

MINUTES  
**SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Friday, February 13, 2026

**TIME:** 8:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room WW55

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Guthrie, Vice Chairman Bernt, Senators Anthon, Harris, Toews, Shippy, and Ruchti

**ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senators Den Hartog and Adams

**NOTE:** The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

**CONVENED:** **Chairman Guthrie** called the meeting of the Senate State Affairs Committee (Committee) to order at 8:00 a.m.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:** **Senator Shippy** moved to approve the Minutes of February 6, 2026. **Senator Ruchti** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**RS 33200** **Resistance by a Threatened Party.** **Senator Shippy** introduced this legislation as an adjustment to an existing law that would outline acceptable action taken with a firearm, in self defense, while involved in a threatening situation.

**MOTION:** **Senator Harris** moved to send **RS 33200** to print. **Senator Toews** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**RS 33340** **Criminal Trespass, Church.** **Senator Anthon** explained that this legislation would change the existing criminal trespass statute in Idaho Code to address recent concerns around intentional church service disturbances. This would apply to those entering church services with the intent to disrupt and would enhance penalties for those actions.

**MOTION:** **Senator Bernt** moved to send **RS 33340** to print. **Senator Harris** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**RS 33347** **Conversational AI Safety Act.** **Senator Toews** explained that the intent of this legislation was to protect children from Artificial Intelligence (AI) in various ways, such as requiring chat bots to disclose that they were AI.

**MOTION:** **Senator Shippy** moved to send **RS 33347** to print. **Senator Harris** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**PASSED THE GAVEL:** Chairman Guthrie passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Bernt.

**H 504** **IDAHO STATE LOTTERY - Amends and adds to existing law to prohibit bulk lottery ticket purchases.** **Chairman Guthrie** shared recent events where out of state groups had bulk purchased lottery tickets. This legislation would implement a flagging system for lottery ticket purchases of over \$5,000 within a certain time frame. **Chairman Guthrie** introduced **Andrew Arulanandam**, Director of the Idaho State Lottery and Idaho State Liquor Division, who shared with the Committee that this legislation would have zero fiscal impact. He believed this to be true because the games would still sell out, just over a longer period of time. **Mr. Arulanandam** said that this would help winnings from the Idaho Lottery stay within Idaho and shared a story of a recent winner who invested his million dollar prize into several Idaho businesses. **Mr. Arulanandam** shared that 14 other

states were implementing similar legislation and that this would help protect the integrity and morale of the games. **Chairman Guthrie** closed by adding that if ticket sellers were found to be involved with these bulk purchasing schemes, they could be sanctioned or lose their lottery ticket vending license.

**MOTION:** **Senator Toews** moved to send **H 504** to the floor with a do pass recommendation. **Senator Ruchti** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**ADJOURNED:** There being no further business at this time, **Vice Chairman Bernt** adjourned the meeting at 8:15 a.m.

---

Senator Guthrie  
Chair

---

Abby Rowe  
Secretary