

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 111

BY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND DIRECTING THE IDAHO TRANSPORTA-  
2 TION DEPARTMENT, THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE IDAHO  
3 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE TO CONTINUE AND FACILITATE A STATEWIDE FREIGHT  
4 TRANSPORTATION TASK FORCE WITH EMPHASIS ON THE FORMATION OF A STAKE-  
5 HOLDER FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE, TO INITIATE AND  
6 FINALIZE A METHODOLOGICAL STUDY OF IDAHO'S PRESENT FREIGHT TRANSPORTA-  
7 TION SYSTEM, TO ESTABLISH A CONSISTENT AND RIGOROUS DATA COLLECTION AND  
8 ANALYSIS PROTOCOL, AND RECOMMENDING POLICIES, ACTIVITIES AND TIMELINES  
9 TO IMPLEMENT THESE CHANGES.  
10

11 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

12 WHEREAS, Idaho's current and future economy depends upon growth in man-  
13 ufacturing and the related internal and external movement of raw commodi-  
14 ties, materials and finished products; and

15 WHEREAS, future job growth and employment for Idahoans is rooted in a  
16 strong economic sector that can offer collaborative, coordinated, linked  
17 and integrated freight transportation; and

18 WHEREAS, the Idaho Transportation Department has been engaged with pre-  
19 liminary research and development of a freight system and the initial six  
20 recommendations of the ITD Freight Study Planning Group adopted by the ITD  
21 Board and presented to the Legislature; and

22 WHEREAS, the Idaho Transportation Department, the Idaho Department of  
23 Commerce and the Idaho Department of Agriculture are each charged with in-  
24 teragency cooperation and strategic involvement with commodity movement,  
25 commerce development and stimulating production; and

26 WHEREAS, existing Idaho statutes codified as Chapter 22, Title 70,  
27 Idaho Code, County and City-based Intermodal Commerce Authority, and Chap-  
28 ter 29, Title 49, Idaho Code, Rural Economic Development and Integrated  
29 Freight Transportation (REDIFiT) emphasize cooperation, linkages and col-  
30 laboration in freight movement and strategic infrastructure development but  
31 lack the emphasis necessary to fully execute the opportunities presented for  
32 planning and development of a freight system in Idaho; and

33 WHEREAS, future Idaho public policy should emphasize systemwide and  
34 comprehensive coordinated, cooperative and linked freight transportation  
35 systems that consist of multimodal connections, readiness storage to facil-  
36 itate incoming and outgoing freight shipping focused on cost-efficiency and  
37 timeliness to the benefit of production and movement for producers, shippers  
38 and carriers instead of policies that emphasize a singular mode or industry  
39 and a patchwork approach; and

40 WHEREAS, a comprehensive and systemic assessment of Idaho's freight  
41 transportation system resulting in integrated recommendations must be  
42 accomplished to benefit shippers and producers before further patchwork  
43 approaches are codified that will only serve to further complicate the de-

1 velopment of a coherent, connected and cooperative freight transportation  
2 system; and

3 WHEREAS, it is evident that to achieve economic development that neces-  
4 sarily relies upon cost-efficient freight movement and promotes infrastruc-  
5 ture development, a collaborative systematic process to plan, fund and de-  
6 velop a freight transportation system and infrastructure is required.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular  
8 Session of the Sixty-second Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of  
9 Representatives concurring therein, that the Idaho Legislature directs the  
10 Idaho Transportation Department to include as equal partners in freight sys-  
11 tems planning and development, the Department of Commerce and the Department  
12 of Agriculture, and that these three agencies (Agencies) are to mutually  
13 continue strategic assessment and planning for Idaho's freight transporta-  
14 tion system for all modes including rail, trucks, air and barge.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Idaho Legislature directs the Agencies  
16 to identify, catalog and produce a map of Idaho's present freight trans-  
17 portation system and integral partners that ship freight within and without  
18 Idaho, generally the type of freight shipped or received and corresponding  
19 manufacturers and producers of commodities requiring shipping, and iden-  
20 tify their specific and general shipping needs to receive and deliver said  
21 freight efficiently and timely.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Idaho Legislature directs the Agencies  
23 to assess, rigorously evaluate, catalog and recommend opportunities for  
24 freight shipping partnership collaboration, modality linkages for effi-  
25 cient and timely freight transportation.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to promote a coherent, coordinated  
27 and functional multimodal freight system, recommend specific policies for  
28 infrastructure capacity, locations and construction funding options for  
29 infrastructure projects including, but not limited to, roads and highways,  
30 bridges, facilities, connections and linkages to highway roads and bridges,  
31 warehousing, loading and transfer facilities.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that to inform updates to the freight plan and  
33 Idaho's freight system, the Agencies are charged to design and implement a  
34 rigorous data collection system that reflects freight movement efficiency,  
35 effectiveness, modality partners cooperation and identified needs to pro-  
36 mote a competitive freight system.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon passage of this resolution, the Idaho  
38 Legislature will not authorize or allow state agency changes to legislative  
39 policy relating to vehicle weight routes, modal connections and linkages  
40 or facilities until the Agencies present a freight system plan containing  
41 needs, infrastructure and facility inventories, maps displaying the current  
42 freight shipping system and recommendations.