

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS20972

The purpose of this bill is to obtain sustainable funding for the state wide electronic victim and witness notification system, known as VINE. The system has been implemented throughout Idaho and is currently run through the Idaho Sheriff's Association. VINE assists prosecutors and correctional agencies in fulfilling their constitutional duty to assure that victims of crime are notified of changes in the status of offenders. In the last year, over 20,000 people have registered to use VINE in Idaho. VINE is used for victim notification in 47 states, and is used by the federal government. The bill contemplates a \$10 one-time fee upon conviction of a misdemeanor or felony. It is projected that this will raise enough money to maintain the program. Any excess fees generated will be turned over to the Victim Restitution fund.

FISCAL NOTE

This bill has no negative impact on the general fund of the state.

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