

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS26706

Idaho's dangerous dog law was completely revised in 2016. The original law contained a misdemeanor penalty in addition to restrictions imposed on the further keeping or destruction of the dog. The 2016 rewrite inadvertently removed any criminal penalty for harboring a dangerous or at-risk dog. Officers in the field lost the ability to write citations under this section of Idaho Code and this has prevented cases being pursued and prosecuted to protect public safety.

This legislation restores the misdemeanor penalty under prior Idaho law. Further, it revises the definition of injury and restores enforcement of the act to those with vested authority.

FISCAL NOTE

This legislation restores a misdemeanor penalty that was inadvertently omitted from the 2016 rewrite. It will have no impact on the general fund or to local government.

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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).