

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS28510 / S1103

Air Transportation plays an important role in the world, the nation, and Idaho. Like the highway system, Idaho's system of 126 public use airports is a critical component of the state's transportation system. The most important single segment of air transportation, as far as effect on economic health of an area is concerned, is scheduled airline service.

The Idaho Legislature created the Intrastate Commercial Air Service Committee through Senate Concurrent Resolution 125 in 2020. A study conducted by the Committee consisted of intrastate commercial air service options and how to develop a long-term, viable strategy for sustainable intrastate commercial air service in the state of Idaho.

The study focused on the state of passenger air service throughout Idaho, assessed intrastate air service passenger demand, potential routes/airlines for intrastate commercial air service, and best practices to recruit new air service.

While significant demand has been identified for travel between Boise and the eight study airports, many factors affect the potential for scheduled commercial passenger air service, including the time for a market to mature, which varies greatly from market-to-market. The start up phase will need help offsetting the risk for an airline to start service using incentives.

The Idaho Air Travel Enhancement Program Fund will provide incentives to develop and expand intrastate commercial air travel between communities located in Idaho.

FISCAL NOTE

This program will require a one-time appropriation and transfer of \$1,000,000 for FY 2022. Funds are expected to generate from current and newly identified dedicated sources thereafter.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).