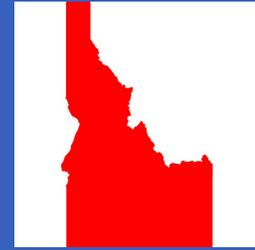


February 15, 2018

REPUBLICAN UPDATE FROM THE IDAHO LEGISLATURE



The latest from your state lawmakers

It's been a busy week in the state Capitol. In this second issue of our legislative update we fill you in on some of the top news from Boise.

You can always check our webpage on the state party's website for regular updates.

[Visit our web page](#)

Abortion Pill Reversal bill clears Senate committee

On Monday a bill to make information about Abortion Pill Reversal available to women considering a chemical abortion was approved by the Senate State Affairs Committee.

Abortion Pill Reversal refers to a treatment for women who have taken the first of two abortion pills and change their minds. A woman who decides she wants to keep her baby is administered progesterone to counter the effects of the first pill. The protocol has been used on hundreds of women and many have gone on to deliver healthy babies.

Even though the bill is only about providing information to women about their options, abortion advocates are strongly opposed. But the star of the hearing was a brave woman named Rebecca (pictured at right), who testified about her successful experience using abortion pill reversal. With her was her son Zechariah, who is the happy result of her changing her mind.

To read a statement on the bill from its sponsor, Sen. Lori Den Hartog, R-Meridian, [click here](#).



About those science standards...

There's been some rather misleading coverage this past week on proposed updates to Idaho's school science teaching standards. The state

standards are being updated to improve science instruction and emphasize the importance of inquiry on the part of students.

Some news stories have left the impression that House Republicans “gutted” the standards. In fact, of 327 proposed new standards, all but one were approved. Other sections called “supporting content” – designed to help teachers in teaching the standards – were removed by the House because some members were concerned about putting curriculum guidance into law, instead of leaving it up to the school districts. That supporting content would still be available to teachers from the State Superintendent’s office.

You can read House Education Committee Chair Rep. Julie VanOrden’s statement on this topic [here](#). The Senate Education Committee heard public testimony this week and will vote on the standards next week. We’ll keep you updated.



Bills & Issues of note

- In ways big and small, Republicans are working this session to cut red tape. House Bill 361 eliminates a fee associated with filing a statement of termination for a business. You can keep track of it [here](#). House Bill 379 allows only one incorporator of a non-profit to sign articles of incorporation rather than every incorporator, which is currently required. You can track it [here](#). Both bills easily passed the House and will be voted on soon by the Senate.
- [Senate Concurrent Resolution 129](#), encouraging the adoption of policies that build the capacity of the family to be self-sufficient rather than increase government programs, passed the Senate last week on a voice vote. Democrats voted against it.



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