

MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, April 02, 2025
TIME: 9:00 A.M.
PLACE: Room EW40
MEMBERS: Chairman Crane(13), Vice Chairman Scott (Dotson), Representatives Palmer, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, Skaug, Alfieri, Crane(12), Boyle, Dygert, Hostetler, Mickelsen, Pohanka, Achilles, Green
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Green, Boyle
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.

H 471: **Rep. Moyle** presented **H 471**. This legislation changes the process by which highway district commissioners are elected in a countywide highway district to match the process by which county officials are elected. Specifically, it would match the process by which county commissioners are elected. Like county commissioners, countywide highway district commissioners will need to reside within the district they represent, and will be elected countywide. Also like county commissioners, they will file for nomination in the even-year May primary, and then the primary winners will run for election in the even-year General Election. The process by which county commissioners are elected is well-understood and ensures that countywide commissioners are elected on the broadest possible basis.

John Evans, Garden City Mayor; **Miranda Gold**, President of Ada County Highway District Commission (ACHD); **Devin McComas**, Executive Director of Boise Bicycle Project & Transportation Nonprofit for the City of Boise; **Beth Norton**, Self; **Robert Elliot**, Self; **Ryan Head**, Director of ACHD District; **Trevor Caughlin**, Self; **Nina Peinaar**, Boise Bicycle Project; **David Guiotto**, Safe Routes To School Program; Self; **Marisa Stephens Keith**, Self; **Lisa Hecht**, Self; **Becky Walker**, Self; spoke **in opposition** of the bill.

Mark Johnson; Self; **Daniel Murphy**, Self; **Doug Taylor**, Meridian City Council Member; spoke **in support** of the bill.

A committee member asked a question of **John Evans** regarding partisan elections being apart of ACHD. **Chairman Crane (13)** commented to **Devin McComas** around being in order with the public process.

Committee members asked questions of the following: **Beth Norton**, partisan election process, **Robert Elliot**, current partisanship and its operation, **Ryan Head**, current partisanship, what part of the county do the 5 commissioners reside, how does out of state dark money affect the race and why the concern verses other larger issues with the state, where each of the 5 commissioners live within the 5 districts, ACHD sufficient to the voters and the process to be walked through. **Chairman Crane (13)** asked for questions to be redirected to the legislation.

Committee members asked questions of the following: **Ryan Head**, how long in his current position of Director and priorities, **Trevor Caughlin**, losing local control, current county commissioners in Ada County, losing local control by having county commissioners, **David Guiotto**, is one party more equipped or has a better agenda around transportation, **Doug Taylor**, representation of independent candidates, influence of voting for everyone on the commission verses just one person in the district, requirements for all members of the commission to respond to all the members of the county, and concerns about local representation to address the peoples concerns.

Rep. Moyer commented that the bill creates better accountability, better representation within the district and will create more public input and more involvement. It will also give citizens more control for an honest race.

MOTION: **Rep. Palmer** made a motion to send **H 471** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Committee members had concerns about setting up a similar structure as the City Council District, out of state money issues, and a partisanship commission - one to restrict vehicles and other to promote commerce and cars.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON MOTION: **Rep. Achilles** requested a roll call vote on **H 471**. **Motion carried by a vote of 12 AYE, 1 NAY, and 2 Absent/Excused.** **Voting in favor** of the motion: **Reps. Crane (13), Dotson, Palmer, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, Skaug, Alfieri, Crane (12), Dygert, Hostetler, Mickelsen, Pohanka.** **Voting in opposition** to the motion: **Rep. Achilles.** **Reps. Boyle and Green were absent/excused.** **Rep. Palmer** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 472: **Rep. Beiswanger** presented **H 472**. This legislation relates to the Idaho Medical Freedom Act. It amends the heading to revise provisions regarding prohibited medical mandates. It renames and modifies the Coronavirus Stop Act. This legislation also refers to the sections of Idaho Code that already allow schools to send sick children home and points out how this legislation does nothing to affect these existing provisions of code.

MOTION: **Rep. Hostetler** made a motion to send **H 472** to the floor will a **DO PASS** recommendation.

A member of the committee asked the question, what does, 'shall not refuse' means on Page 2, Line 30 and 31 and individual responsibilities.

A member of the committee had concerns around specific vaccines and shot legislation, requesting of personal medical freedoms for people while businesses bare the burden of those choices.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Mickelsen** and **Achilles** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY.** **Rep. Beiswanger** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:56 AM.

Representative Crane (13)
Chair

Liaza Richardson
Secretary