



July 2023 Monthly Report

June was a busy month for us and agencies this year as the state begins to prepare for the end of the fiscal year. All bills passed into law, without an emergency clause, during the 2023 Legislative Session will now be in effect as of July 1, 2023. Agencies will also now have access to their FY24 budget allocations and can begin the implementation of various projects and policies from last session while also diving into the needs for the FY25 budget. With the massive budget surplus and federal funding flowing, Idaho has certainly been busy. While we are just starting FY2024, we can already anticipate broadband, transportation, cyber security, Medicaid, and other investments being included into budgets which will no doubt go head-to-head with the legislative priority of lowering income tax and trying to show momentum on property tax relief going into an election year for all legislators.

Now is the time to work with legislators and agencies ahead of the September 1st budget request deadline. Final authorized budget requests from agencies are due on October 20th. As 2024 legislative session policy ideas are also now in the works, we are working with agencies and the Governor's office to get a look into the rules, budgets, and policies the state will be considering next year. While it seems far off, it's a mere six (6) months away and there is much to do to be ready for next session. The last day for agencies to submit proposed and drafted legislation to the Division of Financial Management (DFM) and the Governor's Office will be Friday, August 11, 2023, for the 2024 session.

Throughout June, various negotiated rulemaking meetings were held, per Governor Little's executive order [2020-01](#) – Zero-Based Regulation (ZBR). Many agencies are up in the rotation for the 2023-24 ZBR process; thus, reviewing their whole rule chapters to eliminate duplicative language, simplify, and create less overall regulatory burden. Many agencies have faced the challenge of finding the delicate balance of cutting regulation while not cutting necessary rules for proper function. BB&A continues to monitor these meetings closely to provide you with the most up to date information on their progress as the summer continues.

The Idaho Legislature continues to have interim, council, and oversight meetings periodically as needed. The Idaho Legislative Council met at the end of May to hear from policy and budget analysts for updates on the General Fund, performance evaluations, and more. The JFAC Oversight met mid-June to hear from the University of Idaho (U of I) after their purchase of University of Phoenix. Although the Legislature does not have full authority over U of I, many JFAC members were concerned about the troubled past the online school has had and the financials of the purchase. U of I could not disclose everything due to their NDA, but the deal appears to be moving forward with assurances from U of I.

As we move into July, we will also begin creating our legislative ideas and strategy with you heading into 2024. As always, our goal is to help you achieve success and help Idaho see a benefit. When these two goals overlap, we are on the right track to success. Ensuring we have a clear goal and time to draft, have conversations, and strategically plan a path to success will ensure we are ready come January. This way, we can be better advocates for you and your issues. During our regular meetings and check ins with you we will continue to discuss what your goals and success looks like.

We have spent a lot of time in the field meeting with numerous members of the House and Senate, including leadership during June to ensure we maintain the close relationships we have built and find support for you next session. The BB&A team will continue to regularly meet with legislative leadership, Governor's staff, agency heads, and more individuals related to your work. If there are specific meetings you would like to have, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

As a reminder, all bills from the 2023 Idaho Legislative Session are on the [Idaho State Legislative Website](#). The Governor's Bill Action for the 2023 Legislative Session can be found [HERE](#).



NABIP July 2023 Highlights

BB&A met with Juliet Charron, Administrator of Medicaid, to discuss Medicaid and some potential options moving forward. She expressed her want for the state to pick a model for Medicaid and stick with it long-term. She stated the Department of Health and Welfare will not be taking a stance on the Managed Care discussion but does want to see adequate resources and staff if the Department is to go in this direction. Juliet also expressed her concern for the high-risk population and the need to keep those who truly need assistance cared for. We will continue to work with Juliet and others to ensure these populations are taken care of throughout these discussions.

On June 12, 2023, BB&A attended the Medicaid Task Force Committee meeting. Co-Chair VanOrden ran the meeting and started off by discussing the purpose of the Task Force. Co-Chair Vander Woude shared that they could add non-voting members, and suggested having an open session for different groups present and be able to give better questions from different industries and perspectives. Representative Redman agreed that it would be good to have more people but was wary about it becoming too large. He does understand the importance of having industry knowledge in the room, such as dentists, primary care physicians, insurance providers, hospitals, and MCO'S. The goal is to have these non-voting stakeholders be a part of a breakout group to not be a part of the Committee itself but still give input. This is to keep the Committee small but also prevent stakeholders from becoming ineligible during the procurement process. The next meeting will be Monday, July 10, 2023, at 10 AM.

On Tuesday June 27, 2023, the Department of Insurance (DOI), met to hold their public comment for their promulgated rulemaking going over nine different rule chapters. Wes Trexler, Deputy Director of DOI, opened up the public meeting with Director Cameron being present with other members of the DOI, as well as numerous lobbyists from other groups being present. As per the nine-chapter rules they are going over, the rules being authorized follows the five-year Zero-based regulation process. On June 28th the public comment closed, the notice of proposed rulemaking will be the next step at which they will be submitting changes prior to going before the DOI Board.

They began the meeting going over each chapter taking any question or comment. There was no substantive change DOI made within the chapter, only changes to clarify or remove duplicative language.

18.01.02 - Schedule of Fees, Licenses, And Miscellaneous Charges;

18.04.04 - Rule to Implement the Managed Care Reform Act;

18.04.08 - Individual Disability and Group Supplemental Disability Insurance Minimum Standards Rule;

18.06.01 - Rules Pertaining to Bail Agents;

18.06.02 - Producers Handling of Fiduciary Funds;

18.06.03 - Rules Governing Disclosure Requirements for Insurance Producers Fees;

18.07.06 - Rules Governing Life and Health Reinsurance Agreements;

18.07.10 - Corporate Governance Annual Disclosure; and

18.08.01 - Adoption of the International Fire Code

Director Cameron wanted to ensure that if the public and anyone and their clients have any question to be in contact with DOI and share their concern and to ask questions, they won't turn anyone away despite the deadline. There were no comments during the meeting, and minimal questions were asked, none regarding the changes.