STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS21742

This bill would enact a new statute providing that when Idaho law permits a matter to be supported by a sworn statement in writing, the matter can be supported by an unsworn written statement which is signed and is declared to be made under penalty of perjury pursuant to Idaho law. It would also provide that a person who willfully makes a false statement on a material matter in a document including such a declaration commits perjury. These provisions, similar to those in several other states, will facilitate the preparation and filing of many types of legal documents, and will also be helpful in permitting the eventual electronic filing of documents. In addition, the Idaho Code already contains many references to written statements that must be made "under penalty of perjury," but there is nothing in the code that clearly provides that making false statements in such statements constitutes perjury. This bill will repair this omission.

FISCAL NOTE

This bill would have no impact on the general fund.

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