

MINUTES
HOUSE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 17, 2026

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Redman(Zaken), Vice Chairman Wheeler, Representatives Crane(13), Palmer, Barbieri, Cornilles, Crane(12), Ehlers, Monks, Cannon, Harris, Marmon, Rasor, Thompson, Cheatum, Veile, Berch, Green

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Barbieri

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 Wheeler called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Chairman Wheeler introduced **Ken Zaken** who is substituting for **Rep. Redman**.

DOCKET NO. 24-2101-2501: **Michelle Bird**, Executive Officer, DOPL explained the proposed rule change increases fees. She also shared the negotiated rule making process.

Committee inquired regarding the board's fund balance.

MOTION: **Rep. Berch** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 24-2101-2501**. **Motion carried by voice vote**. **Rep. Crane (13)** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**.

DOCKET NO. 24-2201-2501: **Jessica Spoja**, Licensing & Registration Manager, DOPL, explained the proposed rule change increases licensure fees. She also shared the negotiated rule making process.

Committee inquired regarding board balance, board consolidation, training, and negotiated rule making.

MOTION: **Rep. Berch** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 24-2201-2501**. **Motion carried by voice vote**. **Reps. Crane (13), Crane (12), Harris** and **Thompson** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**.

MOTION: **Rep. Crane (13)** made a motion to **HOLD Docket No. 24-2801-2501** subject to the call of the chair. **Motion carried by voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 24-3930-2502: **Justin Touchstone**, Trades Program Director, DOPL explained the board adopted the 2024 codes with amendments, citing safety, practicality and affordability as factors. He shared additional proposed changes and the negotiated rule-making process.

Committee inquired regarding full house mechanical ventilation code, sealing of registers and boots, recessed light fixtures, requirement of automatic sprinkler systems in the building code, fire alarm and fire sprinkler systems being under the Department of Insurance Fire Marshal's purview, not DOPL's, negotiated rule making communication, heat detector and interconnected smoke alarm installation requirement in attached garages, redundancy of code, blower door test frequency, redundancy of rule being in DOPL and fire marshal code, and whole house mechanical ventilation code.

Testifying in support of **Docket No. 24-3930-2502**, **Sam Zahorka**, Idaho Association of Building Officials, **Ken Burgess**, Idaho Home Builders Association, and **Lance Sayers** shared their experiences demonstrating their support of the rule changes.

John Cottner shared his technical expertise as a builder and as a member of the building code board.

MOTION: **Rep. Thompson** made a motion to reject **Docket No. 24-3930-2502** due to the many concerns and questions regarding the proposed changes in addition to the incorporation by reference of the international code.

Speaking to the motion, **Rep. Crane (13)** expressed his support of the motion, noting the need to create an Idaho Building Code.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Berch** made a substitute motion to **HOLD Docket No. 24-3930-2502** in committee.

Speaking to the substitute motion, **Rep. Berch** explained his concern with rejecting the entire rule rather than specific items.

VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Substitute motion failed by voice vote.**

MOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Reps. Berch** and **Cheatum** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

Representative Wheeler
Chair

Michelle A Anderson
Secretary