

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS30296C1 / H0152

The purpose of this legislation is to enhance program integrity for the state's unemployment insurance program. Covid-19 brought mass unemployment. Unfortunately, it also brought massive amounts of waste, fraud and abuse to our nations' unemployment programs. Nationally it is estimated that unemployment programs may have lost between \$87 billion to \$400 billion to fraudulent or wasteful claims. This legislation will require the Department of Labor to perform routine cross checks of existing databases to which the state already has access, like new hire records, death records, prison roles, and others.

FISCAL NOTE

It is not anticipated that this legislation will impose any new costs to the Department. However, if additional costs are required, it is expected they be de minimis. Currently, the Idaho Department of Labor is already performing many of these functions and by codifying these best practices, Idaho taxpayers and businesses will be provided greater protections.

Contact:

Representative Brandon Mitchell
(208) 332-1000

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).