

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

### RS31408 / H0646

This Legislation amends Idaho Code Sections, 31-107, 31-111, 31-120, 31-130, 31-131, and 31-142, revising the North-South boundary lines of Benewah, Bonner, Clearwater, Kootenai, Latah, and Shoshone Counties. This legislation will remove references to an ambiguous North-South line of reference common to the above six (6) county boundaries and will redescribe new boundaries with a clear unambiguous North-South boundary based on the United States Public Land Surey System. This Legislation will fix a long-standing problem with legal descriptions, and surveys stemming from descriptions written prior to Idaho's Statehood, based upon a "tree" at the mouth of the Northfork of the Clearwater River, which disappeared decades ago. The surveyors and others from these counties have been working on this problem for over seven (7) years. This is a culmination of work by all six (6) counties and proper ordinances have been recorded by each of the six (6) Counties agreeing to this fix. This legislation will require the County Assessors of Benewah, Bonner, Clearwater, Kootenai, Latah, and Shoshone Counties to complete the following no later than January 1, of the year following the enactment of this law:

1. To revise their respective County Tax Assessment rolls to reflect the County Boundary revisions in this legislation;
2. To enlist the services of a licensed land surveyor to produce new legal descriptions for any land parcels affected by the new County boundaries. All REVISED descriptions shall include the words, "CHANGED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE SIX BOUNDARY STATUTE ENACTED IN 2024 BY THE IDAHO LEGISLATURE";
3. Provide written notice to any affected landowners with copies to the adjoining county of said parcel legal description changes, and advise said landowners that their respective County Clerk will waive recording fees for any corrective deeds filed in association with this change for a period of one-year (1) following the enactment of this law;
4. To ensure that no lapses of title occur, all new parcel deeds presented by landowners whose lands have been affected by these boundary changes, shall be forwarded to title companies doing business in said County.

### FISCAL NOTE

There is a small fiscal note that will affect a one-time general fund appropriation in the total amount of SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, (\$60,000) which shall be appropriated to the Idaho State Controller's Office for distribution as follows: Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to Benewah County; Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to Bonner County; Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to Clearwater County; Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to Kootenai County; Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to Latah County; and Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to Shoshone County. These funds are to cover any costs to each of the six (6) counties, associated with affecting the changes in this legislation.

#### 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).**