

**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 your 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 retail industry? How does this compare to past performance? Please include comments on the recent Christmas retail season.
2. How many are employed in the retail industry in Idaho? What is the total payroll?
3. Statewide, what retailers and restaurants have closed in the last six months? Do you know of any retailers or restaurants that are planning to move operations into or out of Idaho in the next 18 months?
4. How is the retail industry likely to perform over the next 18 months? How much will retail spending change (up or down) over this period?
5. What impact has credit availability had on retail spending in Idaho? What is the impact of the slumping housing market on retail spending?
6. What impact does the retail industry have on state General Fund revenues?
7. Can you estimate the loss of revenues to Idaho retailers from Internet competitors?