

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS32370 / H0259

The integrity of our elections is the cornerstone of a free and fair democratic process. Voters deserve clear, accurate, and transparent information to make informed decisions. However, misleading or anonymous political messaging can create confusion, undermine trust, and threaten election security.

To address this issue, this legislation requires the disclosure of party affiliation on all election-related communications. By clearly identifying the political affiliation behind a message, this reform enhances voter awareness, reduces misinformation, and prevents deceptive practices designed to mislead the public.

Securing elections requires accountability. This legislation ensures that candidates, campaigns, and organizations are held to a higher standard of honesty and transparency. By making political affiliations explicit, voters can better assess the motivations and credibility of those seeking to influence their choices.

Importantly, this proposal does not restrict free speech or limit political participation. Political candidates already declare their party affiliation when filing for candidacy, and this common-sense reform simply extends that requirement to campaign communications. By providing voters with essential context, this legislation strengthens election integrity and security therefor upholding the trust Idahoans place in the elections process.

FISCAL NOTE

This legislation causes no increase or decrease in revenue, or additional expenditure of funds at the state or local level of government; therefore, this legislation has no fiscal impact.

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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).