

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1324

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO COMMUNITY COLLEGES; PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE INTENT; PROVIDING  
2 A SHORT TITLE; AND AMENDING CHAPTER 21, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE  
3 ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-2145, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS  
4 RELATING TO A PLAN REGARDING ATTENDANCE AT IDAHO PUBLIC COMMUNITY COL-  
5 LEGES.  
6

7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

8 SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. Understanding that education is the  
9 cornerstone of a successful economy, it is the intent of the Legislature that  
10 every Idaho student who wishes to attend an Idaho public community college  
11 is able to do so, either in person or remotely via technology. The Legisla-  
12 ture urges the state's community colleges, the State Board of Education and  
13 all other interested stakeholders to develop and implement a plan to ensure  
14 that every Idaho student is able to attend a state community college. The  
15 Legislature acknowledges that by ensuring every student has the opportunity  
16 to attend an Idaho community college, Idaho's students will be able to fully  
17 participate in our state's future, either by being ready upon graduation to  
18 successfully enter the workforce or by being ready to continue their post-  
19 secondary education through Idaho's four-year colleges and universities.

20 SECTION 2. This act shall be known as the "Community College Opportu-  
21 nity Act of 2014."

22 SECTION 3. That Chapter 21, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is  
23 hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-  
24 ignated as Section 33-2145, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

25 33-2145. STATE BOARD AND STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION TO ENSURE AVAIL-  
26 ABILITY OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE EDUCATION. (1) The state board of education is  
27 hereby directed to collaborate with all appropriate stakeholders, including  
28 the state department of education, representatives from colleges of educa-  
29 tion in the state, policymakers, the division of professional-technical ed-  
30 ucation and others to develop and submit to the legislature by no later than  
31 December 1, 2014, a plan to ensure that every Idaho student who wishes to at-  
32 tend an Idaho public community college is able to do so, either in person or  
33 remotely via technology.

34 (2) The plan provided for in subsection (1) of this section shall estab-  
35 lish provisions guiding the state's community colleges in how best to ensure  
36 that the curriculum offered by the colleges is readily available to students  
37 domiciled throughout the state. The goal of the plan shall be that every stu-  
38 dent who wants to attend a community college, either at the community college  
39 or remotely via technology, will have a reasonable and affordable opportu-  
40 nity to do so.

1           (3) The plan should take into account and be based upon the existing  
2 community college system and available technology to ensure that easily  
3 affordable courses are available to prospective students throughout the  
4 state.