

MINUTES
HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 17, 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) McCann

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. and welcomed **Rep. Zaken**, who is substituting for **Rep. Redman**.

Chairman Vander Woude turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Erickson**.

DOCKET NO. 24-2601-2501: **Orin Duffin**, Program Director, Health Professions Bureau, Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses (DOPL), on behalf of the Idaho Midwifery Board, presented **Docket No. 24-2601-2501**, a temporary rule for a licensure fee decrease. In addition, the refund for license non-renewal or non-issuance was removed to cover the administrative processing costs.

MOTION: **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to extend temporary **Docket No. 24-2601-2501** to July 1, 2026. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 24-2601-2501: **Orin Duffin**, Program Director, Health Professions Bureau, DOPL, on behalf of the Idaho Midwifery Board, presented **Docket No. 24-2601-2501**, a pending rule for a licensure fee decrease. Other changes include removal of the license non-renewal or non-issuance refund.

MOTION: **Rep. Healey** made a motion to approve pending **Docket No. 24-2601-2501**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 24-3101-2501: **Orin Duffin**, Program Director, Health Professions Bureau, DOPL, presented temporary **Docket No. 24-3101-2501** for a fee decrease and fee holiday for the Board of Dentistry. This allows fee adjustment once the holiday expires.

MOTION: **Rep. Healey** made a motion to extend temporary **Docket No. 24-3101-2501** to July 1, 2026. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 24-3101-2501: **Orin Duffin**, Program Director, Health Professions Bureau, DOPL, presented pending **Docket No. 24-3101-2501** for a fee decrease and fee holiday for the Board of Dentistry. A fee adjustment is possible after the holiday expires.

MOTION: **Rep. Healey** made a motion to approve pending **Docket No. 24-3101-2501**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 24-3401-2501: **Orin Duffin**, Program Director, Health Professions Bureau, DOPL, presented temporary **Docket No. 24-3401-2501** for the Idaho Board of Nursing. He requested an extension to July 1, 2026.

MOTION: **Rep. Egbert** made a motion to extend temporary **Docket No. 24-3401-2501** to July 1, 2026. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 24-3401-2501: **Orin Duffin**, Program Director, Health Professions Bureau, DOPL, presented pending **Docket No. 24-3401-2501**, a fee decrease for the Idaho Board of Nursing.

MOTION: **Rep. Egbert** made a motion to approve pending **Docket No. 24-3401-2501**.
Rep. Healey declared Rule 80 stating a possible conflict of interest.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Vice Chairman Erickson** called for a vote on the motion to approve pending **Docket No. 24-3401-2501**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 24-0601-2501: **Orin Duffin**, Program Director, Health Professions Bureau, DOPL, presented **Docket No. 24-0601-2501**. This is a 100% increase in fees for the Board of Occupational Therapists whose cash balance is below the average five-year rolling limit and is expected to continue to decline. The low balance is a result of historical fee decreases, the division-wide spread of DOPL's moving costs, and the required purchase of licensure software. The fee increase will be as temporary as possible.

MOTION: **Rep. Leavitt** made a motion to reject **Docket No. 24-0601-2501** in its entirety because it is inconsistent with legislative intent and questions continue regarding the need for the fee increases. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 24-2301-2501: **Ryan Bernard**, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Chief, DOPL, presented **Docket No. 24-2301-2501**, on behalf of the Speech, Hearing and Communication Services Licensing Board. The changes add the licensing category and fees for video remote interpreting providers.

MOTION: **Rep. Healey** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 24-2301-2501**. **Motion carried voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 24-1301-2501: **Orin Duffin**, Program Director, Health Professions Bureau, DOPL, on behalf of the Physical Therapists Licensure Board, presented **Docket No. 24-1301-2501**. The Board's rolling cash balance continues to decline due to costs pertaining to their consolidation into DOPL, required software, and a decrease in licensees.
Committee discussion included the fee table layouts, disparity among the various licensing fees, and the impact of DOPL's expenses.

MOTION: **Rep. Healey** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 24-1301-2501**.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Leavitt** made a substitute motion to reject **Docket No. 24-1301-2501** in its entirety because it is inconsistent with legislative intent and questions continue regarding the need for the fee increases.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Roll call vote was requested. **Substitute motion carried by a vote of 9 AYE, 6 NAY and 1 Absent/Excused. Voting in favor of the motion: Reps. Vander Woude, Erickson, Zaken, Beiswinger, Burgoyne, Cayler, Leavitt, Thompson, Tanner(13). Voting in opposition to the motion: Reps. Healey, Wheeler, Fuhriman, Stone, Rubel, Egbert. Rep. McCann** was absent/excused.

ADJOURN: **Vice Chairman Erickson** turned the gavel over to **Chairman Vander Woude**.
There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Representative Erickson
Chair

Irene Moore
Secretary