

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS20058

This bill known as the “Idaho Records Disclosure Act” allows disclosure exemptions to permanent and historical records to expire 75 years after their creation. Exemptions may still be maintained for national or state security, public safety, to protect cultural or archeological sites, upon the written request of a living person to which the record applies, or to comply with federal requirements. Current exemptions from public record disclosure are held in perpetuity, and even some territorial records are held inaccessible to the public.

FISCAL NOTE

This bill will have a substantial, positive fiscal impact for custodians of records older than 75 years. Records custodians are required to spend hundreds of hours to review and redact records before release. Depending upon the size of a file, an archivist can expend from one to more than four hours redacting each records' request. Had this bill been enacted, the state archivist estimates a savings of 2400 work hours from August 2007 to August 2010; and this represents the savings from only a single records collection.

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