

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

### RS25543

This legislation amends Section 16-1602, Idaho Code to strike and add language to the definition of "neglected" child, and to defer defense of religious practice to Section 73-402, Idaho Code and to consider the wishes of the child; amends Section 16-1627, Idaho Code to strike language for authorization of emergency medical treatment, and to defer defense of religious practice to Section 73-402, Idaho Code. These changes will allow the State, in those instances where a parent has been advised and educated about their child's declining health, or in instances where the parents were not genuinely treating by spiritual means through prayer, to be properly investigated and perhaps prosecuted.

### FISCAL NOTE

No fiscal impact on the general fund. However, local units of government may see an increase in the number of court cases due to parents whose decisions adversely impact the health and welfare of their child and those decisions are not supported by the evidence of those cases.

**Contact:**

Senator Dan G. Johnson  
(208) 332-1000

**DISCLAIMER:** This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).