

# SENATE JOURNAL

OF THE

## IDAHO LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
SIXTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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SIXTY-FIRST LEGISLATIVE DAY  
FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026

Senate Chamber

President Pro Tempore Anthon called the Senate to order at 10:30 a.m.

Roll call showed all members present except Senator Toews, absent and excused.

Prayer was offered by Senator Galloway.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Olivia Earle, 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 March 12, 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

March 13, 2026

The JUDICIARY AND RULES Committee reports that [S 1227](#), as amended in the House, has been correctly engrossed.

LAKEY, Chairman

[S 1227](#), as amended in the House, was filed for first reading.

March 13, 2026

The JUDICIARY AND RULES Committee reports that [S 1261](#), [S 1232](#), as amended, [S 1226](#), [S 1239](#), [S 1240](#), [S 1291](#), [S 1273](#), [S 1274](#), [S 1275](#), [S 1276](#), [S 1363](#), [SCR 116](#), [SCR 117](#), and [SCR 118](#) have been correctly enrolled.

LAKEY, Chairman

The President Pro Tempore signed Enrolled [S 1261](#), [S 1232](#), as amended, [S 1226](#), [S 1239](#), [S 1240](#), [S 1291](#), [S 1273](#), [S 1274](#), [S 1275](#), [S 1276](#), [S 1363](#), [SCR 116](#), [SCR 117](#), and [SCR 118](#) and ordered them transmitted to the House for the signature of the Speaker.

March 12, 2026

The JUDICIARY AND RULES Committee reports that Enrolled [S 1314](#) was delivered to the Office of the Governor at 4:55 p.m., March 12, 2026.

LAKEY, Chairman

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

March 12, 2026

The HEALTH AND WELFARE Committee reports out [H 593](#), [H 714](#), and [H 724](#) with the recommendation that they do pass.

VANORDEN, Chair

[H 593](#), [H 714](#), and [H 724](#) were filed for second reading.

March 12, 2026

The HEALTH AND WELFARE Committee reports out [H 788](#) with the recommendation that it be referred to the Fourteenth Order of Business for amendment.

VANORDEN, Chair

There being no objection, [H 788](#) was referred to the Fourteenth Order of Business, General Calendar.

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

### Messages from the Governor

March 12, 2026

The Honorable Scott Bedke  
President of the Senate  
Idaho State Senate

Dear Mr. President:

I have the honor to inform you that Nikeela Black-Abrams of Caldwell, Idaho, was reappointed to the Idaho State Racing Commission to serve a term commencing November 22, 2025, and expiring November 22, 2031.

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 State Affairs Committee.

March 12, 2026

The Honorable Scott Bedke  
President of the Senate  
Idaho State Senate

Dear Mr. President:

I have the honor to inform you that Bud Tracy of Malta, Idaho, was reappointed to the State Building Authority to serve a term commencing January 1, 2026, and expiring January 1, 2031.

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 State Affairs Committee.

The Senate advanced to the Ninth Order of Business.

#### Messages from the House

March 12, 2026

Dear Mr. President:

I transmit herewith [H 773](#), [H 775](#), [H 787](#), [H 790](#), [H 758](#), [H 798](#), [H 799](#), [H 831](#), [H 863](#), [H 823](#), [H 730](#), [H 722](#), and [H 792](#), which have passed the House.

MCGINNIS, Chief Clerk

[H 773](#), [H 775](#), [H 787](#), [H 790](#), [H 758](#), [H 798](#), [H 799](#), [H 831](#), [H 863](#), [H 823](#), [H 730](#), [H 722](#), and [H 792](#) were filed for first reading.

March 12, 2026

Dear Mr. President:

I return herewith [S 1361](#), which has passed the House.

MCGINNIS, Chief Clerk

[S 1361](#) was referred to the Judiciary and Rules Committee for enrolling.

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 1227](#), as amended in the House, by Education Committee, was read the first time at length and filed for second reading.

[H 773](#), by Ways and Means Committee, was introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the Commerce and Human Resources Committee.

[H 775](#), by Ways and Means Committee, was introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the Judiciary and Rules Committee.

[H 787](#), by Health and Welfare Committee, was introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the Commerce and Human Resources Committee.

[H 790](#), by Ways and Means Committee, was introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the Commerce and Human Resources Committee.

[H 758](#), by Health and Welfare Committee, was introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the Health and Welfare Committee.

[H 798](#), [H 799](#), and [H 831](#), by State Affairs Committee, were introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the State Affairs Committee.

[H 863](#), by Health and Welfare Committee, was introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the Health and Welfare Committee.

[H 823](#), by Ways and Means Committee, was introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the Local Government and Taxation Committee.

