## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

## RS32064 / H0077

This legislation expands Idaho's bridge physician licensure program by creating a direct pathway for bridge physicians to become fully licensed without entering residency. This is designed to alleviate the physician shortage by allowing smaller healthcare providers to train the physician workforce where they are needed. This legislation renames bridge physicians as "assistant physicians." After completing a minimum of three years as an assistant physician, meeting all education requirements, and successfully passing the United State Medical Licensing Examination, a candidate can apply for an unrestricted license to practice as a general practitioner.

## **FISCAL NOTE**

There is no anticipated impact on the General Fund as licensing fees paid to the Board of Medicine are deposited into the Occupational Licenses Fund, a dedicated account.

## **Contact:**

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