

MINUTES
HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 05, 2026

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW20

MEMBERS: Chairman Vander Woude, Vice Chairman Erickson, Representatives Healey, Redman, Wheeler, Beiswenger, Burgoyne, Cayler, Fuhriman, Leavitt, McCann, Thompson, Hall (Stone), Tanner(13), Rubel, Egbert

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Fuhriman, Thompson

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 Vander Woude called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Egbert** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 3 and 4, 2026, meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 496: **Chairman Vander Woude** stated the sponsor of **H 496** has requested the committee not hear this legislation today due to possible changes.

RS 33187: **Rep. Josh Wheeler**, District 35, presented **RS 33187** to establish a requirement for a clear evidence-based cardiac response plan for schools.

MOTION: **Rep. Healey** made a motion to introduce **RS 33187**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 526: **Rep. Jeff Ehlers**, District 21, presented **H 526** to help the \$5k and under cottage food industry merchants by creating a category exempt from the time and temperature control foods regulations. All other existing requirements remain the same.

MOTION: **Rep. Redman** made a motion to send **H 526** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Elizabeth Criner, on behalf of Food Northwest, testified **in opposition** to **H 526**, stating the addition of non-shelf stable items without the time and temperature control regulations pose a safety issue for consumers. It is also unclear if the labeling discloses potential allergens. They support and encourage the cottage food businesses.

Rep. Ehlers, in closing comments, said the entire cottage food industry follows the Idaho Administrative Procedure Act (IDAPA) labeling section. This legislation does not change those requirements.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Chairman Vander Woude** called for a vote on the motion to send **H 526** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Ehlers** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

Representative Vander Woude
Chair

Irene Moore
Secretary