

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS32278 / S1083

This legislation amends Idaho Code regarding Domestic Use Exemption and the use of water in subdivisions. Specifically, the legislation:

1. Amends section 42-111 to allow multiple exempt domestic uses to be combined into a single well. This only applies to in-home water use.
2. Amends section 42-227 to provide that, in subdivisions within an area that has been designated as a Ground Water Management Area, Critical Ground Water Area, or Moratorium Area, the Domestic Use Exemption will only apply to in-home or stockwatering purposes. All other uses, including irrigation, will require an Application for Permit.
3. Creates section 42-1701B to provide a streamlined process for ensuring compliance with domestic use exemption requirements.
4. Amends section 31-3805 to require that community wells within municipal service areas or areas of impact be compatible with the municipal system and that surface water be used for irrigation when available.

FISCAL NOTE

It is anticipated that there will be an increased workload for the Idaho Department of Water Resources relating to applications for permit in certain areas of the state, and enforcement of domestic use exemption requirements. However, staffing levels at IDWR are sufficient to meet the anticipated workload. Therefore, there is no impact to the general fund.

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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).