

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS25456

This Joint Resolution proposes an amendment to Section 22, Article I of the Idaho Constitution, relating to the rights of crime victims. It states the question to the electorate, "Shall Section 22, Article I, of the Constitution of the State of Idaho be amended to provide equal rights to victims of crimes including the right to notification of court proceedings, reasonable protection from the accused, and a voice in the criminal justice process?" It directs Legislative Council to prepare statements required by Section 67-453, Idaho Code, and file the same, and directs the Secretary of State to publish the proposed amendment and arguments as required by law.

FISCAL NOTE

There will be some fiscal impact to state and local entities but it is very difficult to quantify. There will be some increased costs associated with providing notice to the victim of the additional covered aspects of the criminal justice proceedings. Prosecutors and courts are familiar with the notice process in the existing system. Some of the additional notices can be handled by the existing Victims Information Notification Everyday program, or VINE Network. There will be some additional cost associated with time in criminal justice proceedings where the victim elects to provide a statement or information or in continuing the matter if a notice is not provided.

There is an estimated cost to the General Fund of \$205,000 for the Idaho Secretary of State to publish the proposed amendment and arguments to the electorate as required by law, and there should be no impact to local units of government as they will be holding a regularly scheduled election.

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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).