

MINUTES  
**HOUSE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, March 23, 2026

**TIME:** 1:30 P.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW41

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Redman, Vice Chairman Wheeler, Representatives Crane(13), Palmer, Barbieri, Cornilles, Crane(12), Ehlers, Monks, Cannon, Harris, Marmon, Rasor, Thompson, Cheatum, Veile, Berch, Green

**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 Redman** called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Thompson** made a motion to approve the minutes of the **February 25, 2026** meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**H 706:** **Sen. Rabe** presented **H 706**, explaining the legislation amends the Idaho Building Code Act to authorize local governments to allow certain apartment buildings to be served by a single interior exit stairway, notwithstanding adoption of the International Building Code, provided they meet certain life safety and design standards. Eligible buildings may be up to six stories, with limits on unit count per floor and total floor area, and must include enhanced fire protection measures such as full NFPA 13 sprinkler systems, two-hour fire rated stair and shaft enclosures, pressurized stairwells, fire rated corridors and openings, limited travel distances, emergency escape and rescue openings, and comprehensive smoke and fire detection systems

Committee inquired regarding history in other jurisdictions, firefighter use of ladders, fire marshal consultation, inclusion of mitigating elements, stair width, additional mitigation requirements and cost.

Testifying **in support** of **H 706**, **Robert Elliot**, **Jordan Morales**, and **Christian Solorio** shared their experiences demonstrating their support of the legislation.

Testifying **in opposition** to **H 706**, Rob Shoplock, Professional Firefighters of Idaho shared experiences demonstrating opposition to the legislation.

**Mike Bisagno**, Idaho Fire Chief Association, explained stair widths and experience regarding using egress during a fire.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Rasor** made a motion to send **H 706** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

During discussion on the motion, one member noted they would not be supporting the motion, while another expressed the legislation was not mandated and is a good idea.

**ROLL CALL  
VOTE:** A roll call vote was requested. **Motion carried by a vote of 14 AYE, 2 NAY, and 2 Absent/Excused.** Voting **in favor** of the motion: **Chairman Redman, Vice Chair Wheeler, Reps. Barbieri, Cornilles, Crane (12), Ehlers, Cannon, Harris, Marmon, Rasor, Thompson, Cheatum, Veile, Green.** Voting **in opposition** to the motion: **Reps. Crane (13) and Palmer.** **Reps. Monks and Berch** were absent/excused. **Chairman Redman** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

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Representative Redman  
Chair

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Michelle A Anderson  
Secretary