

MINUTES  
**JOINT FINANCE-APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, March 31, 2026  
**TIME:** 1:00 P.M.  
**PLACE:** Room C310  
**MEMBERS:** Senators Co-Chair Grow, Woodward, Cook, Bjerke (Bjerke), Hart, Carlson, Zuiderveld, Galloway, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow  
Representatives Co-Chair Tanner (14), Miller, Furniss, Petzke, Manwaring, Mitchell, Price, Bruce, Harris, Green  
**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** None

**Co-Chair Tanner (14)** called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

**Ms. Janica Bisharat**, Senior Analyst with LSO Budget and Policy, presented revised language for the FY 2027 enhancement budget for the Office of the Attorney General. The Attorney General's original FY 2027 enhancement budget, **H 951**, restored \$980K in funding; it failed on the House floor. She outlined two new options for the committee's consideration. The first would increase appropriations from the Consumer Protection Fund by \$880K for FY 2026 and FY 2027 and allow broader use of the funds for the Attorney General's duties by setting aside current statutory restrictions. The second option would also use the Consumer Protection Fund but limit restored funding to the Internet Crimes Against Children program, focusing on personnel costs and similarly waiving the statutory limitation on fund usage.

**UNANIMOUS  
CONSENT  
REQUEST:** **Rep. Harris** requested unanimous consent to adopt the following language:

**LANGUAGE:** SECTION \_\_. In addition to any other appropriation provided by law, there is hereby appropriated to the Office of the Attorney General the following amounts to be expended according to the designated programs for personnel costs from the Consumer Protection Fund for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027:  
FOR:  
State Legal Services \$817,000  
Internet Crimes Against Children \$63,000  
TOTAL: \$880,000

SECTION \_\_. USE OF CONSUMER PROTECTION FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the appropriation provided in Section \_ of this act is hereby appropriated for the furtherance of the Attorney General's duties and activities pursuant to Idaho law for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

SECTION \_\_. In addition to the appropriation made in Section \_\_, Chapter 196, Laws of 2025, and any other appropriation provided by law, there is hereby appropriated to the Office of the Attorney General the following amounts to be expended according to the designated programs for personnel costs from the Consumer Protection Fund for the period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026:

FOR:

State Legal Services \$817,000

Internet Crimes Against Children \$63,000

TOTAL: \$880,000

SECTION \_\_. USE OF CONSUMER PROTECTION FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the appropriation provided in Section \_\_ of this act is hereby appropriated for the furtherance of the Attorney General's duties and activities pursuant to Idaho law for the period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

**Rep. Petzke** objected.

**MOTION:**

**Rep. Harris** made a motion, seconded by **Sen. Hart**, to adopt the following language:

**LANGUAGE:**

SECTION \_\_. In addition to any other appropriation provided by law, there is hereby appropriated to the Office of the Attorney General the following amounts to be expended according to the designated programs for personnel costs from the Consumer Protection Fund for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027:

FOR:

State Legal Services \$817,000

Internet Crimes Against Children \$63,000

TOTAL: \$880,000

SECTION \_\_. USE OF CONSUMER PROTECTION FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the appropriation provided in Section \_\_ of this act is hereby appropriated for the furtherance of the Attorney General's duties and activities pursuant to Idaho law for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

SECTION \_\_. In addition to the appropriation made in Section \_\_, Chapter 196, Laws of 2025, and any other appropriation provided by law, there is hereby appropriated to the Office of the Attorney General the following amounts to be expended according to the designated programs for personnel costs from the Consumer Protection Fund for the period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026:

FOR:

State Legal Services \$817,000

Internet Crimes Against Children \$63,000

TOTAL: \$880,000

SECTION \_\_. USE OF CONSUMER PROTECTION FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the appropriation provided in Section \_\_ of this act is hereby appropriated for the furtherance of the Attorney General's duties and activities pursuant to Idaho law for the period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:**

