

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS22002

Allowing travel by trucks to carry loads up to 129,000 pounds provides significant economic development opportunities for Idaho’s communities. The increased load limitation will promote interstate commerce as many of Idaho’s neighbor states have higher truck weight limits.

Additionally, a ten-year Idaho Department of Transportation study commissioned by the Legislature has recently concluded that trucks of up to 129,000 pounds can easily travel on designated Idaho roads without causing increased damage to the roads or danger to the public.

This bill provides that the authority having jurisdiction over its roads may designate routes for loads up to 129,000 pounds by using the criteria based on road and bridge structural integrity engineering standards and public safety established by the Idaho Department of Transportation. The authority with jurisdiction over a road will be able to utilize the same type of permit currently being issued on designated roads so that all of Idaho’s communities can benefit.

FISCAL NOTE

It is estimated that there would be little or no impact to the dedicated fund of the Idaho Transportation Department or to the general fund portion of the Idaho Department of Commerce’s budget.

There may or may not be a fiscal impact to local highway jurisdictions depending on how they use their discretion to designate their roadways for higher load capacities.

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