



# Legislative Update: Week 10

## Good Morning, Public Health Champions!

My name is [Maija Teppola Baehr](#) and I am your 2019 Legislative Session intern. Throughout the session, I'll be writing a weekly newsletter for you through the IPHA and ICA. My goal with is to provide enough detail that you have high-level talking points for any legislative activity related to public health, while also providing appropriate links and supplemental information so you can quickly and easily access further info for those bills that you're particularly interested in.

Now, into week 10, we go!

## Coming up on Tuesday!



If you haven't yet, please put our Legislative Lunch on your calendar this Tuesday. The lunch is from 11:30-1:00 pm and is completely free. This will be a fun time to connect with our representatives and other stakeholders working to support caregivers across Idaho. Did we mention we're serving Panera soup and bread bowls? This year's lunch is

sponsored by Blue Cross of Idaho, Molina Healthcare and the Idaho Caregiver Alliance.  
Thank you, sponsors!



If you're unable to join us on Tuesday at the Capitol building, but want to stay up-to-date on best-practices of caregiving policies, AARP has published a series of articles related to funding the [Older Americans Act](#) (1965), the impact the [Older Americans Act Nutrition Program](#) has had, and how we might consider strengthening the [National Family Caregiver Support Program](#).

If you're completely new to the wide world of caregiving, the National Center on Caregiving has a [helpful overview](#) on what it looks like to be a caregiver in the U.S.

### **Coming Up TODAY (Monday the 18th ) at the Capitol Building**

The Legislature's target sine die (date of adjournment) is Monday the 25th. They still have a lot of business to wrap up before that, so that means this week should be interesting!

#### **SB1159 - Altering the Initiative Process**

This bill by Sen. Grow (R., Eagle), received a lot of attention last week. On Monday, Mar. 11 it was the last item on the Senate Judiciary Committee agenda. This allowed only a few of the many people in attendance to testify. At the suggestion of Sen. Winder (R, Boise), the hearing was continued on Friday morning. After 2 ½ hours of testimony, with the vast majority of people testifying strongly opposed to the bill, it was held in committee. Committee Chair Sen. Lodge (R, Huston) can bring the bill back up in the committee at her discretion. Word has it that is likely to happen this week. No date or time has been set. Stay tuned.

#### **RS27132 - Medicaid Expansion**

Representative Vander Woude (R., Nampa) will introduce another Medicaid expansion bill in the House Health & Welfare committee on Monday Morning. Tune in to [EW20 at 9:00 am](#) to hear about RS27132 and how it differs from his previous bill, HB 249. The clock is ticking and with such a short time left in the session, this bill, if supported by the majority of legislators, would have to be fast-tracked through both chambers. Watch this closely.

#### **HB 180 - "Syringe and Needle Exchange Act"**

The Senate will vote this week on Rep. Blanksma's (R., Hammett) [HB 180](#). This bill would allow organizations to operate one-for-one syringe needle exchange programs in

Idaho, under certain parameters. It passed the House 47-20-3.

### **SB 1129 - "Dentists"**

Senator Heider's (R., Twin Falls) [SB 1129aa](#) is now on Third Reading in the Senate. If implemented, this bill would allow Dental Therapists to perform routine and preventative procedures in order to increase access. These Dental Therapists would operate under the Public Health Service, Indian Health Service or for a tribe contracted to perform such services. The Senate amendment narrowed the locations at which these therapists could practice. It now includes a school or long-term care facility in an incorporated city that is within, or borders, a tribal reservation.

### **SB 1196 - "Public School Funding Formula"**

This week is a big week for K-12 education in Idaho. The House Education committee will hold a hearing on [SB 1196](#), which was introduced last Wednesday in the Senate State Affairs Committee. This bill is a replacement for an earlier House bill sponsored by House Education Committee Chairman Rep. Lance Clow (R., Twin Falls), that was killed in committee. The education funding formula is complex and frequently the subject of controversy.

If you'd like more historical context, the Idaho Statesman published a [very thorough overview](#) of the process that changing the funding formula has gone through this year. They also published a [helpful update](#) last week explaining how we got here.

