

REVISED

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS29946C1 / H0112

The purpose of the Education Opportunity Resource Act is to establish a resource for Idaho's education and library system in providing broadband, wireless local area network (LAN) and related services to students and establishes a committee in the Department of Education to focus on the broadband, wireless LAN and related services needs of all E-rate eligible entities. This program was established in 2016 along with the Broadband Infrastructure Improvement Grant Program. At the time, the K-12 portion of the state longitudinal data system was housed in the Department of Education and the Chief Information Officer has served as the Committee Chair. With the move of the data system to the Office of the State Board of Education there has been some disconnect on which is responsible for staffing this committee. The proposed legislation would clarify and align responsibilities for staffing the committee while at the same time maintaining the distribution of any eligible grant funds or e-rate reimbursement through the current process with the Department of Education.

FISCAL NOTE

The proposed amendments would be budget neutral. The ~~existing~~ remaining resources for staffing the committee (3 FTE and \$267,803 in personnel cost) would be transferred to the Office of the State Board of Education. The award funding would not move and would continue to be distributed in the same manner as it is today.

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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).