

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS29465 / H0654

This legislation creates a simple addition to allow Licensed Professional Counselors and Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors to be included within the legal definition of school counselors, provided they meet the requirements of the State Board of Education. This amendment will align the requirements for these professionals more closely with the requirements for licensed social workers, whom school districts and charter schools are currently permitted to hire as school counselors.

FISCAL NOTE

No impact to the general fund is expected. Under current Idaho law, school districts are funded for school counselors and other pupil service staff as 7.9% of a support unit. Funding for counselors and other pupil service staff is based on the state career ladder, with a minimum salary of \$40,742 effective July 1, 2022. This legislation will not change the amount allocated to charter schools or school districts for salary-based apportionment or change the formula for how districts are funded for pupil service staff members.

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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).