**Rep. Petzke** made a substitute motion, seconded by **Rep. Green**, to adopt the following language:

**LANGUAGE:** SECTION \_\_\_. In addition to any other appropriation provided by Law, there is hereby appropriated to the Office of the Attorney General \$114,100 from the Consumer Protection Fund to be expended for personnel costs for the Internet Crimes Against Children Program for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

SECTION \_\_\_. USE OF CONSUMER PROTECTION FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the appropriation provided in Section \_ of this act is hereby appropriated for the furtherance of the Attorney General's duties and activities pursuant to Idaho law for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

SECTION \_\_\_. In addition to the appropriation made in Section \_\_, Chapter 1 96, Laws of 2025, and any other appropriation provided by law, there is hereby appropriated to the Office of the Attorney General \$91,500 from the Consumer Protection Fund the following amounts to be expended for personnel costs for the Internet Crimes Against Children Program for the period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

SECTION \_\_\_. USE OF CONSUMER PROTECTION FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the appropriation provided in Section \_ of this act is hereby appropriated for the furtherance of the Attorney General's duties and activities pursuant to Idaho law for the period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

**Rep. Petzke** noted over 50 state agencies had received 4-5% reductions to their maintenance appropriations. He stated the substitute motion proposed fully restoring funding for the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) program, effectively doubling the funding compared with the original motion. The substitute motion would not reinstate the remaining \$817K in personnel costs. Rep. Petzke emphasized the ICAC program should be a legislative priority.

**ROLL CALL  
VOTE ON  
SUBSTITUTE  
MOTION:**

**Substitute motion failed by a total vote of 7 AYES, 12 NAYS, 1 ABSENT/EXCUSED. Senators voting in favor of the motion: Cook, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow. Senators voting in opposition to the motion: Grow, Bjerke (Bjerke), Hart, Carlson, Zuiderveld, Galloway. Senators Absent/Excused: Woodward. Representatives voting in favor of the motion: Furniss, Petzke, Manwaring, Green. Representatives voting in opposition to the motion: Tanner (14), Miller, Mitchell, Price, Bruce, Harris.**

The majority having failed to vote in the affirmative in both the Senate Finance Committee and the House Appropriations Committee, the substitute motion failed.

**ROLL CALL  
VOTE ON  
ORIGINAL  
MOTION:**

**Original motion carried by a total vote of 14 AYES, 5 NAYS, 1 ABSENT/EXCUSED. Senators voting in favor of the motion: Grow, Cook, Bjerke (Bjerke), Hart, Carlson, Zuiderveld, Galloway. Senators voting in opposition to the motion: Ward-Engelking, Wintrow. Senators Absent/Excused: Woodward. Representatives voting in favor of the motion: Tanner (14), Miller, Manwaring, Mitchell, Price, Bruce, Harris. Representatives voting in opposition to the motion: Furniss, Petzke, Green.**

**Ms. Morgan Poloni**, Senior Analyst, LSO Budget & Policy, presented the revised FY 2027 enhancement budget for Department of Health & Welfare (DHW) Early Learning and Development; Youth, Safety, and Permanency; and Family and Community Partnerships. The original FY 2027 enhancement budget, **S 1428**, was returned to committee after **S 1419**, a bill related to the Idaho Child Care Program, failed on the Senate floor.

In response to a committee question, **Ms. Poloni** confirmed **S 1428** contained funding for Idaho Child Care capacity for years one and two. The Idaho Child Care Program itself remained whole in the maintenance program budget.

In response to committee questions, **Co-Chair Tanner (14)** reported the Idaho Child Care Program received approximately \$64M in the maintenance budget. He acknowledged committee concerns regarding potential fraud but commended the previous and interim directors for their efforts in establishing a foundation for the new director to continue the program's work.

**MOTION:**

**Sen. Cook** made a motion, seconded by **Rep. Furniss**, beginning with the FY 2027 JFAC Program Maintenance Budget, to add 3.00 FTP and \$4,242,800 to move the Idaho Home Visiting Program from the Division of Public Health to the Division of Early Learning and Development; \$20,000 for Replacement Items; and \$600,000 for population forecast adjustments. This motion included, for FY 2027, for the Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Early Learning and Development, an additional \$600,000 from the General Fund, \$14,500 from dedicated funds, and \$4,248,300 from federal funds, for a total of \$4,862,800, and an additional 3.00 full-time equivalent positions.

