

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1257

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO THE SOUTHWEST IDAHO TREATMENT CENTER; AMENDING SECTION 56-234,
2 IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING THE SOUTHWEST IDAHO TREAT-
3 MENT CENTER; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
4 DATE.
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6 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

7 SECTION 1. That Section 56-234, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
8 amended to read as follows:

9 56-234. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is hereby declared by the legislature
10 that, in keeping with current state and national goals and best practice, in-
11 creasing numbers of persons with developmental disabilities are being dis-
12 charged to community facilities or private residences as an alternative to
13 large public institutions licensed as intermediate care facilities for per-
14 sons with intellectual disabilities. Such deinstitutionalization is highly
15 desirable since it can lead to a fuller, richer and more independent life for
16 persons with developmental disabilities. Recognizing that every individual
17 has unique needs and differing abilities, the purpose of the following pro-
18 visions is to clarify the department of health and welfare's duties and re-
19 sponsibilities with respect to persons with developmental disabilities, who
20 are or may become residents of the southwest Idaho treatment center, ~~a public~~
21 ~~institution licensed for nine (9) or more beds as an intermediate care facil-~~
22 ~~ity for persons with intellectual disabilities.~~ The following provisions
23 shall be liberally construed to accomplish these purposes.

24 SECTION 2. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
25 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after
26 July 1, 2022.