

**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 beautiful 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. Do you know of any companies that are planning on moving operations into or out of Idaho in the next 18 months?
5. What policies should Idaho follow to promote economic growth and higher wages?

Specific Questions

1. How has the Idaho Department of Commerce aided in bringing business to Idaho?
2. Briefly explain the Project 60 initiative. How effective has the Department been at promoting Idaho companies worldwide?
3. How many jobs have been created through the Rural Initiative over the last three years?
4. What is the current state of Idaho's tourism industry? How does this compare to past levels? How important is tourism to the state's economy? Do tourism-related jobs provide a living wage?
5. What impact does the Office of Science and Technology have on Idaho's economy?
6. Does the Department take into consideration that growth in Idaho's population may reduce the quality of life?
7. Describe the nature and quality of the jobs Idaho has lost and gained over the last three years (high or low paying, high or low tech, manufacturing or service sector).