#### **If you'd like to participate live in the public school funding formula meetings, here are your chances:**

1. Senate Education committee meeting, Monday morning at 8:30 am. Join them in EW 41 or live stream here. [Link to agenda](#).
2. Monday afternoon, 2:00 pm, Senate Ed. will host a public hearing on SB 1196 in the Lincoln Auditorium. It will be particularly interesting to observe the meeting after hearing Chairman Clow (R., Twin Falls) re-introduce a different version of the education funding formula he has worked on with Senator Den Hartog (R., Meridian).

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### **[HB 170](#) - Child Protection**

Representative Scott (R., Blanchard) will be in the Senate Judiciary & Rules Committee to present her child protection notification waiver bill. Tune in to [WW 54](#) at 1:00 pm to listen!

### **Taxing e-cigarettes**

Representative Gannon (D., Boise) will be presenting a RS to tax electronic cigarettes in the House Revenue & Taxation Committee. They'll be in EW 42 at 8:00 am Monday morning, if you'd like to be there. [Link to agenda](#).

**Again - this is just what's happening Today - Monday the 18th, at the Capitol building. We'll update you with outcomes next week!**

### **Events Coming Up**

March 18, 2019: Managing Suicide Risk for Emergency Department Staff and First Responders Webinar with Kent Corso, Psy.D

March 19, 2019: Idaho Caregiver Alliance *Lunch for Legislators*, First Floor Capitol Rotunda, 11:00 - 1:00; all caregivers across the lifespan encouraged to attend.

March 28, 2019: Quarterly Meeting of Idaho Caregiver Alliance, 1:00 - 4:00 pm, Idaho Parents Unlimited, 4619 Emerald, Suite E, Boise; contact Marilyn Sword for details, [frontiergroupidaho@gmail.com](mailto:frontiergroupidaho@gmail.com)

#### Emergency Management Exercises

Do you have a disability or know someone who does? The Consortium for Idahoans with Disabilities needs your help.

Why: Volunteers are needed in Boise to participate in some emergency management and preparedness exercises. This exercise will help *us all* understand the unique concerns people with disabilities face when natural disasters and emergencies occur.

When: Central Public Health District is conducting an exercise on April 24th. They are looking for volunteers to participate in a Point of Distribution exercise It will roughly last 4-6 hours. Who Should RSVP: Individuals with disabilities to test different capacities in terms of building accessibility, staff training and overall functions.

Contact: Jerry Reiner at [SILC](#) (208-334-3800) to RSVP or to ask questions.

April 25 – 27, 2019: Idaho Integrated Behavioral Health Network 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference. This conference is focused on systems transformation to increase access and improve the quality of behavioral health services in Idaho. Register before February 28<sup>th</sup> to receive 25% off. Click [here](#) for more information and registration – *flyer is also attached*

April 27, 2019: Navigating Longevity Conference, YMCA, Ketchum; sponsored by Senior Connection in Hailey, Idaho; for more info, contact Teresa Beahen Lipman ([teresa@seniorconnectionidaho.rog](mailto:teresa@seniorconnectionidaho.rog)) or Ramona Duke ([ramona@seniorconnectionidaho.org](mailto:ramona@seniorconnectionidaho.org)) or 208-788-3468

May 1 & 2, 2019: Northwest Regional Transformational Collaborative Outcomes Management (TCOM) Conference. This year's theme is "Setting the Stage: Creating a Shared Vision to Support Transformation". For more information, click [here](#)

June 13, 2019: JAVA Elder Abuse Summit, BSU; Keynote speaker: Page Ulrey, King County (Washington) Prosecutor; for more info, contact Mary Holden ([maryholden@boisestate.edu](mailto:maryholden@boisestate.edu)) or 208-850-4771

June 2019: Join the Northwest Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC) for an 8-session virtual learning collaborative focused on Motivational Interviewing Skills. The next session will be in June! To learn more about the Northwest ATTC, click [here](#) – flyer attached.

Nov. 7-8, 2019: 2019 Western Partnerships Conference on Human Services (formerly the Idaho Partnerships Conference on Human Services), Boise Centre on the Grove; for more info, contact Bibiana Nertney, Community Partnerships of Idaho, ([Bibiana.nertney@mycpid.com](mailto:Bibiana.nertney@mycpid.com)) or 208-376-4999; If you are interested in submitting a proposal, or know a wonderful presenter please find more information on the web site at <https://idahopchs.com/2019-call-presentations/>.

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As always, please let me know if your organization has any important legislative action or event coming up you'd like included.

Best of Health,  
Maija

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