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Local Health Leaders Analyze Next Steps for Idaho Health Care Plan

Boise, ID—Members of Close the Gap Idaho applauded the House Health and Welfare Committee for passing the Idaho Health Care Plan, sending it to the House floor for debate. The bill received overwhelming support from the public during testimony, with only two individuals testifying in opposition.

Lauren Necochea, Director of Idaho Voices for Children noted “Idahoans have waited for change for too long and it’s become clear that folks in Washington, DC are not going to fix our healthcare woes. I’m grateful to see Idaho legislators step up and lead so that we can take control of our healthcare destiny.”

Necochea continued, “We can’t defend a system where one family qualifies for tax credits, and the family next door -- who might earn a little less or have one more child -- is shut out.”

Brian Whitlock, President of the Idaho Hospital Association emphasized how important hearing from the public was to legislators. “It was easy to see that our representatives were engaged and paid attention to the concerns of their constituents. Health care is certainly complicated, but at its root it is a human issue; it’s more about the patients served than any costs or statistics.

Whitlock continued, “The powerful stories of Idahoans living the coverage gap illustrated just how important it is for Idaho to take action on this bill, and our legislators certainly understood”.

Close the Gap Idaho remains confident that the bipartisan support the bill received in committee will continue on the House floor, and that legislators will vote to pass the Idaho Health Care Plan.

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For more information:

Close the Gap Idaho:

Web: <http://closethegapidaho.org/>

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