

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 263

BY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO APPROPRIATIONS TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION FOR  
2 FISCAL YEAR 2015; AMENDING SECTION 3 OF HOUSE BILL NO. 168, AS ENACTED  
3 BY THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE SIXTY-THIRD IDAHO LEGISLATURE, TO  
4 PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN PAYMENTS.  
5

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

7 SECTION 1. That Section 3 of House Bill No. 168, as enacted by the First  
8 Regular Session of the Sixty-third Idaho Legislature, shall be amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 SECTION 3. USE OF FUNDS. It is the intent of the Legislature that the  
11 funding provided in Section 2 of this act is for schools to purchase broad-  
12 band services in an amount equivalent to what was provided through the Idaho  
13 Education Network as of February 1, 2015.

14 (a) The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall require school dis-  
15 tricts to provide documentation, as determined by the superintendent, to  
16 support all funds distributed.

17 (b) The superintendent shall have the authority to make advances of the  
18 money appropriated in Section 2 of this act to school districts as the su-  
19 perintendent deems adequate, as determined by past usage, and of sufficiency  
20 to minimize financial difficulties by the school districts while procuring  
21 services.

22 (c) The superintendent shall have the authority to make payments for  
23 additional costs incurred by schools, from the money appropriated in Sec-  
24 tion 2 of this act, if they became ineligible for E-rate reimbursement as a  
25 result of purchasing services on the now void Idaho Education Network con-  
26 tract. Once the superintendent determines that the appropriation provided  
27 for in Section 2 of this act is sufficient to pay for all costs to maintain  
28 broadband services and associated maintenance, then remaining funds may be  
29 paid to school districts. If the total remaining funds are insufficient to  
30 fully compensate eligible schools, then the superintendent shall prorate  
31 reimbursement based upon available funds.

32 (d) The superintendent shall target the resources necessary for stu-  
33 dents currently relying on online curricula by coordinating with the Idaho  
34 Digital Learning Academy and other providers of online education to identify  
35 barriers to completing their courses and finding appropriate solutions. The  
36 superintendent shall prioritize assistance to those students who are sched-  
37 uled to graduate in the spring or winter of 2015.

38 (de) This is a fixed appropriation and any surplus shall revert back to  
39 the General Fund on July 31, 2015. School districts are cautioned that fund-  
40 ing from the state for fiscal year 2016 is not included in this act. However,  
41 it is the intent of the Legislature to provide funding for these services for  
42 fiscal year 2016 as soon as is practicable.