

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS32367 / S1104

This bill amends Section 18-1511 of the Idaho Code to ensure that birth parents in the adoption process are notified and given free legal and mental health counseling, provided by the prospective adoptive parents. It aims to support birth parents by informing them of their rights and providing necessary counseling during this emotional process. The bill ensures ethical adoption practices by protecting birth parents from exploitation and offering them the resources needed for informed decision-making.

FISCAL NOTE

The bill will have no fiscal impact to the general fund or local governments, as the financial responsibility for counseling and legal services falls on the prospective adoptive parents, not the state. The court will review financial plans for reasonableness, but there are no expected direct costs to state resources, aside from minimal administrative expenses for court approval and verification processes.

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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).