**Sen. Cook** stated the motion followed the Governor's recommendation, excluding funding for the Idaho Child Care Capacity Year Two Enhancement. He noted a replacement item of \$20K for a walker/mower at the Southwest Idaho Treatment Center (SWITC) campus, which had taken over grounds maintenance at State Hospital West after the previous contracted service was dissolved due to General Fund budget rescissions. He also highlighted the department's population forecast adjustment, noting rapid growth in individuals under court-ordered evaluations for competency or civil commitment, which had increased evaluation and treatment costs and created budgetary impacts.

**ROLL CALL  
VOTE ON  
MOTION:**

**Motion carried by a total vote of 15 AYES, 4 NAYS, 1 ABSENT/EXCUSED.** **Senators voting in favor** of the motion: **Grow, Cook, Bjerke (Bjerke), Galloway, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow.** **Senators voting in opposition** to the motion: **Hart, Carlson, Zuiderveld.** **Senators Absent/Excused: Woodward.** **Representatives voting in favor** of the motion: **Tanner (14), Miller, Furniss, Petzke, Manwaring, Mitchell, Price, Bruce, Green.** **Representatives voting in opposition** to the motion: **Harris.**

**Ms. Poloni** presented a section of language associated with the DHW FY 2027 enhancement budget. She explained the language exempted DHW from FY 2027 transfer restrictions, allowing the Division of Early Learning and Development to move funds for personnel and benefit costs as needed. The department used this authority to cover staffing gaps, hire temporary staff, and address unexpected costs within a division. Transfers under the exemption remained subject to the 10% cap and were included in **S 1428.**

**UNANIMOUS  
CONSENT  
REQUEST:**

**Sen. Cook** requested and it was granted by unanimous consent, to adopt the following language:

**LANGUAGE:**

SECTION \_\_. TRANSFER LIMITATION EXEMPTION. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, the Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Early Learning and Development may transfer personnel costs and trustee and benefit payments pursuant to Section 67-3511, Idaho Code, for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

SECTION \_\_. CONDITIONS, LIMITATIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS.

Appropriations made pursuant to this act are subject to the conditions, limitations, and restrictions specified in this act.

**Ms. Poloni** presented a section of language associated with the FY 2027 enhancement budget.

**UNANIMOUS  
CONSENT  
REQUEST:**

**Sen. Cook** requested and it was granted by unanimous consent, to adopt the following language:

**LANGUAGE:**

SECTION \_\_. REQUIRING A REPORT FOR THE IDAHO HOME VISITING PROGRAM. The Department of Health and Welfare shall submit a report to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee by December 31, 2026, identifying outcomes and return on investment for moneys appropriated for the Idaho Home Visiting Program. The format and content of this report will be determined in consultation with the Budget and Policy Analysis Division of the Legislative Services Office.

**Ms. Poloni** presented a section of FY 2026 supplemental appropriation language for the Division of Youth Safety and Permanency. This exemption will allow the division to transfer funds to pay for the care of children who are in foster care and housed at SWITC; this language was included in **S 1428**.

**UNANIMOUS  
CONSENT  
REQUEST:**

**Sen. Wintrow** requested and it was granted by unanimous consent, to adopt the following language:

**LANGUAGE:**

SECTION \_\_. TRANSFER LIMITATION EXEMPTION. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, the Department of Health and Welfare, Youth Safety and Permanency is hereby exempted from the provision of Section 67- 3511(2), Idaho Code, allowing unlimited transfers into the Southwest Idaho Treatment Center (SWITC) Program for all moneys appropriated to it for the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

**Ms. Poloni** presented the revised FY 2027 enhancement budget for DHW Division of Youth Safety and Permanency; previously, this division was titled the Division of Child Welfare.

