First Regular Session - 2025

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 171

BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

AN ACT RELATING TO WATERCOURSES AND PORT DISTRICTS; AMENDING SECTION 70-2201, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING COUNTY-BASED OR CITY-BASED INTERMODAL COMMERCE AUTHORITY; AMENDING SECTION 70-2206, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING GENERAL POWERS OF A COUNTY-BASED OR CITY-BASED INTERMODAL COMMERCE AUTHORITY AND TO MAKE A TECHNICAL COR-RECTION; AMENDING CHAPTER 22, TITLE 70, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 70-2214, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS REGARDING PUBLICATION OF PROCEEDINGS AUTHORIZING REVENUE BONDS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 70-2201, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

70-2201. COUNTY-BASED OR CITY-BASED INTERMODAL COMMERCE AUTHORITY AUTHORIZED. A county-based or city-based intermodal commerce authority, hereinafter referred to as the intermodal authority, is hereby authorized to acquire, construct, maintain, operate, develop and regulate rail, truck, and other on-land transfer and terminal facilities, buildings, warehouses and storage facilities, manufacturing, industrial and economic development facilities and <u>utility</u> services, reasonably incident to a modern, efficient and competitive land-based port, and may be established according to this chapter in any county or incorporated city.

SECTION 2. That Section 70-2206, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

70-2206. GENERAL POWERS OF A COUNTY-BASED OR CITY-BASED INTERMODAL COMMERCE AUTHORITY. An intermodal authority shall have the powers provided to it by a local county or city governing body including:

- (1) Have perpetual succession unless abolished as provided in this chapter;
 - (2) Sue and be sued;
 - (3) Have a seal;
- (4) Execute contracts and other instruments and take other action that may be necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of this chapter;
- (5) Plan, establish, acquire, develop, construct, purchase, enlarge, improve, modify, maintain, equip, operate, regulate, and protect transportation, storage, or other facilities or other personal property necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of this chapter. Other facilities may encompass utility services, including water and sewer facilities, but not including facilities to transmit, distribute, or produce electrical energy;

- (6) Acquire any land or interest in land. All land and other property and privileges acquired and used by or on behalf of any intermodal authority must be used for intermodal authority purposes. The property of an intermodal authority acquired or held for the purposes of this chapter is declared to be public property used for essential public and governmental purposes and, effective the date an intermodal authority acquires title to such property, it shall be exempt from all taxes of the municipality, the county, the state or any political subdivision thereof; provided, that such tax exemption shall terminate when the authority sells or otherwise disposes of such property for development to a purchaser that is not a public body entitled to tax exemption with respect to such property. As specified in this chapter, a port authority may pledge, lease, sell, or mortgage all or any part of its facilities to secure bonds or for other financing purposes;
- (7) Recommend to the county or city that created it, comprehensive county or city intermodal commerce authority zoning regulations in accordance with the laws of this state and the county or city governing body; and
- (8) Provide financial and other support to corporations or other business entities or organizations under the provisions of Idaho law, whose purpose is to promote, stimulate, develop and advance the economic development and prosperity of its jurisdiction and of the state and its citizens by stimulating, assisting in, and supporting the growth of all kinds of economic activity, including the creation, expansion, modernization, retention, and relocation of new and existing businesses and industry in the state, all of which will tend to promote business development, maintain the economic stability and prosperity of the state, and thus provide maximum opportunities for employment and improvement in the standards of living of citizens of the state.
- SECTION 3. That Chapter 22, Title 70, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$, to be known and designated as Section 70-2214, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 70-2214. PUBLICATION OF PROCEEDINGS CONTEST PERIOD. (1) A resolution authorizing the issuance of any revenue bonds and the execution of an indenture as security pursuant to section 70-2211, Idaho Code, shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality. Any such indenture, or other instrument authorized in such resolution to be executed, may be incorporated as an exhibit to such resolution but need not be published as part of the resolution.
- (2) For a period of thirty (30) days from the date of such publication any person in interest may file suit in any court of competent jurisdiction to contest the regularity, formality, or legality of the proceedings authorizing the revenue bonds, the legality of such resolution and its provisions, or the legality of the revenue bonds to be issued pursuant thereto and the provisions securing the revenue bonds. After the expiration of the thirty (30) day period provided for in this section, no one shall have any right of action to contest the validity of the revenue bonds, such proceedings, or such resolution or to contest the validity of the pledges and covenants made in such proceedings and resolution, and the revenue bonds and the provisions for their payment shall be conclusively presumed to be legal and no court shall thereafter have authority to inquire into such matters.

SECTION 4. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after July 1, 2025.