

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS24494

This legislation establishes the State of Idaho's commitment to request a federal grant to construct and fund a second veterans' cemetery. This commitment is necessary for the Idaho Division of Veterans Services to proceed with the application for a federal grant to provide 100 percent of the allowable construction cost for a second cemetery in Eastern Idaho.

FISCAL NOTE

There is no fiscal impact at this time. When the request reaches near the top of the federal prioritization list for construction of a state veterans cemetery, the State of Idaho will need to appropriate 10 percent of the architectural and engineering costs for the second veterans cemetery which will be reimbursed to the State of Idaho following the grant award. Idaho will also need to appropriate the cost for any non-allowable reimbursed cost. The preliminary estimate for constructing a veterans cemetery in Eastern Idaho is approximately \$13.2 million in 2016 dollars. The federal Department of Veterans Affairs will provide 100 percent of allowable cost; approximately \$11.2 million. Idaho's 10 percent reimbursable match will be approximately \$1.12 million. Idaho's non-allowable/reimbursable cost is estimated to be \$2.0 million. The Idaho Division of Veterans Services expects the fund source to be the Veterans Recognition Fund whose income is received from the veterans' homes. Although no General Funds will be used to construct a second veterans cemetery, the Idaho Division of Veterans Services will require minor increases in the General Fund appropriation for the operations of the second veterans cemetery.

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