



H0073 – Financial Exploitation - Strengthens the Vulnerable Adult law by allowing the court to order people who exploit a vulnerable adult to pay full restitution

Status: Passed House 69-0-1 on 2/19, held in Senate Judiciary & Rules Committee

Council Position: Monitoring

H0094 – Vote By Mail – Provides the option for county commissioners to adopt a vote-by-mail voting system. Polls will still be available in a few locations for those who choose to vote in person. This would apply to all primary, general, and special elections.

Status: Sent back to House State Affairs on 2/16; held in House State Affairs Committee

Council Position: **Oppose**

H0165 – Birth Defect Notices Required in Liquor Stores – Requires all liquor stores to place at least two notices in their store about the dangers of fetal alcohol syndrome caused by drinking alcohol while pregnant. Fiscal Impact is less than \$10,000.

Status: Passed House 56-13-1 on 2/28; held in Senate Health and Welfare Committee

Council Position: Monitoring

H0166 – Medicaid Fraud Control Unit – Provides for a Medicaid Fraud Program in the Department of Health and Welfare that is outside the scope and duties of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit and establishes an independent Medicaid Fraud Unit in the office of the Attorney General. It outlines the handling of fraud cases between the two and provides the Office of the AG the authority to prosecute Medicaid fraud.

Status: Passed House 69-0-1 on 2/28; amended in the Senate and passed 32-0-03 on 3/19; House concurred with Senate amendments 68-0-2 on 3/26; to Governor

Council Position: Monitoring

H0167 – Personal Assistance Services Agency Responsibilities – Clarifies the difference between personal assistance service agencies and fiscal intermediate agencies. Amends current law and establishes that

agencies may provide either personal assistance services, fiscal intermediate services, or both.

Status: Passed House (as amended) 66-0-4 on 3/8, passed Senate 34-0-1 on 3/20; LAW

Council Position: Monitoring

H0246 – Regional Transportation Authority – Authorizes a Regional Public Transportation Authority to adopt a local option sales tax that would support the development, construction, and operation of public transportation systems. The tax would have to be voted for with a two thirds majority at a May or November election.

Status: Defeated in House Revenue and Taxation Committee

Council Position: **Support**

H0311 – Appropriation for Developmental Disabilities Services – Provides \$18,611,200 for community developmental disabilities services and 166.92 FTE; provides \$24,317,700 and 375.53 positions for the Idaho State School and Hospital (ISSH) for Fiscal Year 2008 (July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008).

Status: Passed the House 67-0-3 on 3/15; passed Senate 35-0-0 on 3/21; to Governor

Council Position: Monitoring

H0322 – Appropriation for Medicaid – Provides \$1,292,917,400 and 278.5 positions for the Division of Medicaid for Fiscal Year 2008.

Status: Passed House 69-0-1 on 3/19; passed Senate 29-6-0 on 3/22; to Governor

Council Position: Monitoring

HCR008 – Human Rights, Diversity – Recognizes the human rights of all citizens, regardless of race, religion, gender, or disability. Accepts diversity in both Idaho and the United States and proclaims commitment to human rights.

Status: Passed House 58-9-2 on 2/5; adopted by voice vote in the Senate on 3/13; to Secretary of State on 3/16

Council Position: Monitoring

HCR015 – Family Directed Service System – Encourages the Department of Health and Welfare, in collaboration with the DD Council and others, to convene a task force to develop a family-directed service system for families of minor-age children with developmental disabilities similar to the self-directed system that has been developed over the last

few years. This would permit families to make decisions and have some control over how Medicaid money is spent for their children.

Status: Passed House 67-0-3 on 2/26; passed Senate 35-0-0 on 3/14; to Secretary of State on 3/16

Council Position: **Support/Co-sponsor**

HCR018 – Early Childhood Learning Standards – Establishes early childhood learning standards for child care facilities in order to develop a rating system for such facilities. This quality rating system would be available to parents in order to compare child care facilities before enrolling their children and provide parental choice.

