



4th Legislative Update

February 8, 2008

Legislative Links

- Who's my legislator?
- Idaho Legislature website
- How a bill becomes a law
- How to testify before a legislative committee

Idaho State Legislature
2008 Legislative Session

IVC Sees Movement on Children's Health Initiative

The House Health & Welfare Committee held a print hearing on Wednesday, February 6th for IVC's draft of a concurrent resolution on children's health - identified with its routing service (RS) number, **RS17615**, and title, "**Concurrent Resolution Recognizing the Importance of Children's Health**". The committee voted to introduce it (meaning it will be printed and assigned a number in the next day or two).

Next steps: We'll keep you informed as to when a public hearing is held on the resolution.

Upcoming Event--City Club forum, February 19th

Topic-- "Early Childhood Education: Finding a Path Forward"

City Club is hosting an Early Childhood Education forum on Tuesday, February 19th, from 11:45 am - 1:15 pm. City Club forums are designed to "allow for open and civil discussion about critical issues." Idaho Voices for Children is a forum underwriter, and as such, **we encourage everyone to attend and show their support** for this important issue. For more information or to register for the forum, visit www.cityclubofboise.org.

Daycare Facilities

The [Daycare Facilities bill \(S1376\)](#) has been introduced by the Senate Health & Welfare Committee with several legislators signed on as co-sponsors (scroll to the end of the legislation to see the full list of co-sponsors). It is currently awaiting a hearing by the Senate Health and Welfare Committee. Idaho Voices for Children supports this bill, and we'll be monitoring its progress closely. You can read some of the details in the legislative tracking table below, or click on [this link](#) to view the full bill text.

Legislative Quote:

"If there's one thing that each and every one of us can agree on, it's how precious children are."
--Sen. Tim Corder (Dist. 22 - Mountain Home),
speaking in support of the Daycare Facilities bill (S1376)

We will continue to track this and other legislation, keeping you informed of proposals that may affect Idaho's children.

To view a list of our policy priorities for the 2008 legislative session, visit our website at <http://www.idahovoices.org/policy/policy.htm>.



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- Join IVC today and receive regular legislative updates!
- Lend your voice in support of Idaho's 374,000 children (Idaho Kids Count 2007)
- Membership starts as low as \$15 annually.

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Legislative Tracking

Child Health

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| H0396 | Schools, children, vision screening - The legislation will provide for vision screening for all students grade 1, 2, 4, 6, 8. Vision screening is not consistent in all school districts across the state of Idaho. Not all children are screened and not all children are screened by qualified screeners. The legislation will implement a structure to offer training to the screeners, screen children at consistent intervals, and screen children across the state of Idaho. | House Education Committee |
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Safety

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| H0462 | Child safety restraints required, when - Amends existing law relating to passenger safety for children to provide that there shall be no exceptions to the law requiring all children six years of age or younger to be properly secured in a child safety restraint. | House Transportation & Defense Committee |
| S1361 | Speed limit, school zones - Adds to existing law relating to rules of the road to provide for reduced speed limits in school zones; to require certain information on a school zone sign; and to specify a fixed penalty for exceeding the posted speed limit in a school zone. | Senate 14th Order |
| S1376 | Daycare facilities - This legislation amends Idaho Code to revise and extend the state's licensing requirements for child care providers. The current code provides for minimum health and safety standards for day care centers with thirteen or more children, but does not provide any regulation for those providing care for six or fewer children, and very minimal regulation for those providing care for seven to twelve children. This legislation would extend licensing to all providers who receive compensation and care for four or more children, with current exceptions maintained. Basic requirements would include criminal history background checks, health and safety inspections, fire inspections, restrictions on alcohol and tobacco use, firearms safety, and infant CPR and first aid training. It establishes new staff-child ratios for day care and mixed age groups, and brings current code into consistency with existing administrative practices and rules. | Senate Health & Welfare Committee |

Education

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| SCR122 | School funding formula, study - Stating findings of the Legislature and authorizing the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee to direct the Office of Performance Evaluations to conduct a study of Idaho's kindergarten through grade 12 public education funding formula in order to identify & evaluate issues relating to the adequacy of K-12 public education funding. | Senate State Affairs Committee |
| SCR123 | International education, supported - Stating legislative findings and supporting specified international education. | Senate Education Committee |

Child Welfare

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| H0382 | Sex offender, no access/school child - Amends existing law relating to adult criminal sex offenders and access to children in schools to clarify restrictions on adult criminal sex offenders' access to children in school buildings, on school grounds and properties used by a school. | House Judiciary, Rules, & Administration Committee |
| H0444 | School district contractor/criminal history - will amend the existing statute Idaho Code Section 33-130 to clarify the requirements of school contractors to have background checks for employees in direct contact with school children. | House Education Committee |
| S1263 | Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act - purpose is to provide courts with guidelines to follow during custody disputes and divorce proceedings, to help courts identify families at risk for abduction, and to provide methods to prevent the abduction of children. | Senate PASSED House Judiciary, Rules & Administration Committee |

This legislative update has been sent to all *Idaho Voices for Children* members. If you have questions or wish to remove your name from this mailing list, email Sara Herring at sara@idahovoices.org or call 208. 336. 5533 x 233

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is a proud member of
Voices for America's Children