**MOTION:**

**Sen. Wintrow** made a motion, seconded by **Rep. Furniss**, beginning with the FY 2027 JFAC Program Maintenance Budget, to add \$431,900 ongoing to restore funding to the Foster Care and Assistance Program for post adoption services and \$250,000 ongoing to restore funding for safety assessments. This motion included, for FY 2027, for the Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Youth Safety and Permanency, an additional \$681,900 from the General Fund.

**Sen. Wintrow** stated this budget restoration funded post-adoption support, focusing on critical cases.

**ROLL CALL  
VOTE ON  
MOTION:**

**Motion carried by a total vote of 18 AYES, 1 NAY, 1 ABSENT/EXCUSED. Senators voting in favor of the motion: Grow, Cook, Bjerke (Bjerke), Hart, Carlson, Galloway, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow. Senators voting in opposition to the motion: Zuiderveld. Senators Absent/Excused: Woodward. Representatives voting in favor of the motion: Tanner (14), Miller, Furniss, Petzke, Manwaring, Mitchell, Price, Bruce, Harris, Green. Representatives voting in opposition to the motion: None.**

**Ms. Poloni** presented a section of language associated with the FY 2027 enhancement budget.

**UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST:** **Sen. Wintrow** requested and it was granted by unanimous consent, to adopt the following language:

**LANGUAGE:** SECTION \_\_. TRANSFER LIMITATION EXEMPTION. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, the Department of Health and Welfare, Youth Safety and Permanency is hereby exempted from the provision of Section 67-3511(2), Idaho Code, allowing unlimited transfers into the Southwest Idaho Treatment Center (SWITC) Program for all moneys appropriated to it for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

**Ms. Poloni** presented a section of language associated with the FY 2027 enhancement budget.

**UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST:** **Sen. Wintrow** requested and it was granted by unanimous consent, to adopt the following language:

**LANGUAGE:** SECTION \_\_. TRANSFER LIMITATION EXEMPTION. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, the Department of Health and Welfare, Youth Safety and Permanency may transfer personnel costs and trustee and benefit payments pursuant to Section 67-3511, Idaho Code, for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

SECTION \_\_. CONDITIONS, LIMITATIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS. Appropriations made pursuant to this act are subject to the conditions, limitations, and restrictions specified in this act.

**Ms. Poloni** presented the revised FY 2027 enhancement budget for DHW Division of Family and Community Partnerships.

**MOTION:** **Sen. Cook** made a motion, seconded by **Rep. Furniss**, beginning with the FY 2027 JFAC Program Maintenance Budget, to add \$180,000 for Kinship Navigation Services. This motion included, for FY 2027, for the Department of Health and Welfare, Family and Community Partnerships, an additional \$180,000.

**ROLL CALL VOTE ON MOTION:** **Motion carried by a total vote of 17 AYES, 2 NAYS, 1 ABSENT/EXCUSED. Senators voting in favor of the motion: Grow, Cook, Bjerke (Bjerke), Carlson, Galloway, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow. Senators voting in opposition to the motion: Hart, Zuiderveld. Senators Absent/Excused: Woodward. Representatives voting in favor of the motion: Tanner (14), Miller, Furniss, Petzke, Manwaring, Mitchell, Price, Bruce, Harris, Green. Representatives voting in opposition to the motion: None.**

**Ms. Poloni** presented the revised FY 2027 enhancement budget for DHW Public Health Services. The original FY 2027 DHW Public Health Services enhancement budget, **S 1401**, failed on the House floor.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Furniss** made a motion, seconded by **Rep. Bruce**, beginning with the FY 2027 JFAC program maintenance budget, to add \$4,237,200 onetime for the Idaho Home Visiting Program; \$28,020,000 onetime for the restoration of the Immunization Assessment Fund; \$200,000 ongoing for Fee for Service Laboratory Testing; \$6,533,700 onetime for ARPA-Funded Multi-Year Grants; \$478,700 onetime for HIV Prevention and Surveillance; \$299,600 onetime for Hepatitis Prevention and Surveillance; \$19,000 onetime from the General Fund to restore funding to the Suicide Prevention and Awareness Program; to reduce three full-time equivalent positions and \$4,242,800 to move the Idaho Home Visiting Program to the Division of Early Learning and Development; and to reduce \$478,600 ongoing from the Health Care Policy Initiatives Program. This motion included, for FY 2027, for the Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Public Health Services, a reduction of \$127,100 from the General Fund, an additional \$28,220,200 from dedicated funds, and \$6,973,700 from federal funds, for a total of \$35,066,800, and a reduction of three full-time equivalent positions.

