Rev. 05/2008

LOBBYIST MONTHLY REPORT FORM



State of Idaho

Ben Ysursa Secretary of State To Be Filed By:

L-3 LOBBYISTS
(Sec. 67-6619)

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SECRETARY OF STATE STATE OF IDAHO

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Ben Ysursa Secretary of State PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0080 Phone: (208) 334-2852 Fax: (208) 334-2282						No. 3								
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Item 4

Item 4 is no longer statutorily required.

	ubject matter of proposed legislat		LEGISLATIVE SUBJECT IDENTIFICATION							
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Identify any rule, ratemaking decision, procurement, contract, bid or bid process, financial services or bond lobbyist was supporting or opposing.				CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above is a true, complete and correct statement in accordance with Section 67-6624 Idaho Code. Lobbyist signature Date						

Legislative Report Page 1 of 4



Legislative Report

Vol XLI, No. 3 - April 8, 2009 Steven Millard, President Toni Lawson, Vice President, Governmental Relations

IHA Sponsored Legislation

Bill # Overview & Supporting Documents Status

Ordinary and Necessary Expense (aka Constitutional Amendment allowing financing for public hospitals) - Outlines ballot initiative that clarifies the ability of certain public entities to incur debt or long term financial obligations without voter approval provided that no tax dollars are used to

HJR001 House
Rev / Tax

secure or pay for said obligation. Update 4/8: Awaiting a hearing.

Treatment and Consent for Developmentally Disabled - This legislation provides a system whereby withdrawing or withholding treatment to developmentally disabled persons could be allowed if continued treatment would be futile or inhumane. The legislation creates a voluntary process whereby physicians or surrogate decision makers may ask a hospital ethics committee to determine whether it is medically appropriate to withhold or withdraw treatment. If the ethics committee determines that it is medically appropriate to withdraw or withhold treatment, the patient or surrogates will be given time to transfer care to another willing provider. Amendments also resolve issues that have caused concern or questions over the years, including identifying emancipating events that allow minors to consent to their own care; clarifying the hierarchy for surrogate decision makers; confirming that health care providers may still utilize DNRs (do not resuscitate); and confirming that surrogates may execute POSTs (physicians orders for scope of treatment) on behalf of the patient. Update 4/8: Opposition led by a national Right to Life attorney has the bill being held while the issues are addressed. While IHA has offered to make revisions to the legislation, the Right to Life representatives have stated they will still opposed the bill.

Trauma Registry Funding - The Idaho Trauma Registry was established in 2005 to collect data needed to analyze the incidence, severity, causes, costs and outcomes of trauma in Idaho in order to improve emergency medical systems and to prevent serious injuries. Only 29 percent of traumatic injuries are covered by private insurance, about one third were covered by government insurance, and an additional 22 percent were reported as self pay. EMS funding for the Idaho Trauma Registry has been discontinued. The proposed legislation increases the Emergency Medical Services fee portion of the motor vehicle registration fees by thirty cents and dedicates that amount to the operation of the Idaho Trauma Registry. Update 4/8 - The bill failed in the House Transportation Committee effectively ending funding for this project for which IHA is the contractor. For more information, see the 4/4 edition of the Weekly Bulletin.

Cancer Registry Funding - Increases the percentage of the tobacco tax allocated to the Idaho Cancer Data Registry (which IHA is the contractor for) by 1%. Update 4/8 - The bill, which would have allocated an additional \$50,000 for the registry, failed on the House floor. The registry will continue to operate with reduced services. See the 4/10 edition of the Weekly Bulletin for additional information.

Senate Passed 31-3-1

Senate

Passed 34-0-1

House

H/W

House Failed in Transportation Committee

> House Failed - 26-41-3

S1114

\$1104

H0275

4/10/2009

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H0279

H0123

H0174

H0185

Pharmacy - Includes telepharmacy in the definition of a drug outlet which would allow First Order Reviews to be conducted by out of state pharmacists who are part of health systems with outlets in Idaho. Update 4/8: This latest version of the legislation was introduced this week and assigned to the Health and Welfare Committee. A hearing is tentatively scheduled for Friday.

House - H/W

Note: There are other priority pieces of legislation being advanced by IHA. For detailed discussions, please be sure to participate in our weekly Legislative Update calls - Mondays at 11am (MST) / 10am (PST). For call in information, contact Darryl-lynn Oakes (208.338.5100 x 204).

Priority Healthcare Legislation

Bill# Position, Rationale, & Update **Final Status**

Managed Care Reform Act - Amends existing law relating to the Managed Care Reform Act to provide further legislative intent and to provide certain H0074 contractual obligations of a managed care organization.

Pulled, replaced by H0174

Medicaid Funding - This legislation is proposed to contain Medicaid costs and reduce reimbursement and benefits to align with Medicaid's budget constraints. Changes include both short-term and ongoing reductions. The ongoing reductions intend to provide for sustainable cost controls. Changes include: reductions in skilled nursing home rates, a freeze on intermediate care facility rates, a freeze on physician and dental reimbursement, the removal of the nonemergency medical transportation benefit from the Basic Plan, and the addition of disproportionate share payments to the hospital assessment calculation. These reductions reflect a significant share of the overall reductions needed in the Medicaid program. While almost identical to RS 18565, important changes have been added based on discussions with the Idaho Hospital Association. Note: While IHA did not oppose the bill when it was heard in the House Health & Welfare Committee, we did testify on the impact of any budget cuts to Idaho's community hospitals and our desire that the cuts do not become permanent and that the federal matching dollars are used to offset the deep cuts hospitals are experiencing.

