyist.

Phil McGrane, Secretary of State; spoke about clean voter roles, non citizen voting, vetting voters, clear agency lists to work from, and the protection of election data.

MOTION: **Rep. Dygert** made a motion to send **H 339** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Rep. Crane (12) commented on current state agencies providing information of annual reporting requirements and the verification process around no duplicate voting.

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

H 344: **Rep. Price** presented **H 344**. This legislation changes Idaho emergencies code to ensure the legislature can exercise the ability to consider a concurrent resolution to end a disaster emergency at any time.

A committee member asked a question around legislature call back sessions and followed up with a comment regarding a disaster declaration being carried out remotely rather than in person. Other committee members had questions around current ongoing declaration of emergencies in the state, ongoing declaration interferences, the Legislature tying the hands of the Governor if no quorum, emergency declaration special session call backs from the Governor, and equal power- equal standings. It was mentioned from another committee member of their experience with a disaster exceeding over 100 days.

MOTION: **Rep. Barbieri** made a motion to send **H 344** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Seth Grigg, Executive Director of Idaho Association of Counties; **Chris Corwin**, Idaho Emergency Managers Association; spoke **in opposition** of **H 344**.

Committee members wanted clarification around the obligation of the Governor to call the legislature back into session for every single type of disaster declaration, Governor's exercise of authority in an emergency, 60% thresh-hold to protect the legislative branch, definition of convening, and concern for the on going disaster relief of federal money for the people.

**ROLL CALL
VOTE:**

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

H 359:

Rep. Healey presented **H 359**. This legislation requires the disclosure of party affiliation on all election-related communications and ensures candidates, campaigns, and organizations are held to a higher standard of honesty and transparency. It does not restrict free speech or limit political participation.

MOTION:

Rep. Crane (12) made a motion to send **H 359** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Healy** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:47 AM.

Representative Crane (13)
Chair

Liaza Richardson
Secretary