

# SENATE JOURNAL

OF THE

## IDAHO LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
SIXTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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**TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATIVE DAY**  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

Senate Chamber

President Bedke called the Senate to order at 11 a.m.

Roll call showed all members present except Senator Woodward, absent and formally excused by the Chair.

Prayer was offered by Chaplain Doug Armstrong.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Marley Johnson, Page.

The Senate advanced to the Third Order of Business.

### Reading and Correction of the Journal

The JUDICIARY AND RULES Committee reports that the Senate Journal of the proceedings of February 3, 2026, was read and approved as corrected.

LAKEY, Chairman

There being no objection, the report was adopted and ordered filed in the office of the Secretary of the Senate.

On request by Senator Den Hartog, granted by unanimous consent, the Senate advanced to the Sixth Order of Business.

### Reports of Standing Committees

February 4, 2026

The JUDICIARY AND RULES Committee reports that [S 1248](#), [S 1249](#), [S 1250](#), and [S 1251](#) have been correctly printed.

LAKEY, Chairman

[S 1248](#), [S 1249](#), [S 1250](#), and [S 1251](#) were referred to the Judiciary and Rules Committee.

February 3, 2026

The COMMERCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES Committee reports it has had under consideration the Gubernatorial appointments listed below and the Committee recommends that said appointments be confirmed by the Senate:

Brett Thomas to the Idaho Health Insurance Exchange Board, term to expire April 10, 2029;

Dr. Karen Cabell to the Idaho Health Insurance Exchange Board, term to expire April 10, 2029;

Erika Malmen to the Idaho Personnel Commission, term to expire July 1, 2029.

FOREMAN, Chairman

The Gubernatorial appointments were referred to the Tenth Order of Business, Motions and Resolutions, and ordered held at the Secretary's desk for one legislative day.

On request by Senator Den Hartog, granted by unanimous consent, the Senate advanced to the Ninth Order of Business.

### Messages from the House

February 3, 2026

Dear Mr. President:

I transmit herewith [H 559](#), which has passed the House.

VORE, Acting Chief Clerk

[H 559](#) was filed for first reading.

The Senate advanced to the Tenth Order of Business.

### Motions and Resolutions

The President announced that the State Affairs Committee report relative to the Gubernatorial appointment of David Dean was before the Senate for final consideration, the question being, "Shall the report be adopted?"

On motion by Senator Adams, seconded by Senator Ruchti, the Gubernatorial appointment of David Dean as a member of the Idaho Endowment Fund Investment Board was confirmed by voice vote.

The President declared the report adopted and directed the Secretary of the Senate to prepare a letter of the Gubernatorial appointment confirmation for his signature, attested to by the Secretary, to be transmitted to the Governor informing him of the action of the Senate.

The President announced that the Judiciary and Rules Committee report relative to the Gubernatorial appointment of Amy Anderson was before the Senate for final consideration, the question being, "Shall the report be adopted?"

On motion by Senator Foreman, seconded by Senator Ward-Engelking, the Gubernatorial appointment of Amy Anderson as a member of the Commission of Pardons and Parole was confirmed by voice vote.

The President declared the report adopted and directed the Secretary of the Senate to prepare a letter of the Gubernatorial appointment confirmation for his signature, attested to by the Secretary, to be transmitted to the Governor informing him of the action of the Senate.

On request by Senator Den Hartog, granted by unanimous consent, [SCR 116](#) retained its place on the calendar for one legislative day.

The President announced that [SCR 117](#) was before the Senate for final consideration, the question being, "Shall the resolution be adopted?"

On motion by Senator Harris, seconded by Senator Taylor, [SCR 117](#) was adopted by voice vote, title was approved, and the resolution ordered transmitted to the House.

The President announced that [SCR 118](#) was before the Senate for final consideration, the question being, "Shall the resolution be adopted?"

On motion by President Pro Tempore Anthon, seconded by Senator Semmelroth, that [SCR 118](#) be adopted.

Pursuant to Senate Rule 39(C), a roll call vote was requested by President Pro Tempore Anthon, and was supported by Senators Den Hartog and Harris.

Roll call resulted as follows:

AYES—Adams, Anthon, Bernt, Bjerke, Blaylock, Burtenshaw, Carlson, Cook, Den Hartog, Foreman, Galloway, Grow, Guthrie, Harris, Hart, Keyser, Lakey, Lenney, Lent, Nichols, Okuniewicz, Rabe, Ricks, Ruchti, Semmelroth, Shippy, Taylor, Toews (Toews), VanOrden, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow. Total - 31.

NAYS—Kohl, Zito, Zuiderveld. Total - 3.

Absent and excused—Woodward. Total - 1.

Total - 35.

Whereupon the President declared [SCR 118](#) adopted, title was approved, and the resolution ordered transmitted to the House.

The President announced that [SCR 119](#) was before the Senate for final consideration, the question being, "Shall the resolution be adopted?"

On motion by Senator Blaylock, seconded by Senator Ward-Engelking, [SCR 119](#) was adopted by voice vote, title was approved, and the resolution ordered transmitted to the House.

On request by Senator Den Hartog, granted by unanimous consent, the Senate advanced to the Eleventh Order of Business.

**Introduction, First Reading, and Reference of Bills,  
House Petitions, Resolutions, and Memorials**

**S 1252**

**BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TAXATION  
COMMITTEE**

AN ACT

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS; AMENDING CHAPTER 35, TITLE 67, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 67-3537, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE A SHORT TITLE AND TO PROVIDE FOR A LIMITATION ON INCREASES IN STATE BUDGETS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**S 1253**

**BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE**

AN ACT

RELATING TO RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION; AMENDING TITLE 56, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW CHAPTER 25, TITLE 56, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH THE IDAHO RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION FUND AND TO ESTABLISH THE RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**S 1254**

**BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE**

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE CHIROPRACTIC PRACTICE ACT; PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE INTENT; AMENDING SECTION 54-716, IDAHO CODE, REGARDING THE PRESCRIBING OF CERTAIN PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCTS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**S 1255**

**BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE**

AN ACT

RELATING TO HOSPITALIZATION OF MENTALLY ILL; AMENDING SECTION 66-326, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING DETENTION WITHOUT HEARING; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**S 1256**

**BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE**

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED; PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE INTENT; REPEALING SECTION 67-5414, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO REPORTS OF MEDICAL AUTHORITIES ESTABLISHING BLINDNESS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**S 1257**

**BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE**

AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILD PROTECTION; AMENDING SECTION 16-1602, IDAHO CODE, TO DEFINE A TERM; AMENDING SECTION 16-2005, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH TERMINATION MAY BE GRANTED; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

[S 1252](#), [S 1253](#), [S 1254](#), [S 1255](#), [S 1256](#), and [S 1257](#) were introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the Judiciary and Rules Committee for printing.

[H 559](#), by Revenue and Taxation Committee, was introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the Local Government and Taxation Committee.

The Senate advanced to the Twelfth Order of Business.

**Second Reading of Bills**

On request by Senator Nichols, granted by unanimous consent, [S 1232](#) was referred to the Fourteenth Order of Business, General Calendar.

[S 1233](#), by Judiciary and Rules Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

On request by Senator Den Hartog, granted by unanimous consent, the Senate advanced to the Fifteenth Order of Business.

**Miscellaneous Business**

On motion by Senator Den Hartog, seconded by Senator Wintrow, by voice vote, the Senate adjourned at 11:39 a.m. until the hour of 11 a.m., Thursday, February 5, 2026.

SCOTT BEDKE, President

Attest: JENNIFER NOVAK, Secretary