

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

### RS25810

The State of Idaho recognizes the need to support programs designed to develop adequate numbers of skilled workers in the construction industry. This proposal encourages contractors to support apprenticeship and training in their respective trades.

The Final Report of the Governor's Workforce Development Task Force included the following principle: Registered apprenticeship is a proven, industry-driven workforce development model. The state should support businesses and industry sector groups in creating apprenticeship programs, accelerating adoption across industry.

The Task Force recommends expanding apprenticeship opportunities throughout the State as well as increasing the number of apprentices. To encourage apprenticeships and develop a highly skilled workforce, it is critical to provide on-the-job-training.

Current law requires that state construction contracts must be awarded to the lowest "responsible and responsive" bidder. When prequalification of bidders is deemed to be in the best interest of the State, bidders must establish that they are licensed public works contractors and meet certain standards.

Including apprenticeship participation as a prequalification standard for public works contracts would further Idaho's goal of developing its workforce to increase the number of skilled tradesmen in the construction industry. The State of Idaho can promote workforce development by incentivizing apprenticeship participation on public works projects.

### FISCAL NOTE

The only fiscal impact to the General Fund is the cost of printing the Idaho Code, which is printed every year.

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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).**