

**INSTRUCTIONS AND QUESTIONS TO ASSIST THOSE MAKING
PRESENTATIONS TO THE ECONOMIC OUTLOOK AND REVENUE
ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE**

January 7, 8, and 15, 2009

We are grateful for your willingness to appear before our committee, and thank you for your commitment to our state and its citizens. The most important part of the committee's mission is to make an overall assessment of Idaho's economic outlook and the General Fund revenues for FY 2009 and FY 2010. In order to help guide your presentation to key areas of committee interest, please be prepared to address the questions in the second group, below, which are specific to your field of expertise. The first group of general questions may be ignored if it is outside the presenter's area of expertise.

General Questions

1. How will the Idaho economy perform in the remainder of FY 2009 (January 2009 to June 2009) and FY 2010 (July 2009 to June 2010), and what impact will this likely have on state tax revenues?
2. How will the national economy perform in the remainder of FY 2009 (January 2009 to June 2009) and FY 2010 (July 2009 to June 2010), and how will this affect Idaho?
3. What areas of the economy will be strong over the next 18 months? Which areas will be weak?
4. How will your industry or company perform over the next 18 months?
5. Do you know of any companies that are planning on moving operations into or out of Idaho in the next 18 months?
6. What policies should Idaho follow to promote economic growth and higher wages?

Specific Questions

1. What is the current state of Idaho's medical insurance sector?
2. What percentage of the state's economy does the medical insurance sector constitute?
3. How does positive or negative performance in the state's medical insurance sector affect General Fund revenues?
4. How is Idaho's medical insurance sector likely to perform over the next 18 months? What have been the historic spending growth trends in this sector, and how are they likely to trend over the next 18 months? How have employment levels and payrolls changed in this sector in recent years, and how are they likely to change over the next 18 months?
5. What are the estimated costs of employee health insurance to the employer and the employee? How are the costs likely to change over the next 18 months?
6. What are the primary reasons for rising health care costs?
7. What percentage of Idaho employers offer health insurance today as compared to past years? What proportions of Idahoans are uninsured, underinsured, adequately insured, and over-insured?