**Rep. Furniss** stated this motion makes the Idaho Home Visiting Program Immunization Assessment Fund, HIV Prevention and Surveillance, and Hepatitis Prevention and Surveillance onetime. It additionally reduces the ARPA Multi-Year Grant by \$100K, specifically in the “Data Monetization and Public Health Data Systems and Management Grant,” and it reduces the Health Care Policy Initiatives Program ongoing by \$478,600. It also includes \$19K onetime from the General Fund to restore the 2% rescission made to the Suicide Prevention and Awareness Program.

**Co-Chair Tanner (14)** put the committee at ease at 1:43 p.m.

**Co-Chair Tanner (14)** resumed the meeting at 1:48 p.m.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** **Rep. Manwaring** made a substitute motion, seconded by **Sen. Wintrow**, beginning with the FY 2027 JFAC program maintenance budget, to add \$4,237,200 onetime for the Idaho Home Visiting Program; \$28,020,000 onetime for the restoration of the Immunization Assessment Fund; \$200,000 ongoing for Service Laboratory Testing; \$6,533,700 onetime for ARPA-Funded Multi-Year Grants; \$478,700 onetime for HIV Prevention and Surveillance; \$299,600 onetime for Hepatitis Prevention and Surveillance; \$19,000 onetime from the General Fund to restore funding for the Suicide Prevention Awareness Program; and to reduce 3.0 full-time equivalent positions and \$4,242,800 to move the Idaho Home Visiting Program to the Division of Early Learning and Development. This motion included, for FY 2027, for the Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Public Health Services, an addition of \$19,000 from the General Fund, \$28,298,400 from dedicated funds, and \$7,228,000 from federal funds, for a total 2027 enhancement of \$35,545,400, and the reduction of three full-time equivalent positions.

**Rep. Manwaring** stated he offered the substitute motion out of an abundance of caution, expressing concern the original motion could affect Graduate Medical Education (GME) funds allocated to federally qualified health centers. He indicated further review was needed to determine how those funds were distributed.

**ROLL CALL VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** **Substitute motion failed by a total vote of 11 AYES, 8 NAYS, 1 ABSENT/EXCUSED.** **Senators voting in favor** of the motion: **Grow, Cook, Bjerke (Bjerke), Carlson, Galloway, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow.** **Senators voting in opposition** to the motion: **Hart, Zuiderveld.** **Senators Absent/Excused:** **Woodward.** **Representatives voting in favor** of the motion: **Furniss, Petzke, Manwaring, Green.** **Representatives voting in opposition** to the motion: **Tanner (14), Miller, Mitchell, Price, Bruce, Harris.**

The majority having failed to vote in the affirmative in the House Appropriations Committee, the motion failed.

**ROLL CALL  
VOTE ON  
ORIGINAL  
MOTION:**

**Original motion carried by a total vote of 12 AYES, 7 NAYS, 1 ABSENT/EXCUSED. Senators voting in favor of the motion: Grow, Bjerke (Bjerke), Carlson, Zuiderveld, Galloway. Senators voting in opposition to the motion: Cook, Hart, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow. Senators Absent/Excused: Woodward. Representatives voting in favor of the motion: Tanner (14), Miller, Furniss, Petzke, Mitchell, Price, Bruce. Representatives voting in opposition to the motion: Manwaring, Harris, Green.**

**Ms. Poloni** presented sections of language associated with the FY 2027 enhancement budget.

**UNANIMOUS  
CONSENT  
REQUEST:**

**Rep. Furniss** requested and it was granted by unanimous consent, to adopt the following language:

**LANGUAGE:**

SECTION \_\_. REQUIRING A REPORT FOR THE SUICIDE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS PROGRAM. The Department of Health and Welfare shall submit a report to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee by December 31, 2026, identifying outcomes and return on investment for moneys appropriated for the Suicide Prevention and Awareness Program. The format and content of this report will be determined in consultation with the Budget and Policy Analysis Division of the Legislative Services Office.

