

MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, March 16, 2026

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Crane(13), Vice Chairman Scott, Representatives Palmer, Holtzclaw, Skaug (Chadwick), Alfieri, Crane(12), Boyle, Dygert, Mickelsen, Pohanka, Bingham, Church, Haws

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative Haws

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 Crane (13) called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

MOTION: **Rep. Dygert** made a motion to approve the minutes of Thursday March 12, 2026.
Motion carried by voice vote.

Chairman Crane (13) called for a motion to **HOLD HJM 19** subject to the call of the chair.

MOTION: **Rep. Crane (12)** made a motion to **HOLD HJM 19** subject to the call of the chair.
Motion carried by voice vote.

Rep. Monks did not present **HJM 19** which expresses the position of the Idaho Legislature in support of **President Trump's** desire to eliminate the United States Department of Education and to return primary authority over education policy to the states.

H 725: **Rep. Cheatum** presented **H 725**. This legislation would allow cities, at their discretion, to enter the state employee health insurance plan.

Mark Dahlquist, Mayor of Pocatello, spoke **in support** of **H 725**.

Chairman Crane (13) had a question for **Mayor Mark Dahlquist** in regards to tax payers in the State of Idaho sharing the cost of insurance for city employees. Another committee member had questions in regards to cities having the option to opt in or opt out, higher risks meaning higher state fees, city verses state high risks, and how often is insurance currently shopped out to other organization to get lower rates.

Chase Mills, Idaho Falls Firefighter local 1565; **Lisa Burtenshaw**, Mayor of the City of Idaho Falls; spoke **in support** of **H 725**.

A committee member asked a question regarding different city pay rates based on claims and usages.

MOTION: **Rep. Bingham** made a motion to send **H 725** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Faith Moulton, Administrator of Group Insurance for the Department of Administration answered questions in regards to current high risk cities, joining state insurance plans, and the affects of the state insurance rate. Other committee members had questions in regards to increased rates for adding fireman, law enforcement, and construction workers combined with educational entities, General Fund dollars to subsidizes cities for insurance plans and the affects on smaller cities, authority to deny a group or city, and the ability to charge an additional \$25.00 to recapture for administration cost.

Additional committee members had comments and questions for **Rep. Cheatum** in regards to cities pulling together to look for insurance as a group of cities, efficiencies for smaller cities in a self funded model plan, protection of rural communities, and the state is only as healthy as our cities.

Rep. Chadwick declared Rule 80 being the Mayor of Star and commented this is a good option for the city to save money and reduce cost.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Motion carried by voice vote. Reps. Scott, Crane (12), and Palmer requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**. **Rep. Cheatum** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

RS 33618:

Rep. Crane (12) presented **RS 33618**. This legislation seeks to prohibit the purchase of single family homes in the State of Idaho by foreign persons to include non-legal citizens, foreign corporations, foreign governments, REITS and companies registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

MOTION:

Rep. Holtzclaw made a motion to introduce **RS 33618** with the following changes: page 2 line 13, change the 'an' to 'or'.

Committee members had comments and questions in regards to purpose of property in the state, the affects of foreign corporations, the definition of foreign adversary, how to identify foreign adversaries, concern regarding the specific definition around who can own a single family home, people kicked out of their homes due to policy, purchasing of a home close to their assets, non-adversarial intrests in the middle of the permit process, foreign athletes with no citizenship, children with citizenship but extended foreign family can not purchase homes, prevent for profit foreign shareholders, enforcement, who would determine legal residence status, Micron and H1B Visa residence to be able to buy homes, and non-American's purchasing homes and adding to the economy vs foreign adversaries, and CA, OR, WA (COW) purchasing of homes.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Motion carried by voice vote.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:49 A.M.

Representative Crane (13)
Chair

Liaza Richardson
Secretary