[H 730](#), by Health and Welfare Committee, was introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the Health and Welfare Committee.

[H 722](#), by Revenue and Taxation Committee, was introduced, read the first time at length, and referred to the Local Government and Taxation Committee.

[H 792](#), by Ways and Means 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

[H 848](#), by Appropriations Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[S 1380](#), [S 1381](#), [S 1382](#), [S 1383](#), [S 1384](#), and [S 1385](#), by Finance Committee, were read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[H 521](#), [H 615](#), [H 684](#), and [H 695](#), by Judiciary, Rules and Administration Committee, were read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[S 1369](#), by Judiciary and Rules Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[H 566](#), [H 568](#), and [H 678](#), by Resources and Conservation Committee, were read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[H 774](#), by Ways and Means Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[H 762](#), by Education Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[S 1358](#), by State Affairs Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[H 661](#) and [H 715](#), by Local Government Committee, were read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[H 733](#), by Revenue and Taxation Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[H 749](#), by Ways and Means Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[H 662](#), by Agricultural Affairs Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[S 1386](#), by Finance Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[H 847](#), by Appropriations Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[H 664](#) and [H 716](#), by Transportation and Defense Committee, were read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[H 742](#), by Ways and Means Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[S 1379](#), by Judiciary and Rules Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[H 658](#), by Local Government Committee, was read the second time at length and filed for third reading.

[H 734](#), by Revenue and Taxation 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 Fourteenth Order of Business.

### General Calendar

The President Pro Tempore declared the Senate resolved into the Committee of the Whole and called Senator Harris to the Chair to preside during the sitting of the Committee of the Whole.

Following the adjournment of the Committee of the Whole, the President Pro Tempore called the Senate to order.

### Report of the Committee of the Whole

Senator Harris, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, reported out [H 494](#), [S 1294](#), [S 1299](#), [H 728](#), [H 703](#), [S 1335](#), [S 1330](#), [S 1359](#), and [S 1348](#), without recommendation, amended as follows:

#### SENATE AMENDMENT TO H 494

##### AMENDMENT TO SECTION 3

On page 4 of the printed bill, delete lines 12 through 26, and insert:

"32-1805. TEMPORARY CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS. (1) A For a temporary care assistance program, the department of health and welfare shall check against the state's sex offender registry operated by the Idaho state police and against the national sex offender public website operated by the United States department of justice that checks names and addresses in the registries before allowing someone to become a temporary caregiver within the program's service. The process must include a criminal history and background check conducted by the department of health and welfare ~~comparable to the background check processed for foster parents. The background check shall be fingerprint-based, requiring that the fingerprints of temporary caregivers be submitted to the federal bureau of investigation and the Idaho state police bureau of criminal identification to complete a national criminal history background check, pursuant to chapter 25, title 56, Idaho Code, which shall be conducted in the same manner as background checks for foster parents. The background check shall be fingerprint-based and shall require that the fingerprints of temporary caregivers be submitted to the Idaho state police to process the background check through the state criminal history repository and the federal bureau of investigation for a national criminal history search. The department of health and welfare shall not charge a fee for background checks required by this section.~~"

#### SENATE AMENDMENT TO S 1294

##### AMENDMENT TO SECTION 1

On page 1 of the printed bill, in line 15, following "loss" insert: "or is referred to a hearing screening facility to be screened for hearing loss"; and delete lines 21 through 23, and insert:

"(3) The screening facility or provider shall report the results of all failed hearing screenings to the IESDB within

seven (7) days and all other results monthly to ensure appropriate follow-up and early intervention."

#### SENATE AMENDMENT TO S 1299

##### AMENDMENT TO SECTION 1

On page 1 of the printed bill, delete lines 31 through 33; and delete lines 39 through 41.

On page 2, delete lines 1 through 13, and insert:

"(5)(a) The attorney general shall have the authority to enforce the provisions of this section. Before filing an action for injunctive relief, the attorney general shall provide written notice of the alleged violation and allow the public entity fifteen (15) days to cure the violation.

(b) If the violation is not cured within fifteen (15) days, the attorney general may bring an action in district court to enjoin the public entity from violating the provisions of this section.

(6) Any person aggrieved by a violation of this section may bring an action in district court for declaratory or injunctive relief.

(7) A court issuing an order pursuant to this section may enforce such order through the court's contempt authority as provided by law.

(8) A prevailing plaintiff in an action brought pursuant to this section shall be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

(9) No public employee shall be personally liable for actions taken within the employee's scope of employment."

#### SENATE AMENDMENT TO H 728

##### AMENDMENT TO SECTION 1

On page 1 of the printed bill, in line 31, following "employment," insert: "or"; delete lines 32 through 34; and in line 35, delete "(c)" and insert: "(b)".

