

MINUTES
HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, March 25, 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. Egbert** made a motion to approve the minutes for the March 12 and 20, 2026, meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 864: **Chairman Vander Woude** returned to the committee **H 864**, which was held for time certain, March 25, 2026.

MOTION: **Rep. Redman** made a motion to **HOLD H 864** to time certain, March 27, 2026.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. McCann** made a motion to send **H 864** to the floor without recommendation.

Committee discussion included a possible piece of legislation being sent from the Senate, the need to remove the natural product from the legislation, and the possibility of felony convictions.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Roll call vote was requested. **Substitute motion failed by a vote of 6 AYE and 10 NAY. Voting in favor** of the motion: **Reps. Erickson, Wheeler, Burgoyne, Fuhriman, McCann, Stone. Voting in opposition** to the motion: **Reps. Vander Woude, Healey, Redman, Beiswenger, Cayler, Leavitt, Thompson, Tanner(13), Rubel, Egbert.**

VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION: **Chairman Vander Woude** called for a vote on the motion to **HOLD H 864** to time certain, March 27, 2026. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

S 1294aa: **Rep. Dori Healey**, District 15, presented **S 1294aa**. This legislation addresses a gap in the infant hearing loss screening test referrals. Currently offered to all in-hospital birth parents, **S 1294aa** extends the referrals to include out-of-hospital births with attendants such as midwives. The early detection of hearing loss allows faster intervention to help language development. Parents can decline the test.

MOTION: **Rep. Wheeler** made a motion to send **S 1294aa** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Lisa Coleman, Self, Member, Idaho Sounds Board, testified **in support** of **S 1294aa**, stating substantial language deprivation occurs when hearing issues are not caught at birth. This inclusion of out-of-hospital births will help parents understand the early detection importance and positive outcomes.

Discussion included the critical nature of the infant tests, the importance of early detection, advocacy for the children by professionals, and concern regarding the use of "shall."

VOTE ON MOTION:

Roll call vote was requested. **Motion carried by a vote of 9 AYE and 7 NAY. Voting in favor** of the motion: **Reps. Vander Woude, Erickson, Healey, Wheeler, Fuhriman, McCann, Stone, Rubel, Egbert. Voting in opposition** to the motion: **Reps. Redman, Beiswenger, Burgoyne, Cayler, Leavitt, Thompson, Tanner(13). Rep. Healey** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:41 a.m.

Representative Vander Woude
Chair

Irene Moore
Secretary