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OF THE

IDAHO LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
SIXTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATIVE DAY
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

Senate Chamber

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

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

Prayer was offered by Chaplain Doug Armstrong.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kristian Fusco, 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 18, 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 19, 2026

The JUDICIARY AND RULES Committee reports that [SCR 120](#), [S 1318](#), [S 1319](#), [S 1320](#), [S 1321](#), [S 1322](#), [S 1323](#), [S 1324](#), [S 1325](#), [S 1326](#), [S 1327](#), and [S 1328](#) have been correctly printed.

LAKEY, Chairman

[SCR 120](#) was referred to the Tenth Order of Business, Motions and Resolutions, and ordered held at the Secretary's desk for one legislative day.

[S 1318](#) was referred to the State Affairs Committee.

[S 1319](#) was referred to the Commerce and Human Resources Committee.

[S 1320](#), [S 1321](#), [S 1322](#), [S 1323](#), and [S 1324](#) were referred to the State Affairs Committee.

[S 1325](#) was referred to the Transportation Committee.

[S 1326](#) and [S 1327](#) were referred to the State Affairs Committee.

[S 1328](#) was referred to the Resources and Environment Committee.

February 18, 2026

The JUDICIARY AND RULES Committee reports that Enrolled [S 1225](#), as amended, was delivered to the Office of the Governor at 3:15 p.m., February 18, 2026.

LAKEY, Chairman

The report was ordered filed in the office of the Secretary of the Senate.

February 18, 2026

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

David Bobbitt to the Idaho Fish and Game Commission, term to expire June 30, 2029.

BURTENSHAW, Chairman

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

February 18, 2026

The HEALTH AND WELFARE Committee reports out [H 526](#) with the recommendation that it do pass.

VANORDEN, Chair

[H 526](#) was filed for second reading.

February 18, 2026

The HEALTH AND WELFARE Committee reports out [H 494](#) with the recommendation that it be referred to the Fourteenth Order of Business for amendment.

VANORDEN, Chair

There being no objection, [H 494](#) was referred to the Fourteenth Order of Business, General Calendar.

February 18, 2026

The EDUCATION Committee reports out [H 531](#), [H 624](#), and [S 1288](#) with the recommendation that they do pass.

LENT, Chairman

[H 531](#), [H 624](#), and [S 1288](#) were filed for second reading.

February 18, 2026

The JUDICIARY AND RULES Committee reports out [H 518](#) and [S 1257](#) with the recommendation that they do pass.

LAKEY, Chairman

[H 518](#) and [S 1257](#) were filed for second reading.

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

Messages from the Governor

February 17, 2026

The Honorable Scott Bedke
President of the Senate
Idaho State Senate

Dear Mr. President:

I have the honor to inform you that Brian Marx of Boise, Idaho, was reappointed to the Sexual Offender Management Board to serve a term commencing January 1, 2026, and expiring January 1, 2029.

This reappointment is subject to confirmation by the Senate, and notice of reappointment is hereby given.

Sincerely,
/s/ Brad Little
Governor

The correspondence was ordered filed in the office of the Secretary of the Senate.

The Gubernatorial reappointment was referred to the Judiciary and Rules Committee.

The Senate advanced to the Ninth Order of Business.

Messages from the House

February 18, 2026

Dear Mr. President:

I transmit herewith [H 501](#), [H 558](#), [H 608](#), and [H 636](#), which have passed the House.

VORE, Acting Chief Clerk

[H 501](#), [H 558](#), [H 608](#), and [H 636](#) were filed for first reading.

February 18, 2026

Dear Mr. President:

I transmit herewith Enrolled [HJM 9](#) and [HJM 11](#) for the signature of the President.

VORE, Acting Chief Clerk

The President signed Enrolled [HJM 9](#) and [HJM 11](#) and ordered them returned 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 1329

BY JUDICIARY AND RULES COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO WEIGHTS AND MEASURES; AMENDING SECTION 71-234, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR CASH ROUNDING; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

S 1330

BY JUDICIARY AND RULES COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE SMALL CLAIMS DEPARTMENT OF THE MAGISTRATE DIVISION; AMENDING SECTION 1-2301, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE A PROVISION REGARDING THE SCOPE OF A CLAIM; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

[S 1329](#) and [S 1330](#) were introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the Judiciary and Rules Committee for printing.

[H 501](#), by State Affairs Committee, was introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the State Affairs Committee.