On page 3, following line 28, insert:

"(17) "Instructional support staff" means those who hold an Idaho certificate issued pursuant to section 33-1201, Idaho Code, whose primary employment involves supporting instructional staff, pupil service staff, or administrators with instruction-related services. This includes mentoring, curriculum coaching, or other instruction support positions."; in line 29, delete "(17)" and insert: "(18)"; in line 32, delete "(18)" and insert: "(19)"; and in line 38, delete "(19)" and insert: "(20)".

On page 4, in line 22, delete "(20)" and insert: "(21)"; in line 29, delete "(21)" and insert: "(22)"; and in line 31, delete "(22)" and insert: "(23)".

On page 5, in line 4, delete "(23)" and insert: "(24)"; in line 7, delete "(24)" and insert: "(25)"; in line 11, delete "(25)" and insert: "(26)"; in line 13, delete "(26)" and insert: "(27)"; in line 16, delete "(27)" and insert: "(28)"; in line 18, delete "(28)" and insert: "(29)"; in line 25, delete "(29)" and insert: "(30)"; in line 31, delete "(30)" and insert: "(31)"; in line 35, delete "(31)" and insert: "(32)"; in line 42, delete "(32)" and insert: "(33)"; and in line 46, delete "(33)" and insert: "(34)".

On page 6, in line 17, delete "(34)" and insert: "(35)"; in line 21, delete "(35)" and insert: "(36)"; and in line 24, delete "(36)" and insert: "(37)".

#### SENATE AMENDMENT TO H 703

##### AMENDMENT TO THE BILL

On page 8 of the printed bill, following line 25, insert: "SECTION 5. That Section 54-1220, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

54-1220. DISCIPLINARY ACTION – PROCEDURES. (1) ~~Any affected party may prefer charges of fraud, deceit, gross negligence, incompetence, misconduct~~

~~or violation of any provision of this chapter, or violation of any of the rules promulgated by the board, against any individual licensee or certificate holder or against any business entity holding a certificate of authorization or against a person applying for a license or against a business entity applying for a certificate of authorization. Repeated acts of negligence may be considered as a gross act for disciplinary action. Such charges shall be in writing and shall be sworn to by the person or persons making them and shall be filed with the executive director of the board. The executive director of the board shall be considered an affected party and may be the person making and filing the charges.~~

~~(2) All charges, unless dismissed by the board as unfounded or de minimis, or unless settled informally, shall be heard by the board within six (6) months after the date they were received at the board office unless such time is extended by the board for justifiable cause.~~

~~(3) Administrative proceedings shall be governed by the provisions of chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code.~~

~~(4) (1) If, after After an administrative hearing, the board votes in favor of sustaining the charges, the board may, in its discretion, impose an administrative penalty, not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for deposit in the general fund of the state of Idaho. In addition, the board, in its discretion, may admonish, reprimand, suspend, revoke, refuse to renew, refuse to grant, or any combination thereof, the individual's license or certificate or a business entity's certificate of authorization. The board may also, in its discretion, require the an individual to practice under the supervision of another licensee or require the individual to successfully complete continuing education courses as may be prescribed by the board.~~

~~(5) (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (4) (1) of this section, any person who has violated the recordkeeping or continuing professional development requirements imposed by the rules of the board may, in lieu of disciplinary proceedings under this chapter or chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code, elect to pay the board a penalty in the amount of four hundred dollars (\$400) for a first-time violation. Upon successful completion of the recordkeeping or continuing professional development requirements and payment of the penalty, the violation shall not be considered disciplinary action under the provisions of this section and shall not be reported to any national disciplinary database.~~

~~(6) The board shall have jurisdiction over licensees and certificate holders whose licenses and certificates are not current, provided the action relates to services performed when the license was current and valid.";~~

and renumber subsequent sections accordingly.

On page 40, delete lines 3 and 4.

#### CORRECTION TO TITLE

On page 1, in line 10, following "SURVEYORS;" insert: "AMENDING SECTION 54-1220, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AND PROCEDURES;"

On page 2, in line 28, delete "REPEALING SECTION 54-1220, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO DISCI-"; and in line 29, delete "PLINARY ACTIONS AND PROCEDURES;"

#### SENATE AMENDMENT TO S 1335

##### AMENDMENT TO SECTION 1

On page 1 of the printed bill, in line 25, delete "2027" and insert: "2027-2028"; and in line 30, following "practice" insert: "during the four (4) years of full-time professional practice".

On page 2, in line 40, delete "human".

On page 3, in line 6, following "medicine" insert: "or licensed veterinarians who practice veterinary medicine".

