

MINUTES
JOINT FINANCE-APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, January 19, 2026
TIME: 8:00 A.M.
PLACE: Room C310
MEMBERS: Senators Co-Chair Grow, Woodward, Cook, Bjerke, Hart, Carlson, Zuiderveld, Galloway, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow
Representatives Co-Chair Tanner (14), Miller, Furniss, Petzke, Manwaring, Mitchell, Price, Bruce, Harris, Green
ABSENT/EXCUSED: None

Co-Chair Tanner (14) called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Sen. Cook and **Rep. Ehlers**, Co-Chairs, Economic Outlook and Revenue Assessment Committee (EORAC), presented the committee’s report to JFAC. EORAC reviewed and analyzed business data, tax data, financial data, and trends relating to the State’s economy; the committee obtained testimony from economic, business, and industry experts regarding these aspects of the State’s economy and revenues.

	<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>	<u>FY 2028</u>
Governor Little’s projections:	\$5512.6M	\$5679.2M	\$5913.9M
EORAC median projections:	\$5665.1M	\$5816.6M	\$6081.5M
Amount and percent over Governor’s projection:	\$152.5M 2.8%	\$137.4M 2.4%	\$167.6M 2.8%

Sen. Cook reported after reviewing expert testimony on Idaho’s economy and the Governor’s FY 2026 and 2027 projections, EORAC recommended projections of total General Fund revenues of \$5,665.1M for FY 2026 and \$5,816.6M for FY 2027. EORAC also advised caution when making appropriations above the recommended revenue levels.

Co-Chair Tanner (14) observed the EORAC recommendation is above the Governor’s recommendation. The EORAC figure is based on the December 2025 revenue numbers, which were higher than expected. He pointed out the EORAC recommendation was still a conservative projection; it incorporated more recent information.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST: **Rep. Miller** requested unanimous consent to adopt the EORAC report.

Sen. Woodward objected and requested further discussion of the revenue projection numbers.

ORIGINAL MOTION:

Rep. Miller made a motion, seconded by **Sen. Carlson**, to adopt the EORAC report.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Sen. Cook made a motion, seconded by **Sen. Woodward**, to accept the EORAC report.

Rep. Petzke stated the committee could both accept and adopt the EORAC report; these actions do not require competing motions. He pointed out JFAC typically accepted the EORAC reports. After acceptance, JFAC could adopt the projected revenue number or adopt a different revenue number.

In response to committee questions, **Mr. Keith Bybee**, Division Manager, LSO Budget & Policy Analysis, clarified the difference between “accept” and “adopt.” If JFAC accepted the report, the EORAC revenue projection would be used for future consideration; if JFAC adopted the report, it would choose EORAC’s recommended revenue projection amount.

Sen. Wintrow expressed appreciation for the EORAC figure, noting it suggested deep budget cuts might not be necessary. This projection number eased earlier concerns and indicated services for state employees, Medicaid recipients, and others could continue.

Co-Chair Tanner (14) stated this motion focused on reaching an accurate projection for FY 2026 and FY 2027 revenues rather than considering specific budget cuts. Projected revenue was set first, followed by consideration of tax conformity issues, to reach the bottom line before budgets were established.

Co-Chair Tanner (14) put the committee at ease at 8:20 a.m.

Co-Chair Tanner (14) resumed the meeting at 8:23 a.m.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST:

Sen. Cook requested and it was granted by unanimous consent, to withdraw his substitute motion.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST:

Rep. Miller requested and it was granted by unanimous consent, to withdraw his original motion.

MOTION:

Sen. Cook made a motion, seconded by **Sen. Woodward**, to accept the EORAC report.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST:

Rep. Petzke requested unanimous consent to change his vote from **NAY** to **AYE**. There being no objection, the request was granted.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST:

Rep. Furniss requested unanimous consent to change his vote from **NAY** to **AYE**. There being no objection, the request was granted.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON MOTION:

Motion failed by a total vote of 8 AYES, 12 NAYS, 0 ABSENT/EXCUSED.
Representatives voting in favor of the motion: **Furniss, Petzke, Green.**
Representatives voting in opposition to the motion: **Tanner (14), Miller, Manwaring, Mitchell, Price, Bruce, Harris.**
Senators voting in favor of the motion: **Woodward, Cook, Bjerke, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow.**
Senators voting in opposition to the motion: **Grow, Hart, Carlson, Zuiderveld, Galloway.**

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST: **Rep. Miller** requested unanimous consent to adopt the EORAC report.

Sen. Ward-Engelking objected.

MOTION: **Rep. Miller** made a motion, seconded by **Sen. Carlson**, to adopt the EORAC report. The committee discussed the EORAC revenue projections.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by a total vote of 20 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT/EXCUSED.** **Representatives voting in favor** of the motion: **Tanner (14), Miller, Furniss, Petzke, Manwaring, Mitchell, Price, Bruce, Harris, Green.** **Representatives voting in opposition** to the motion: **None.** **Senators voting in favor** of the motion: **Grow, Woodward, Cook, Bjerke, Hart, Carlson, Zuiderveld, Galloway, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow.** **Senators voting in opposition** to the motion: **None.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 8:48 a.m.

Representative Tanner (14)
Chair

Alyson Jackson
Secretary