[H 558](#), by Health and Welfare Committee, was introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the Health and Welfare Committee.

[H 608](#) and [H 636](#), by Education Committee, were introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the Education Committee.

The Senate advanced to the Twelfth Order of Business.

Second Reading of Bills

[S 1276](#), by Commerce and Human Resources Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[S 1291](#), by Education Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[S 1292](#) and [S 1293](#), by Health and Welfare Committee, were read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[H 613](#), by State Affairs Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

The Senate advanced to the Thirteenth Order of Business.

Third Reading of Bills

[S 1232](#), as amended, was read the third time at length, section by section, and placed before the Senate for final consideration. Senator Nichols arose as sponsor of the bill and opened the debate. The question being, "Shall the bill pass?"

Roll call resulted as follows:

AYES—Adams, Bernt, Bjerke, Blaylock, Burtenshaw, Carlson, Cook, Den Hartog, Foreman, Galloway, Grow, Guthrie, Harris, Hart, Hawkins (Anthon), Keyser, Kohl, Lenney, Merrell (Lakey), Nichols, Okuniewicz, Rabe, Ricks, Ruchti, Semmelroth, Shippy, Taylor, Toews, VanOrden, Wintrow, Woodward, Zito, Zuiderveld. Total - 33.

NAYS—None.

Absent and excused—Lent, Ward-Engelking. Total - 2.

Total - 35.

Whereupon the President declared [S 1232](#), as amended, passed, title was approved, and the bill ordered transmitted to the House.

[S 1250](#) was read the third time at length, section by section, and placed before the Senate for final consideration. Senator Wintrow arose as sponsor of the bill and opened the debate. The question being, "Shall the bill pass?"

Roll call resulted as follows:

AYES—Adams, Bernt, Bjerke, Blaylock, Burtenshaw, Carlson, Cook, Den Hartog, Foreman, Galloway, Grow, Guthrie, Harris, Hart, Hawkins (Anthon), Keyser, Kohl, Lenney, Merrell (Lakey), Nichols, Okuniewicz, Rabe, Ricks, Ruchti, Semmelroth, Shippy, Taylor, Toews, VanOrden, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow, Woodward, Zito, Zuiderveld. Total - 34.

NAYS—None.

Absent and excused—Lent. Total - 1.

Total - 35.

Whereupon the President declared [S 1250](#) passed, title was approved, and the bill ordered transmitted to the House.

[S 1236](#) was read the third time at length, section by section, and placed before the Senate for final consideration. Senator Lenney arose as sponsor of the bill and opened the debate. The question being, "Shall the bill pass?"

Roll call resulted as follows:

AYES—Adams, Bernt, Bjerke, Blaylock, Burtenshaw, Carlson, Cook, Den Hartog, Foreman, Galloway, Grow, Guthrie, Harris, Hart, Hawkins (Anthon), Keyser, Kohl, Lenney, Merrell (Lakey), Nichols, Okuniewicz, Ricks, Semmelroth, Shippy, Toews, VanOrden, Woodward, Zito, Zuiderveld. Total - 29.

NAYS—Rabe, Ruchti, Taylor, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow. Total - 5.

Absent and excused—Lent. Total - 1.

Total - 35.

Whereupon the President declared [S 1236](#) passed, title was approved, and the bill ordered transmitted to the House.

[S 1247](#) was read the third time at length, section by section, and placed before the Senate for final consideration. Senator Harris arose as sponsor of the bill and opened the debate. The question being, "Shall the bill pass?"

Roll call resulted as follows:

AYES—Bernt, Blaylock, Burtenshaw, Carlson, Cook, Foreman, Galloway, Grow, Guthrie, Harris, Hart, Hawkins (Anthon), Keyser, Kohl, Lenney, Merrell (Lakey), Nichols, Ricks, Ruchti, Semmelroth, Taylor, VanOrden, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow, Woodward, Zito, Zuiderveld. Total - 27.

NAYS—Adams, Bjerke, Den Hartog, Okuniewicz, Rabe, Shippy, Toews. Total - 7.

Absent and excused—Lent. Total - 1.

Total - 35.

Whereupon the President declared [S 1247](#) passed, title was approved, and the bill ordered transmitted to the House.

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 12:05 p.m. until the hour of 11 a.m., Friday, February 20, 2026.

SCOTT BEDKE, President

Attest: JENNIFER NOVAK, Secretary