

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 25
BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND AUTHORIZING THE LEGISLATIVE
3 COUNCIL TO APPOINT A COMMITTEE TO UNDERTAKE AND COMPLETE A
4 STUDY OF STATUTORY PROVISIONS OF THE IDAHO CODE AND ANY APPLI-
5 CABLE RULES RELATING TO THE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION AND
6 SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS.

7 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

8 WHEREAS, beginning in 1940, Soil Conservation Districts were being established in
9 Idaho. Since that time, districts have been dedicated to conserving renewable resources and us-
10 ing sound management practices. Districts promote clean water and productive soils and strive
11 to ensure that decisions on conservation problems are made at the local level by local people.
12 There are fifty-one Soil Conservation Districts within the state of Idaho; and

13 WHEREAS, the Soil Conservation Commission was originally established in Idaho in
14 1939 as an independent commission, with three members, all appointed by the governor, to help
15 form and coordinate Soil Conservation Districts. In 1967, the members were increased to five;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, in 1974, Idaho underwent a large-scale Executive Branch reorganization, and
18 during this reorganization, the Soil Conservation Commission was placed within the Depart-
19 ment of Lands; and

20 WHEREAS, in 1997, the commission was placed under the Department of Agriculture
21 but the authority of the commission was left largely intact; and

22 WHEREAS, a full-scale review of all statutory provisions of the Idaho Code, and any
23 applicable rules, relating to the Soil Conservation Commission and Soil Conservation Districts
24 will serve to inform the Legislature of whether the provisions are sufficient to provide the au-
25 thority, in relation to funding, management and all other powers and duties, upon which the
26 commission and districts may operate as intended by the Legislature.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of
28 the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein,
29 that the Legislative Council is authorized to appoint a committee to undertake and complete a
30 study of statutory provisions of the Idaho Code, and any applicable rules, relating to the Soil
31 Conservation Commission and Soil Conservation Districts. The purpose of the review is to
32 determine whether the provisions are sufficient to provide the authority, in relation to funding,
33 management and all other powers and duties, upon which the commission and districts may op-
34 erate as intended by the Legislature. The committee shall consist of eight legislators, with four
35 from the Senate and four from the House of Representatives. The Legislative Council shall
36 authorize the committee to receive input, advice and assistance from interested and affected
37 parties who are not members of the Legislature.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Council is authorized to also appoint
39 ad hoc legislative members to serve on the committee.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any advisors to the committee who are not legislative
2 members shall not be reimbursed from legislative funds for per diem, mileage or other expenses
3 and shall not have voting privileges regarding the committee's recommendations and proposed
4 legislation.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall make a report detailing its find-
6 ings, recommendations and proposed legislation, if any, to the Second Regular Session of the
7 Sixtieth Idaho Legislature.