

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7

BY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND ENCOURAGING THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD, AND THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES TO CONTINUE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LEGISLATURE, PURSUING ONGOING INVESTMENTS IN THE STATE'S WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND TO ESTABLISH A LONG-TERM PLAN THAT IDENTIFIES FUTURE PROJECTS INTENDED TO PROTECT, IMPROVE, AND SECURE THE STATE'S WATER RESOURCES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CITIZENS OF THE STATE AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, the entire State of Idaho is reliant on its water resources; and

WHEREAS, Idaho's water resources include rivers, streams, lakes, reservoirs, and aquifers; and

WHEREAS, water within Idaho's borders is owned by the state as a public trust resource; and

WHEREAS, Idaho's water resources are vital to support its cities, agriculture, industry, and overall economy throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, currently there are water-related projects ongoing throughout the state with regional, basinwide, and statewide benefits, including but not limited to the Anderson Ranch Reservoir enlargement project, the Mountain Home Air Force Base sustainable water project, the Northern Idaho adjudication, the Priest Lake water management project, the Bear River Basin adjudication, and the Lemhi River Basin project; and

WHEREAS, a commitment to ongoing planning and investment in water infrastructure in every region of the state is critical to protect the use of this valuable resource; and

WHEREAS, ongoing investment in aquifer recharge, sustainable water supplies, increased water supply through storage, cloud seeding, and other efforts, and meeting or improving water quality is necessary for long-term stability and economic success; and

WHEREAS, a healthy and sustainable water supply is necessary for all Idahoans and for future generations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of the Sixty-seventh Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that we encourage the Governor of the State of Idaho, the Idaho Water Resource Board, and the Idaho Department of Water Resources to continue, in conjunction with the Legislature, pursuing ongoing investments in the state's water infrastructure and to establish a long-term plan that identifies future projects intended to protect, improve, and secure the state's water resources for the benefit of the citizens of the state and for future generations.