MINUTES

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE:	Wednesday, March 11, 2026
TIME:	Upon Adjournment of Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee
PLACE:	Room C310
MEMBERS:	Chairman Tanner(14), Vice Chairman Miller, Representatives Furniss, Petzke, Manwaring, Mitchell, Price, Bruce, Harris, Green
ABSENT/ EXCUSED:	Representative Miller
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 Tanner (14) called the meeting to order at 9:51 a.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Bruce** made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2026, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 834: **Rep. Monks** presented **H 834**, legislation updating the timeline for liquidating cross-fiscal year encumbrances. The bill establishes a deadline and provides an additional quarter to expend funds. Following discussions with stakeholders, including the Governor's Office, concerns arose regarding flexibility in the proposed timeline. Rep. Monks recommended sending the bill to General Orders for possible adjustments.

MOTION: **Rep. Petzke** made a motion to send **H 834** to General Orders. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Monks** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 835: **Rep. Monks** presented **H 835**, legislation addressing non-cognizable expenses incurred outside the legislative session. He explained the bill aligns the process more closely with the constitutional requirement for legislative appropriation of funds while maintaining executive branch authority to address expenses arising after session. The bill establishes a $10M per fiscal year limit for such expenditures and provides exceptions for federally or state-declared emergencies, construction projects at Gowen Field, and tuition-related funds received outside the session. Rep. Monks noted the Legislature could be called back into session if additional appropriations become necessary.

MOTION: **Rep. Bruce** made a motion to send **H 835** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Monks** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 836: **Rep. Ehlers** requested **H 836** be withdrawn from the agenda.

MOTION: **Rep. Price** made a motion to **HOLD H 836** in committee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 837: **Rep. Ehlers** presented **H 837**, legislation directing a calculated reduction to the Governor's budget. He explained the bill adjusts personnel funding increases based on an agency's five-year average spending. He also referenced **RS 33663** as a replacement proposal, noting a change from "shall" to "may" to provide the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee more flexibility, and requested the committee hold **H 837** and introduce **RS 33663**.

MOTION: **Rep. Manwaring** made a motion to **HOLD H 837** in committee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 33663: **Rep. Mitchell** made a motion to introduce **RS 33663** and recommend it be sent directly to the Second Reading Calendar. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Ehlers** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 838: **Rep. Petzke** presented **H 838**, legislation requiring the Governor's budget to include draft legislation and proposed sponsors for any line item needing a statutory or language change. The measure aimed to resolve issues with previous budgets, which included changes without providing guidance for implementation.

MOTION: **Rep. Manwaring** made a motion to send **H 838** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Petzke** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

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Representative Tanner (14)
Chair

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Alyson Jackson
Secretary