



IDAHO STATE LODGE **FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE**

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PRESIDENT
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RE: SB 1307 – Removal of Front License Plate Requirement

To Chairwoman Hartog and the members of the Senate Transportation Committee,

On behalf of the over 2400 members of the Idaho Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) we write to express our opposition to SB 1307, removing the requirement of a front license plate to vehicles registered in Idaho. While on duty, Law Enforcement is in a constant state of responding and reacting to a variety of calls for service and emergencies with very little information. Those we serve rely on Officers making the most of what little information can be available to be effective.

Victims and Witnesses have a small window of opportunity to provide critical information and have a natural reflex when vehicles are involved to search for and identify License Plate information. The commonalities of License Plates, color, state, and county identifier information being much smaller in scope compared to the wide variety of vehicles on our roadways allows a Witnesses to provide Law Enforcement better details for their response.

Idaho's Law Enforcement Agencies rely on the support and partnership that comes from the community and those who provide the information for us to do our job in times of need. Evidence of how suspects arrived and left a crime scene touches almost every type of case we are involved in. To be efficient and effective in our response, detailed and accurate information is crucial, especially when Idaho's Law Enforcement is spread thin amongst a growing population.

The effects of this bill would essentially remove 50% of the ability of Witnesses and Victims to help Law Enforcement in their response to an incident. Compounding that ability, it also takes away 50% of Law Enforcement's ability to search for and identify vehicles involved in an investigation. While this simple action sounds small in nature, the effects to Public Safety would be significantly larger.

The Idaho FOP urges this committee to vote against this bill and keep this valuable tool in place for Law Enforcement. We are grateful for the opportunity to provide this information.

Sincerely,

Idaho Fraternal Order of Police

*Building On A Proud Tradition
The Largest Voice of Law Enforcement*