

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

### RS25904

According to the Idaho State Department of Education, there is a serious teacher shortage in Idaho that is even more acute in rural Idaho school districts. Attracting certified instructional and pupil service staff to these rural school districts is becoming increasingly difficult. This bill is intended to both attract and retain qualified teachers in Idaho's rural school districts by providing a small amount of student loan forgiveness.

### FISCAL NOTE

The impact to the General Fund is estimated to be \$1,500,000 per year. According to 2017 data from the Idaho State Department of Education, there are approximately 19,000 certificated teachers and counselors in the State of Idaho. Approximately 50 percent work in a rural district. Up to 500 of those eligible rural teachers and counselors, as determined by the Idaho State Board of Education, could be awarded \$3,000 per year, for up to four (4) years. There will also be some staffing costs required to administer the program. This cost is ongoing and is estimated at \$50,000 per year.

#### Contact:

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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).**