

Thank you Mister Chairman and committee,

My name is Quinn Perry and I'm the Policy and Government Affairs Director for the Idaho School Boards Association. We are supportive of House Bill 153.

As you know, we had trustees in town a few weeks ago and I would like to share a few brief remarks from some of our school districts who border Washington and Oregon.

Fruitland, for instance, is only separated from Oregon by a bridge. Last year they lost several of their brightest teachers in hard-to-fill positions, to jobs in Oregon that pay many thousands more per year and that include district-paid health insurance for the entire family.

Then, up north, the Post Falls School Board received a tearful resignation of one of their most accomplished teachers who was able to see a \$30,000 salary increase by making the thirty-minute drive to District 81 in Spokane.

We are fully cognizant that the state does not have the resources to compete with Washington, Oregon, or Wyoming but ISBA believes raising the minimum to \$40,000 is an absolute step in the right direction moving forward.

That is all I have mister chairman and I'm happy to stand for questions.