

MINUTES  
**HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Friday, March 14, 2025

**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW20

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Vander Woude, Vice Chairman Erickson, Representatives Healey, Redman, Wheeler, Beiswenger, Burgoyne, Cayler, Fuhrman, Leavitt, McCann, Rasor, Thompson, Rubel, Egbert

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Vice Chairman Erickson, Representative Healey

**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.

**Rep. Redman** called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He announced **S 1052** will be moved to the top of the agenda.

**S 1052:** **Rep. Beiswenger**, District 8, and **Rep. Brian Lenney**, District 13, presented **S 1052**. This legislation aligns the bureau chiefs with division managers for improved accountability to the Health and Welfare oversight board.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to send **S 1052** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Beiswenger** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**S 1023aa,aa:** **Rep. Beiswenger**, District 8, presented **S 1023aa,aa**, the Idaho Medical Freedom Act, which applies the Coronavirus Stop Act to all medical interventions.

**Leslie Manookian**, Self, testified in support of **S 1023aa,aa**. This preserves bodily autonomy, as affirmed by multiple supreme court decisions. It would impact employment, schools, and entry into public buildings.

**Rep. Redman** turned the gavel over to **Chairman Vander Woude**.

Answering questions, **Ms. Manookian** explained this legislation addresses future scenarios based on past pandemic events. It does not restrict the protection of other students, staff, or impact school vaccination statutes. Occupational hazards are excluded.

**Quinn Perry**, Deputy Director, Idaho School Board Association, testified in opposition to **S 1023aa,aa** because it will conflict with other sections of code. It is important to know which kids are immunized so the schools can avoid and mitigate closures during an epidemic.

**Heather Gagliano**, Self, testified in opposition to **S 1023aa,aa**. Parents already have the right to choose vaccines and decide what is reported to the schools.

**Jane Withers**, Self, Registered Nurse, testified in opposition to **S 1023aa,aa**. Records are a valuable tool when outbreaks occur. If the parents are not sharing their records with the school any coordinated care is limited.

**Matthieu Carman**, Self, testified in opposition to **S 1023aa,aa**. Outbreaks of preventable diseases in schools put staff and communities at risk.

**Summer Bushnell**, Self, testified in support of **S 1023aa,aa**. This legislation seeks to correct and prevent discriminative issues like those which occurred during the pandemic.

**Sarah Clendenon**, Health Freedom Foundation, testified **in support** of **S 1023aa,aa**, explaining vaccine failures.

**Hilary Rayhill**, Nurse, testified **in opposition** to **S 1023aa,aa**. Children are often sent to school when they are sick. Parents already have the vaccination freedom.

**Noreen Womack**, General Pediatrician, Idaho Children Are Primary, testified **in opposition** to **S 1023aa,aa**. Medical interventions save lives, as reflected by the decreased cases of measles after the vaccine. Idaho has the least medical requirements of any state.

**Angela Hamblin**, School Nurse, testified **in opposition** to **S 1023aa,aa**. School requirements remind young parents to make routine medical visits for their children.

**Ron Nate**, President, Idaho Freedom Foundation, testified **in support** of **S 1023aa,aa**, which protects assaults on personal liberties without prohibiting direct vaccination mandates.

**Stephanie Nemore**, Self, testified **in opposition** to **S 1023aa,aa**. This legislation expands the Corona Virus Stop Act beyond what is necessary.

**Dr. Ryan Cole**, Clinical and Anatomic Pathologist, Chief Medical Officer, Laboratory Director, Cole Diagnostics, testified **in support** of **S 1023aa,aa**. When authorities make rules which override bodily autonomy, personal choice is eliminated.

**Rep. Beiswenger**, in closing, stated the schools have exemptions and parental rights are untouched. Personal decisions and medical rights need to be respected.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to send **S 1023aa,aa**, to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**ROLL CALL VOTE ON MOTION:** Roll call vote was requested. **Motion carried by a vote of 8 AYE, 5 NAY and 2 Absent/Excused. Voting in favor** of the motion: **Reps. Vander Woude, Redman, Beiswenger, Burgoyne, Cayler, Leavitt, Rasor, Thompson. Voting in opposition** to the motion: **Reps. Wheeler, Fuhriman, McCann, Rubel, Egbert. Reps. Erickson, Healey were absent/excused. Rep. Beiswenger** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

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Representative Vander Woude  
Chair

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Irene Moore  
Secretary