SECTION \_\_. REQUIRING A REPORT FOR THE HIV PREVENTION AND SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM. The Department of Health and Welfare shall compile a report from the Public Health Districts and submit to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee by December 31, 2026, identifying outcomes and return on investment for moneys appropriated for the HIV Prevention and Surveillance Program. The format and content of this report will be determined in consultation with the Budget and Policy Analysis Division of the Legislative Services Office.

SECTION \_\_. REQUIRING A REPORT FOR THE HEPATITIS PREVENTION AND SURVEILLANCE. The Department of Health and Welfare shall submit a report to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee by December 31, 2026, identifying outcomes and return on investment for moneys appropriated for the Hepatitis Prevention and Surveillance. The format and content of this report will be determined in consultation with the Budget and Policy Analysis Division of the Legislative Services Office.

SECTION \_\_. REQUIRING A REPORT FOR THE IMMUNIZATION ASSESSMENT FUND. The Department of Health and Welfare shall submit a report to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee by December 31, 2026, identifying the vaccine utilization rate and a cost savings analysis for the State of Idaho and service providers regarding vaccines purchased using the Immunization Assessment Fund. The format and content of this report will be determined in consultation with the Budget and Policy Analysis Division of the Legislative Services Office.

**Ms. Poloni** presented a new section of language associated with the FY 2027 enhancement budget.

**UNANIMOUS  
CONSENT  
REQUEST:**

**Rep. Price** requested unanimous consent to adopt the following language:

**LANGUAGE:** SECTION \_\_\_. REQUIRING A REPORT FOR THE HIV PREVENTION AND SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM. The Department of Health and Welfare shall compile a report from the Public Health Districts and submit to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee by December 31, 2026, on the documented immigration status of individuals utilizing HIV prevention services through the HIV Prevention and Surveillance Program. The format and content of this report will be determined in consultation with the Budget and Policy Analysis Division of the Legislative Services Office.

**Sen. Wintrow** objected.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Price** made a motion, seconded by **Rep. Harris**, to adopt the following language:

**LANGUAGE:** SECTION \_\_\_. REQUIRING A REPORT FOR THE HIV PREVENTION AND SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM. The Department of Health and Welfare shall compile a report from the Public Health Districts and submit to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee by December 31, 2026, on the documented immigration status of individuals utilizing HIV prevention services through the HIV Prevention and Surveillance Program. The format and content of this report will be determined in consultation with the Budget and Policy Analysis Division of the Legislative Services Office.

**Co-Chair Tanner (14)** explained 2025 legislation addressed DHW funding across multiple programs. During the review, more than 100 illegal immigrants in Idaho were found enrolled in HIV programs. He noted the State had lost a related lawsuit, requiring continued funding for these services. He added public health reports showed an increase in HIV cases, particularly in eastern Idaho, and said the measure would allow the Legislature to assess contributing factors and consider appropriate policy responses.

**ROLL CALL VOTE ON MOTION:** **Motion carried by a total vote of 14 AYES, 4 NAYS, 2 ABSENT/EXCUSED. Senators voting in favor** of the motion: **Grow, Cook, Bjerke (Bjerke), Hart, Carlson, Zuiderveld, Galloway. Senators voting in opposition** to the motion: **Ward-Engelking, Wintrow. Senators Absent/Excused: Woodward. Representatives voting in favor** of the motion: **Tanner (14), Miller, Furniss, Mitchell, Price, Bruce, Harris. Representatives voting in opposition** to the motion: **Petzke, Manwaring. Representatives Absent/Excused: Green.**

**Ms. Alex Williamson**, Senior Analyst, LSO Budget & Policy, presented trailer legislation to **H 730** concerning SNAP eligibility. She noted the committee had previously reviewed the fiscal note for **H 730**, which included a onetime \$351K appropriation from the General Fund. Following that review, DHW clarified a federal match required inclusion. The decision before the committee was the onetime appropriation of \$163K in federal funds to align with funds approved by JFAC the previous week.