#### SENATE AMENDMENT TO S 1330

##### AMENDMENT TO THE BILL

On page 1 of the printed bill, following line 21, insert: "SECTION 2. That Section 1-2311, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

1-2311. APPEAL TO LAWYER MAGISTRATE. If either party is dissatisfied, he may, within thirty (30) days from the entry of said judgment against him, appeal to a lawyer magistrate other than the magistrate who entered said judgment; and if the final judgment is rendered against him by such lawyer magistrate, then he shall pay, in addition to any judgment rendered in the magistrate's division, an attorney's fee to the prevailing party ~~in the sum of twenty five dollars (\$25.00) as provided in section 12-120(6), Idaho Code, provided, however, that appeals from such small claims department shall be allowed only in such cases as appeals would be allowed if the action were instituted in the magistrate's division as is now provided, and further provided that the appeal shall be heard in the county wherein the original small claim was filed. A fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) shall be paid by the party taking the appeal, which shall be paid to the county treasurer who shall, within fifteen (15) days after the end of the month, pay such fees to the state treasurer for deposit into the court technology fund.";~~ and in line 22, delete "2" and insert: "3".

#### CORRECTION TO TITLE

On page 1, in line 4, following "CLAIM;" insert: "AMENDING SECTION 1-2311, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE A PROVISION REGARDING ATTORNEY'S FEES;"

#### SENATE AMENDMENT TO S 1359

##### AMENDMENT TO SECTION 1

On page 6 of the printed bill, in line 14, delete "kiosks affiliated with such opera-"; and delete lines 15 through 17, and insert: "affiliated kiosks.".

#### SENATE AMENDMENT TO S 1348

##### AMENDMENT TO SECTION 1

On page 1 of the printed bill, in line 30, delete "in" and insert: "adjacent to".

On page 2, in line 10, delete "in" and insert: "on Idaho fish and game lands adjacent to"; and in line 28, delete "within" and insert: "on Idaho fish and game lands adjacent to".

On page 3, in line 6, delete "in" and insert: "on Idaho fish and game lands adjacent to"; and in line 16, delete "Farragut".

The Committee also has [H 613](#), [H 526](#), [S 1297](#), [S 1346](#), [S 1355](#), [S 1352](#), [S 1353](#), [S 1354](#), [H 629](#), [H 825](#), and [H 670](#) under consideration, reports progress, and begs leave to sit again.

HARRIS, Chairman

On motion by Senator Harris, seconded by Senator Wintrow, the report was adopted by voice vote.

[S 1294](#), as amended, [S 1299](#), as amended, [S 1335](#), as amended, [S 1330](#), as amended, [S 1359](#), as amended, and [S 1348](#), as amended, were referred to the Judiciary and Rules Committee for engrossing and the amendments thereto were referred to the Judiciary and Rules Committee for printing.

[H 494](#), as amended in the Senate, [H 728](#), as amended in the Senate, and [H 703](#), as amended in the Senate, were filed for first

reading as amended, and the amendments thereto were referred to the Judiciary and Rules Committee for printing.

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

### **Third Reading of Bills**

Senator Zito called for [H 745](#) to be reported forthwith from the Commerce and Human Resources Committee, pursuant to Senate Rule 14(E).

Moved by Senator Foreman, seconded by Senator Den Hartog, that the Commerce and Human Resources Committee be excused from reporting out [H 745](#). The question being, "Shall the motion prevail?"

Pursuant to Senate Rule 39(C), a roll call vote was requested by Senator Den Hartog, and was supported by Senators Adams, Cook, Foreman, Guthrie, Harris, Lakey, Lent, Ricks, Ruchti, Taylor, Ward-Engelking, and Wintrow.

Roll call resulted as follows:

AYES—Adams, Anthon, Bernt, Bjerke (Bjerke), Blaylock, Burtenshaw, Cook, Den Hartog, Foreman, Galloway, Grow, Guthrie, Harris, Lakey, Lent, Okuniewicz, Ricks, Ruchti, Semmelroth, Taylor, VanOrden, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow, Woller (Rabe), Woodward. Total - 25.

NAYS—Carlson, Coho (Lenney), Hart, Keyser, Kohl, Nichols, Shippy, Zito, Zuiderveld. Total - 9.

Absent and excused—Toews. Total - 1.

Total - 35.

Whereupon the President Pro Tempore declared that the motion had prevailed and declared that the Commerce and Human Resources Committee was excused from reporting out [H 745](#). The President Pro Tempore further declared that the bill could not be called for again pursuant to Senate Rule 14(E).

On request by Senator Den Hartog, granted by unanimous consent, all Senate bills were placed at the head of the Third Reading Calendar, followed by House bills.

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 12:14 p.m. until the hour of 10 a.m., Monday, March 16, 2026.

KELLY ARTHUR ANTHON, President Pro Tempore

Attest: JENNIFER NOVAK, Secretary