

MINUTES
HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Monday, February 23, 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:** 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 Vander Woude** called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- Chairman Vander Woude** welcomed **Allie Silver**, the committee's page for the second half of the session.
- H 591:** **Rep. Jordan Redman**, District 3, presented **H 591**, to remove the last section of Idaho Code for the County Medical Indigent Program, which was repealed in 2022.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Healey** made a motion to send **H 591** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Redman** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- RS 33469:** **Rep. Ben Fuhriman**, District 30, presented **RS 33469** to add physical therapy to the provider list in the Direct Primary Care Act, with no scope of care change.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to introduce **RS 33469.** **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- RS 33466:** **Rep. Ben Fuhriman**, District 30, presented **RS 33466**, a joint memorial to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requesting clarification of the roles played by insurance companies, state insurance departments, and the CMS for submitting and issuing insurance plans. It also requests CMS look into the current practices, addressing situations experienced by the Department of Insurance.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Redman** made a motion to introduce **RS 33466.** **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- RS 33407:** **Rep. Ben Fuhriman**, District 30, presented **RS 33407**, to move the Assertive Community Team (ACT) Program into statute. The ACT Program for individuals with extreme mental illness was terminated by the Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) as a cost-cutting effort. At that time the program's services were unbundled and the individuals were transitioned to a managed-care program.
- Because this population is not suited to pursuing their own services due to their extreme mental health issues, there has been a notable increase in emergency use of law enforcement and hospitals. To reinstate the program new funding avenues are being explored and application for a replacement CMS waiver will be requested.
- MOTION:** **Rep. McCann** made a motion to introduce **RS 33407.**
- Committee comments included funding concerns, the need to help this volatile population, and the cap on participants.

**ROLL CALL
VOTE ON
MOTION:**

Rep. Egbert requested a roll call vote. **Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 16 AYE. Voting in favor of the motion: Reps. Vander Woude, Erickson, Healey, Redman, Wheeler, Beiswenger, Burgoyne, Cayler, Fuhriman, Leavitt, McCann, Thompson, Stone, Tanner(13), Rubel, Egbert.**

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

Representative Vander Woude
Chair

Irene Moore
Secretary