

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 55

BY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
2 AND WELFARE TO UNDERTAKE A STUDY OF THE COST OF IMPLEMENTING A RANDOM
3 DRUG TESTING PROGRAM OF ADULTS RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND REQUEST-
4 ING THE DEPARTMENT TO REPORT ITS FINDINGS TO THE LEGISLATURE.
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6 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

7 WHEREAS, substance abuse in and of itself impairs personal responsibil-
8 ity and self-sufficiency and stands in the way of the very intent of public
9 assistance programs to care for the health and welfare of certain otherwise
10 qualified recipients and in so doing results in welfare costs that burden the
11 state's taxpayers; and

12 WHEREAS, in balancing the interests of taxpayers, participants in
13 public assistance programs who are not substance abusers and potential
14 employers against the interests of those adults participating in public
15 assistance programs who are substance abusers, screening, testing and
16 treatment of adult substance abusers who receive public assistance and, if
17 necessary, terminating adult substance abusers who continue to abuse con-
18 trolled substances from the public assistance programs serves the greater
19 interests of all concerned; and

20 WHEREAS, those adults who continue to test positive for a controlled
21 substance after ninety days should not be allowed to continue participating
22 in public assistance programs paid for by the taxpayers; and

23 WHEREAS, a significant number of employers use preemployment drug test-
24 ing.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Ses-
26 sion of the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the
27 Senate concurring therein, that the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
28 is requested to undertake a study of the cost of implementing a random drug
29 testing program of adults receiving public assistance in Idaho and whether
30 such a random drug testing program could become self-funded through savings
31 to the state General Fund through terminating adults who continue to test
32 positive for controlled substances after ninety days from public assistance
33 programs.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health and Welfare is re-
35 quested to report the findings of its study to the Legislature prior to the
36 commencement of the First Regular Session of the Sixty-first Idaho Legisla-
37 ture.