

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS20606

This bill provides \$162,000,000 of bonding authority for the issuance of Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle (GARVEE) bonds to finance highway transportation projects listed in Section 40-315, Idaho Code.

Intent language directs that neither the Transportation Board nor the Transportation Department increase the size or scope of the projects listed in Section 40-315, Idaho Code, nor add additional projects. Intent language also directs any agreement governing program management services be fully transparent to the public and Legislature and shall endeavor to negotiate the best rates for services. Intent language also provides that bonds be issued upon an approved resolution by the Transportation Board requesting the Idaho Housing and Finance Association to issue the bonds in necessary amounts. Further, it is legislative intent that the bonds be issued on an "as needed" basis as determined by the Transportation Board. Other intent sections provide that bond revenue be expended in a priority manner with the first priority being given to construction, followed in order of priority by right-of-way acquisition, and then other necessary project-related costs. Legislative intent also provides that, to the extent feasible and practical, the Transportation Department perform project-related work within the Department itself. Legislative intent provides for a report from the Transportation Board to the Legislature concerning GARVEE projects, with such report being submitted by September 30.

FISCAL NOTE

This bill provides bonding authority for the issuance of Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle (GARVEE) bonds in a principal amount to finance up to \$162,000,000 of highway transportation projects. The bill authorizes the transfer of up to \$4,000,000 from the State Highway Account to provide the state match portion on bond debt service in fiscal year 2012. Proceeds from this additional bonding authority are proposed to be used on the following GARVEE projects: Construction on State Highway 16, US-95, and for program management costs.

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