**MOTION:** **Sen. Cook** made a motion, seconded by **Sen. Bjerke (Bjerke)**, for FY 2027, for the Department of Health and Welfare, in the Division of Welfare, the addition of \$163,000 onetime from federal funds for changes to the SNAP eligibility system.

**ROLL CALL  
VOTE ON  
MOTION:**

**Motion carried by a total vote of 16 AYES, 2 NAYS, 2 ABSENT/EXCUSED. Senators voting in favor of the motion: Grow, Cook, Bjerke (Bjerke), Hart, Carlson, Zuiderveld, Galloway. Senators voting in opposition to the motion: Ward-Engelking, Wintrow. Senators Absent/Excused: Woodward. Representatives voting in favor of the motion: Tanner (14), Miller, Furniss, Petzke, Manwaring, Mitchell, Price, Bruce, Harris. Representatives voting in opposition to the motion: None. Representatives Absent/Excused: Green.**

**Ms. Williamson** began presenting decisions connected to the Rural Health Transformation Program. She explained the Rural Health Transformation Program, authorized through **H.R. 1** and run by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), aimed to improve rural health care through prevention, workforce development, technology, and new care models. Idaho received \$929M over five years, about \$185.9M/year, with each year’s funding available for two years. She noted the Governor’s recommendation and explained the actions before the committee were complicated by overlapping state and federal fiscal years and grant periods.

**Ms. Williamson** presented language related to the Rural Health Transformation Program. The language proposed creating a fund to receive federal dollars and establishing a legislative committee to oversee the funds. The committee’s composition would follow the structure in **H 916**, while also incorporating the Senate amendments to **S 1264**, for data access requirements.

**UNANIMOUS  
CONSENT  
REQUEST:**

**Rep. Miller** requested and it was granted by unanimous consent, to adopt the following language:

**LANGUAGE:**

SECTION \_\_. That Title 56, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW CHAPTER, to be known and designated as Chapter 25, Title 56, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 25: IDAHO RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM**

**SECTION 56-2501. IDAHO RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION FUND.**

(1) There is hereby created and established in the State Treasury the Idaho Rural Health Transformation Fund. The fund shall consist of moneys received by the State of Idaho from the Federal Rural Health Transformation Program Grant. Moneys in the fund shall be used solely for federally approved Rural Health Transformation Program purposes, subject to appropriation by the Legislature upon recommendation from the Rural Health Transformation Committee as established in Section 56-2502, Idaho Code.

(2) The Idaho Rural Health Transformation Fund shall be subject to annual public reporting of all receipts and expenditures.

**SECTION 56-2502. RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE.**

(1) There is hereby created the Rural Health Transformation Committee, hereafter referred to as the committee. The committee shall consist of nine (9) members to be appointed as follows: four (4) members of the Senate shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, one (1) of whom shall be Co-Chair of the committee; four (4) members of the House of Representatives shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one (1) of whom shall be Co-Chair of the committee; and one (1) nonvoting member shall be elected by the Governor. The term of a legislative member of the committee shall coincide with the term of election to the Legislature. A vacancy during the term of a member of the committee

shall be filled by the appointing authority of that member, and members may be reappointed to a subsequent term.

(2) The committee shall have the following powers and duties:

- (a) To establish rules for governance and operation of committee proceedings;
- (b) To establish any additional requirements for funding subawards, which shall include application scoring rubrics, for the first award year and by September 30 for the four (4) remaining award years;
- (c) To establish an expedited award review process with the Department of Health and Welfare for funding subawards. The award review process shall align with federally approved timelines as outlined in Idaho's Rural Health Transformation Plan;
- (d) To receive no less than quarterly updates on progress toward funded projects, expenditures, and outcomes from the Department of Health and Welfare;
- (e) To evaluate the potential and actual success of programs funded with moneys from the Idaho Rural Health Transformation Fund;
- (f) To retain oversight of moneys in the Idaho Rural Health Transformation Fund;
- (g) To require a sustainability plan for any initiative funded by Idaho Rural Health Transformation moneys; and
- (h) To make any recommendations to the Legislature on the use of funds, as long as recommendations are within the parameters of the federally approved Idaho plan.