Status: Failed in the House 27-43-0 on 3/5

Council Position: Monitoring

HCR019 – Vocational Rehabilitation Division/Rules Rejected – This concurrent resolution rejects certain sections of a pending rule (Docket 47-1010-0601) pertaining to Minimum Standards Governing Extended Employment Services; the rejected sections limited access to new employment providers.

Status: House adopted 68-0-2 on 3/1; Senate adopted by voice vote on 3/14; to Secretary of State on 3/16

Council Position: **Support (see Docket below)**

Docket 47-1010-0601 – Minimum Standards Governing Extended Employment Services – Outlines the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation administrative procedures for individuals with developmental disabilities. Includes integrated community employment and segregated employment provided by rehabilitation agencies and funded by the State General Fund.

Status: Amended by Senate and House Education Committees

Council Position: **Support with sections deleted**

HCR022 – Disability History Month – This will encourage both public and private schools to recognize Disability History Month as the month of October and provide instruction on disability history. Establishing Disability History Month will increase awareness and understanding about disabilities and encourage people with disabilities to continue to reach their goals.

Status: Passed House by voice vote on 3/5; passed Senate by voice vote on 3/9; to Secretary of State on 3/14

Council Position: **Support**

HCR024 – Parent Preparation Programs – Emphasizes the parental role in children's education and that parents are an important factor in teaching

their children the things they need to know before beginning kindergarten. This bill could be seen by some as an alternative to Senate Bill 1079 which offers prekindergarten to children age four or older.

Status: Passed House 48-19-3 on 3/8; held in Senate Education Committee

Council Position: Monitoring

S1011 – Disabled Persons, Hunting from Vehicle – Amends the description of disability criteria to acquire a permit to hunt from a motorized vehicle. Makes criteria to obtain a license to hunt from a motorized vehicle consistent with IDAPA and matches criteria to acquire a disabled hunting and/or fishing license.

Status: Passed Senate 32-0-3 on 2/5; passed House 69-0-1 on 2/19; Signed by Governor, 2/23

Council Position: Monitoring

S1040 – Educational Support, Teacher Training – Appropriates \$2,000,000 to be used for the training regular classroom teachers who work with children with disabilities. Also trains and hires aids to assist those teachers, and hires substitute teachers in order for the teachers to meet with parents of children with disabilities, IEP development, and other planning duties involved with children with disabilities.

Status: Sent to Senate Finance on 1/22

Council Position: Support

S1046 – First Grade Eligibility, Private Kindergartens – Amends section 33-201 of Idaho Code which states that children who have attended 450 hours of private kindergarten in another state, but have not yet reached age six, are eligible for first grade in Idaho; however, those who attend 450 hours in Idaho are not eligible. This corrects the legislation to make it equal for children who attend private kindergarten in this state. It states that children who attend 450 hours of private kindergarten in Idaho or any other state are eligible for first grade in Idaho. This legislation also states that “school age” for children with disabilities begins at age 3 and continues until age 21.

Status: Sent to Senate Education Committee on 1/26

Council Position: Monitoring

S1059 – Persons unable to sign documents – Establishes the correct method to sign a document for a person who is physically incapable of signing. This bill allows a person to just place a mark rather than their signature.

Status: Sent to Judiciary and Rules Committee on 1/30
Council Position: Monitoring

S1079 – Prekindergarten, School Age, Not State-funded – Changes section 33-201 of Idaho Code to state that “school age” begins at age 4 and continues through age 21. Grants all school districts the authority to offer prekindergarten for children who reach age 4 by the first day of September.

Status: Passed Senate 19-16-0 on 3/6; held in House Education Committee

Council Position: **Support**

S1107 – Medical Insurance, No Genetic Discrimination – Amends section 41-1313 of Idaho Code created by Senate Bill 1423 in 2006 which states that no company or person shall discriminate against a person in terms of medical insurance, premiums and policy fees. This bill changes “health benefit plan” to exclude long term disability insurance. It also changes the meaning of “disability insurance” to cover only medical and hospital expenses, not individually purchased products.

