

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

### RS25429

This bill provides a pathway to teacher certification for individuals currently serving as paraprofessionals in Idaho schools. The intent is to allow school districts the flexibility to fill urgent vacancies with paraprofessionals who have shown a commitment to their districts and an interest in pursuing teacher certification. The proposed legislation creates a program that allows for support and commitment from both the district and the paraprofessional. The educational plan established for these individuals will be dependent on the paraprofessional's level of education and experience. The program sets a minimum number of credits that will be covered by the school district. This program also allows flexibility at the local level for districts to develop agreements with individuals based on their unique, local needs.

### FISCAL NOTE

This legislation is revenue neutral. School districts receive salary-based apportionment for positions based on average daily attendance. They receive this apportionment regardless of whether they fill all positions for which they receive funding. Districts will be able to use this funding to compensate paraprofessionals in the program and to provide tuition assistance for the required coursework.

#### Contact:

Representative Julie VanOrden  
(208) 332-1038  
Senator Dean M. Mortimer  
(208) 332-1358

**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).**