(3) The committee shall remain active until all moneys in the Idaho Rural Transformation Fund have been appropriated and expended.

(4) The committee shall have access to all data regarding Rural Health Transformation Program awards received or created by the Department of Health and Welfare, including but not limited to scoring data, rubrics, and reporting information. Such data shall be readily accessible through a secure portal, website, shared drive, or other method providing instantaneous or real-time access.

**Ms. Williamson** explained the committee would next consider appropriating funds into the new Rural Health Transformation Program Fund. The FY 2026 supplemental appropriation followed the Governor's recommendation and included 12 limited-service positions tied to the funding and \$3.7M onetime.

**MOTION:**

**Rep. Miller** made a motion, seconded by **Sen. Cook**, for FY 2026, for the Department of Health and Welfare, in the Division of Indirect Support Services, the onetime addition of \$3,737,600 from federal funds and 12.00 full-time equivalent positions for the Rural Health Transformation Program.

**ROLL CALL  
VOTE ON  
MOTION:**

**Motion carried by a total vote of 14 AYES, 4 NAYS, 2 ABSENT/EXCUSED. Senators voting in favor of the motion: Grow, Cook, Bjerke (Bjerke), Hart, Carlson, Galloway, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow. Senators voting in opposition to the motion: Zuiderveld. Senators Absent/Excused: Woodward. Representatives voting in favor of the motion: Tanner (14), Miller, Furniss, Petzke, Manwaring, Mitchell. Representatives voting in opposition to the motion: Price, Bruce, Harris. Representatives Absent/Excused: Green.**

**Ms. Williamson** stated the next action addressed the FY 2027 appropriation for the Rural Health Transformation Program. The proposed motion would include the same 12.00 limited-serviced positions, ongoing for FY 2027.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Miller** made a motion, seconded by **Sen. Cook**, for FY 2027, for the Department of Health and Welfare, in the Division of Indirect Support Services, the addition of \$1,328,700 ongoing from federal funds, \$294,076,500 onetime from federal funds, and 12.00 full-time equivalent positions for the Rural Health Transformation Program.

**Rep. Manwaring** observed the new funds spanned several years and the Rural Health Transformation Committee had not yet reviewed the first allocation. He emphasized spending should follow the committee's recommendations and highlighted major amounts for subgrants, facility upgrades, technology, and emergency systems. He urged proper review to avoid future legislative issues.

**ROLL CALL VOTE ON MOTION:** **Motion carried by a total vote of 15 AYES, 4 NAYS, 1 ABSENT/EXCUSED. Senators voting in favor of the motion: Grow, Woodward, Cook, Bjerke (Bjerke), Hart, Carlson, Galloway, Ward-Engelking, Wintrow. Senators voting in opposition to the motion: Zuiderveld. Representatives voting in favor of the motion: Tanner (14), Miller, Furniss, Petzke, Manwaring, Mitchell. Representatives voting in opposition to the motion: Price, Bruce, Harris. Representatives Absent/Excused: Green.**

**Ms. Williamson** presented a section of language associated with the Rural Health Transformation Program.

**UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST:** **Rep. Miller** requested and it was granted by unanimous consent, to adopt the following language:

**LANGUAGE:** SECTION \_\_. RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM–SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITMENTS. It is the intent of the Legislature that the State of Idaho continue to pursue the scope of practice reforms for physician assistants and dental hygienists that were identified in the Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) proposal submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and that contributed to the State's program scoring and award determination. The Department of Health and Welfare shall report to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee and the germane policy committees on the status of efforts to advance those reforms, including legislative or administrative actions taken during the prior year and any additional steps necessary to fulfill those commitments.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

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Representative Tanner (14)  
Chair

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Alyson Jackson  
Secretary