

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS27649 / S1327

This legislation transitions Idaho's prescriptive resource allocation school funding formula to a flexible, transparent per pupil funding formula based on student enrollment consistent with the final recommendations of the Public School Funding Formula Interim Committee. This funding formula is intended to increase spending flexibility for local school districts to determine how best to meet the needs of their students by providing fewer statutorily required programs and distributions. This formula is proposed as a five-year test from 2022 through 2027.

This legislation provides for a transition period to ensure planning for implementation and proper enrollment data collection. The new formula is proposed to take effect in 2022 and is to be implemented through 2027 with a scheduled review in 2026. The timing, frequency, and portion amounts of per pupil funding to be distributed to the school districts has been changed to reflect student enrollment count periods and the needs of school districts.

To provide for an increased focus on student outcomes, the legislation proposes student success incentive grants at three different student benchmarks including third grade, eighth grade, and high school graduation. The student success incentive grants are weighted for meeting defined outcomes for particular student classifications including economically disadvantaged students, English language learners, at-risk students, and special education students. These discretionary grants are intended to be distributed to the school from which the student achieving the outcome is or was enrolled in when the outcome was achieved.

FISCAL NOTE

There is no fiscal impact in this current fiscal year because the transition to the new formula will not take place until 2022. There is no projected fiscal impact in 2022. It is the intent of the legislature to transition from an average daily attendance model to an enrollment based model in a revenue neutral manner.

The student success incentive grants are subject to appropriation, and no such appropriation is requested in this current fiscal year.

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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).