

MINUTES
HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, March 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:** 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.

MOTION: **Rep. McCann** made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 4, 6, and 11, 2026, meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

S 1256: **Rep. Jeff Ehlers**, District 21, presented **S 1256** to remove an outdated and unnecessary Idaho Code reporting requirement for the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

MOTION: **Rep. Healey** made a motion to send **S 1256** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Ehlers** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 776: **Rep. Steve Tanner**, District 13, presented **H 776** to protect infants from parents who have aggravated histories or other stipulated conditions. Through this legislation the Department of Health and Welfare is instructed to verify the risk history within twelve hours and, if valid, assign the case the highest priority.

MOTION: **Rep. Healey** made a motion to send **H 776** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Testifying in support of **H 776** were **Lyndsay Wright**, on behalf of **Delphina Crackaw**, Foster Parent; **Gabriel Messick**, Hospital Social Worker; **Dr. Kylie Billingsley**, Psychologist; **Cynthia Floyd**, Foster Parent, Registered Nurse, Family Nurse Practitioner; **Misty Cook**, Foster Parent; **Kevin Watson**, Self; **Jeremy Rudolph**, Foster Parent; **Monique Peyre**, Adoptive Parent; **Jeannette Del Cid**, Student Intern, Idaho Voices for Children; **Janelle Anderson**, Self; **Deputy David Gomez**, Boise County.

They shared stories regarding the recent death of an infant, the parents' historical issues, and the slow Child Protective Services (CPS) response time, even with documented evidence and safety concerns expressed by hospitals and foster parents. Early intervention can assist parents and children and remove existing barriers for CPS workers. These families tend to move before warrants can be issued.

**ROLL CALL
VOTE ON
MOTION:** **Rep. Stone** requested a roll call vote. **Motion carried by a vote of 12 AYE and 4 NAY.** Voting in favor of the motion: **Reps. Vander Woude, Erickson, Healey, Redman, Wheeler, Beiswenger, Fuhriman, McCann, Stone, Tanner(13), Rubel, Egbert.** Voting in opposition to the motion: **Reps. Burgoyne, Cayler, Leavitt, Thompson.** **Rep. Tanner(13)** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

Representative Vander Woude
Chair

Irene Moore
Secretary