

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS26181

This legislation has two purposes: 1) Allow more public school districts and public charter schools to participate in Idaho's mastery education initiative by removing the existing statutory cap on participation. The cap was put into place as the mastery initiative began in order to create an incubator cohort of schools. As Idaho has made progress, more schools wish to participate. The cap is presently 20, and we have approximately 30 more schools which have expressed a desire to participate in the network. 2) Adjust the statute to support Idaho's long-term transition to mastery education by encouraging incremental experimentation in schools, especially in grade levels or subject matter. Additionally, it establishes a mastery-based education advisory commission to study and track progress around the state and recommend policy changes that will help the state navigate potential implementation issues.

FISCAL NOTE

1) Because additional schools and districts have indicated interest in participating, Superintendent Ybarra's FY19 budget request includes an additional \$1.4 million for mastery education. The Governor's budget request includes the same increase. In conjunction with the changes in subsection (4) of this legislation, the request will allow more schools to receive grants to participate in Idaho's mastery education program than in previous years. School districts must fill out an application and be approved by the State Department of Education to be a part of the network and to receive these grants. 2) There is no fiscal impact from the other sections of this legislation. Schools may experiment with mastery-based approaches on their own, and school representatives may participate in network activities using their own funds.

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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).