Status: Passed Senate 26-6-3 on 3/1; Failed House 26-44-0 on 3/14

Council Position: Monitoring

S1143 – Mental Health/ Substance Abuse Treatment Grants – This legislation expands the state mental health authority development grant program to include substance abuse services. This is a recommendation of the Interim Committee on Mental Health and Substance Abuse that met in 2006.

Status: Passed Senate 35-0-0 on 2/26; passed House 68-0-2 on 3/20; LAW

Council Position: Monitoring

S1147 – Children’s Mental Health, At Risk Teens – This act would create a three-year pilot project to establish a new model for providing Idaho school districts with clinically trained substance abuse and mental health specialist counselors and specialist social workers to provide treatment services for teens in Idaho's rural areas. Intent is to increase crisis intervention and addiction recovery, address teen suicide, depression, drug and alcohol use, classroom disruption, violence, incarceration and other negative outcomes that may result from leaving youth mental health and substance abuse issues untreated in Idaho's schools and communities.

Status: Passed Senate 27-8-0 on 3/6; passed House 69-0-1 on 3/22; to Governor

Council Position: Support

S1219 – Appropriations- H&W Independent Councils – Appropriates \$4,744,500 to the Department of Health and Welfare for the Independent Councils for fiscal year 2008, including \$656,800 for the DD Council for Fiscal Year 2008.

Status: Passed Senate 32-0-03 on 3/19; passed House 63-5-2 on 3/21; to Governor on 3/26

Council Position: Monitoring

S1220 – Appropriation for Vocational Rehabilitation – Provides \$24,675,300 and 150 positions for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; included in the appropriation is \$4,237,100 for community supported employment and \$70,300 for epilepsy services for Fiscal Year 2008.

Status: Passed Senate 32-0-03 on 3/19; passed House 68-0-2 on 3/21; to Governor on 3/26

Council Position: Monitoring

SCR102 – American Sign Language, Foreign Language Credit – Encourages Idaho public high schools, private, and public colleges and universities to recognize American Sign Language as a foreign language credit. It also encourages the State Board of Education and the State Department of Education to provide information and incentive for schools to offer American Sign Language coursework as a foreign language credit.

Status: Passed Senate 1/30 on voice vote; adopted by House on voice vote on 2/20; to Secretary of State on 2/26

Council Position: Support

SCR103 – Deaf Children, Unique Educational Needs – Encourages the Legislature to recognize the unique educational needs of children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Status: Passed Senate 27-7-1 on 2/1; adopted by House on voice vote on 2/20; to Secretary of State on 2/26

Council Position: Support

SCR108 – Mental Health/Substance Abuse Treatment – Recommends that the state retain an independent contractor to review Idaho's current mental health and substance abuse treatment delivery system; this is the result of interim committee work.

Status: Adopted in Senate 32-0-3 on 2/14; passed House 69-0-1 on 3/6; to Secretary of State on 3/9

Council Position: Monitoring

SCR109 – Mental Health/ Assessment Tools – The Interim Committee on Mental Health and Substance Abuse recommends that all state agencies involved with substance abuse/ mental health collaborate to develop standard statewide assessment tools substance abuse and mental health. This legislation requires the assessment tools to be reported to the legislative Health Care Task Force by January 1, 2008.

Status: Passed Senate 33-0-2 on 2/14; passed House 69-0-1 on 3/6; to Secretary of State on 3/9

Council Position: Monitoring

Docket 16-0309-0604/ Docket 16-0310-0602 – Medicaid Basic Plan/ Medicaid Enhanced Plan – Clarifies policy, any services provided to a child during school must be billed to Medicaid by the school.

Status: Approved by Senate and House Health and Welfare Committees

Council Position: Monitoring