

MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 12, 2026

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Crane(13), Vice Chairman Scott, Representatives Palmer, Holtzclaw, Skaug, Alfieri, Crane(12), Boyle, Dygert, Mickelsen, Pohanka, Bingham, Church, Haws

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

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 Crane (13) called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

H 498: **Rep. Skaug** presented **H 498**. This legislation allows the legislature to retain attorneys for actions against the federal government, when, in the judgement of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, it is in the interests of the state to prosecute such actions.

MOTION: **Rep. Scott** made a motion to send **H 498** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Skaug** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 539: **Rep. Ehlers** presented **H 539**. This legislation recognizes there are times when the use of temporary rules is needed to bridge the gap until pending rules can be considered during the legislative session. This proposed legislation would place some process parameters, additional guidelines, and reporting requirements when temporary rules are employed to meet that need.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to send **H 539** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by a voice vote.** **Rep. Ehlers** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 613: **Rep. Raybould** presented **H 613**. This legislation establishes general liability protection of private facilities designated as polling locations during Idaho elections. Election workers and volunteers are also protected from personal civil liability when working at private facilities designated as polling locations. This civil liability protection also extends to a nonprofit entity that has provided a location for a polling place, while reaffirming that no nonprofit places its tax exemption at risk by doing so.

The committee asked **Rep. Raybould** questions relating to the details of the time period in which this bill applies and questions related to liability concerns.

Trent Triple, representing Ada County Court testified in support of **H 613**.

MOTION: **Rep. Alfieri** made a motion to send **H 613** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Raybould** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:11 A.M.

Representative Crane (13)
Chair

Teresa Wonacott
Secretary