



# CAPITOL REVIEW

## A WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

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### A Weekly Legislative Report

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#### RETIRING LEGISLATOR APPRECIATION

On Wednesday, March 23, **Food Producers of Idaho members along with legislators gathered to recognize 24 legislators who will be retiring** at the conclusion of the current session.

Senator Vick	Representative McCrostie
Senator Zito	Representative Harris
Senator Burgoyne	Representative Kauffman
Senator Lodge	Representative Toone
Senator Stennett	Representative Wood
Senator Bayer	Representative Marshall
Senator Heider	Representative Gibbs
Senator Nye	Representative Troy
Senator Johnson	Representative Youngblood
Senator Bair	Representative Armstrong
Senator Souza	Representative Giddings
	Representative Moon
	Representative Bedke

All of the retiring members received a gift bag that had a number of items donated from Food Producer members.

#### LONGEST SERVING SPEAKER

At the end of one of one of the last floor sessions of the year, House Majority Leader Mike Moyle, presented a flag that flew over the House chamber to outgoing Speaker Scott Bedke, who's usually the one who presents the flag at the end of the session. House Chief Clerk Carrie Maulin read a **proclamation from Gov. Brad Little proclaiming the day to be "Speaker Scott Bedke Day" in Idaho.**

Scott Bedke was born in Twin Falls and graduated Oakley High School. He went on to earn his bachelor's degree in finance from Brigham Young University. Bedke has been a rancher most of his life and is former **president of the Idaho Cattle Association and a former director of National Cattlemen's Beef Association.** Bedke is serving his 9<sup>th</sup> term in the Idaho House of Representatives. Speaker Bedke started his career in politics when he was elected to the Oakley City Council. Bedke was elected Speaker of the House in December 2012 and has held the position since that time, making him the longest

serving Speaker in the history of Idaho. He and his wife Sarah have four children and 12 grandchildren. Bedke is a candidate for Lt. Governor and will be leaving his position in the Idaho House of Representatives. **Scott Bedke is known as someone who assists in solving difficult problems.** He has been instrumental in bringing groups together to address issues during his time as Speaker.

#### TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

Governor Brad Little signed a key part of his "Leading Idaho" plan into law last Thursday, providing hundreds of millions of dollars in new transportation funding to clear out one-third of Idaho's bridge maintenance backlog. S1359 includes **\$200 million for local bridges, \$6 million for air, \$8 million for rail, \$18 million to pay off debt for Garvee projects, \$10 million for safe pedestrian crossings, and \$10 million to build out a road at the Port of Lewiston.** Governor Little is expected to sign another transportation funding bill in the coming days that will include \$200 million for road maintenance.

#### "SINE DIE" – 2022 ADJOURNMENT

Sometimes it is difficult to measure the progress of the legislature in the final days of a session. There are many abbreviated agendas, difficult predictions, caucus meetings of both parties. That has been the scene over the past few weeks in Boise. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the 66<sup>th</sup> Idaho Legislature convened on January 10 and recessed on March 25. The legislature has met for a total of 75 days so far but will likely **not officially adjourn until Thursday, March 31 to allow them to override any Governor veto's** if they so choose. The Governor has 5 legislative days to sign or veto a bill once received by his office, or it automatically goes into effect without his signature.

*This will be the last iteration of "Capitol Review" and will be followed by a final client report of the 2022 Legislative Session prior to the May Primary Election.*

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