Enacted Session Law Chapter 34 effective 4/1/09 for section 4; all others 7/1/09

Managed Care Reform Act - Amends existing law relating to the Managed Care Reform Act to provide further legislative intent and to provide certain contractual obligations of a managed care organization. Position: OPPOSED Note: This legislation is aimed specifically at Kootenai Medical Center and the North Idaho Heath Network and also has implications for other health networks around the state. Although changes have been made, there is still strong opposition to the legislation. Update 4/8: Is being held in committee.

House - Bus

Midwife Licensure - Establishes mandatory licensure for midwives through the Bureau of Occupational Licenses. Delineates the scope of work for midwives, establishes provisions for medications and other actions that may be utilized. and outlines instances where midwives will refer patients to other medical providers and when clients may need to be transported to a full service hospital. Session Law Chapter 65 Position: No Opposition Note: After multiple conversations with the medical community, including the IHA, IMA and Idaho Perinatal Project, sponsors of the sunset 7/1/14 (section 1) legislation have made many changes from previous versions. The bill has no major opposition and is expected to pass this session.

Enacted effective 7/1/09

Other Health Related Information

Bill# **Title & Description** Status Legislative Report

H0055

H0144

H0192

S1014

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medications based on personal beliefs. 4/8 Update: While the bill has passed the House, multiple healthcare organizations have expressed concern over the H0216 extremely broad language and the potential for unintended consequences.

House Passed 48-21-1

Stakeholders are meeting the the bill's sponsor to discuss further.

<u>Senate</u> HΛW

Nurse Licensing - Under current law, nurses holding valid licenses in other jurisdictions seeking licensure in Idaho are required to meet mandated rigid academic and examination obligations. While this is ordinarily appropriate, in cases where nurses have been practicing safely for many years without any discipline in another jurisdiction, these rigid requirements may be an unnecessary artificial barrier to licensure in Idaho. The proposed legislation, coupled with a corresponding rule change and policy implementation, will permit the Board of Nursing to exercise sound discretion to waive strict adherence to these requirements where there is an adequate showing that the applying nurse is competent, public safety will not be compromised, and the nurse has satisfied equivalency requirements set by the Board.

Pharmacy Conscience Bill - Would allow pharmacists to refuse to dispense

Enacted Session Law Chapter 67 effective 7/1/09

Hospitalization of Mentally III - Amends existing law to clarify that counties will be responsible for payment of hospitalization of the mentally ill at the Medicaid rate.

House - H/W

Health Insurance Review - Creates the Idaho Health Carrier External Review Act allowing those covered by health insurance the right to an outside independent review of a health carrier's decision to deny an insured's claim on the grounds the service is not medically necessary or is investigational. When a request for external review is received, the Department of Insurance will randomly assign an independent review organization from a list of qualified review organizations. The cost of the external review will be borne by the health plan and a decision by an independent review organization will be binding on both the health plan and the covered person, unless the covered person has a right to further review under federal law.

Enacted Session Law Chapter 87 effective 1/1/10

Nursing Educator Scholarship Act - Establishes a scholarship fund for students seeking advanced nursing degrees (masters and doctorate). 4/8 H0224 **Update**: Bill's sponsor has opted to hold the bill and work on revisions.

House - Educ

Naturopath Licensure - Repeals existing law relating to the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Act

Senate Passed 27-6-2

> House H/W

Physician Visa Program - Establishes National Interest Waiver criteria for physicians to allow for a foreign physician pursuing a change in immigration status to stay in the United States in exchange for a commitment to practice medicine to an underserved population for a three to five year period. Idaho communities may only apply for the placement of a foreign physician after demonstrating their inability to recruit an American physician, and all other recruitment/placement possibilities have proven to be unsuccessful. This bill also modifies code pertaining to the Conrad J1 Visa Waiver Program to allow physicians to show proof of eligibility for an Idaho license as part of the application criteria. Successful completion of the residency or training program and an unrestricted license to practice medicine in the State of Idaho are conditions for employment.

Enacted Session Law Chapter 106 effective 7/1/09

Emergency Medical Services - This legislation refines and updates code content as well as introduces provisions clarifying the EMS bureau's authority to investigate and act against licenses when violations of laws or rules occur,

Senate Passed 33-0-2

S1108

S1076

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thereby protecting the public.

House Passed 68-0-2

<u>Drug Donation</u> - Establishes a program under the Board of Pharmacy to which pharmacies, hospitals, nursing homes and drug manufacturers and distributors could donate legend drugs to qualifying community health centers and free clinics. The community health centers and free clinics that elect to participate in this program would, in turn, be allowed to dispense those drugs, pursuant to valid prescriptions, to medically indigent patients.

Senate Passed 35-0-0

Insurance Cover - Cancer Medication - Directs health benefit plans providing coverage for cancer chemotherapy treatment, to provide coverage for

House Passed 67-1-2

prescribed, orally administered anticancer medication on a basis no less favorable than intravenously administered or injected cancer medications that are covered as medical benefits.

Senate -Com / HR

House / Senate Abbreviations

Ag Aff - Agricultural Affairs Approp - Appropriations Bus - Business Com/HR - Commerce & Human Resources Educ - Education

Envir - Environment, Energy & Technology

S1109

S1116

Fin - Finanace H/W - Health & Welfare JFAC - Joint Finance & Appropriation Committee Jud - Judiciary, Rules & Administration Loc Gov - Local Government Res/Con - Resources & Conversation

Res/Env - Resources & Environment Rev/Tax - Revenue & Taxation St Aff - State Affairs Transp - Transportation & Defense W/M - Way and Means

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