

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS22293

The purpose of this legislation is to provide efficiency and accountability in Idaho higher education and to provide equal status to the four state institutions of higher education. This bill will provide increased flexibility to the state board to govern the state college and universities.

This bill also codifies the Supreme Court ruling of the independent legal status of the University of Idaho, Idaho State University, Lewis-Clark State College and Boise State University from *State v. Continental Casualty Company*, 121 Idaho 938, 829 P.2d 528 (1992), and clarifies existing statutes that already so state (such as Idaho Code §§ 33-2804, 33-3003, 33-3102, and 33-4005).

This legislation provides that the state board may allow colleges and universities to utilize State Departments for services when it makes sense to do so and the state board cannot allow the institutions to exit existing participation in those programs without providing at least 18 months notice. If the institutions wish to rejoin the programs for such services, then it will be via mutual written agreement and those agreements may be on a fee for services basis.

Finally, the legislation will not take effect until July 1, 2014 to allow the state board time to work with all effected state departments and agencies to ensure the implementation of the legislation is done in consideration of the effects to all involved entities. There is also a sunset clause of June 30, 2016 to allow the Legislature to consider the effects and outcomes in a future session.

FISCAL NOTE

There is no fiscal impact.

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