

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

### RS25645

The proposed Legislation will update Idaho Code Section 67-5009 to update ombudsman investigation terminology and procedures in conformance with federal law, as established by the Older Americans Act. The proposed legislation will also amend Idaho Code Section 39-5303 to remove the ombudsman for the elderly from the list of mandatory reporters to the Commission on Aging when there is reasonable cause to believe a vulnerable adult is being abused, neglected or exploited. As established by federal law (Older Americans Act), the ombudsman for the elderly is "resident-centered" and investigates complaints to the satisfaction of the resident. Requiring the ombudsman for the elderly to be a mandatory reporter to the Commission on Aging when there is reasonable cause to believe a vulnerable adult is being abused, neglected or exploited jeopardizes the ombudsman for the elderly's ability to establish relationships with residents and ensure such residents receive needed services.

### FISCAL NOTE

This legislation will have no fiscal impact. Compliance with the updates provided in this legislation does not require resources.

#### 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).**