

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS25400

According to the Idaho State Department of Education, there is a serious teacher shortage in rural Idaho school districts and attracting Certified Instructional Staff to these rural school districts is becoming increasingly difficult. This bill is intended to both attract and retain qualified teachers in Idaho's rural school districts by providing a small amount of student loan forgiveness.

FISCAL NOTE

The impact to the General Fund is estimated to be \$3,000,000. According to 2014 data from the Idaho State Department of Education, 7,410 certificated teachers and counselors in rural schools would initially be eligible for this program. Up to 1,000 of those eligible teachers, determined by the Idaho State Board of Education, could be awarded for each year, up to four (4) years. There will also be some staffing costs that would be needed to administer the program and this cost is estimated at \$50,000 ongoing.

Contact:

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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).