LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

Sixty-sixth Legislature Second Regular Session - 2022

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 10

BY JUDICIARY, RULES AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

A HOUSE RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SUPPORTING THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION'S REQUEST OF $112.4 MILLION FROM THE PERMANENT BUILDING FUND FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW WOMEN'S PRISON.

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, due to lack of available space in Idaho prisons, the Idaho Department of Correction is housing some prisoners in an out-of-state private prison or in county jails; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the state Office of Performance Evaluations issued a report on correctional capacity that found it would be cheaper for the state to build a new prison than to continue placing state inmates in county jails or out-of-state facilities; and

WHEREAS, county jails and out-of-state prisons cannot offer the same rehabilitation and reentry programming that department facilities provide; and

WHEREAS, if the state constructs a new women's facility, the South Boise Women's Correctional Center would become a minimum security men's facility, which, along with other housing shifts, would free up roughly 700 beds for men; and

WHEREAS, in its proposed budget for fiscal year 2023, the department requested approximately $112.4 million for a new 848-bed minimum custody women's prison at the Idaho Department of Correction complex in Kuna.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the House of Representatives, assembled in the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-sixth Idaho Legislature, that the House of Representatives supports the Idaho Department of Correction's request of $112.4 million from the Permanent Building Fund for construction of a new women's prison at the Idaho Department of Correction complex in Kuna.