

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS26796

In 2013, legislation was created setting up two funds to solely benefit veterans in Idaho. The Idaho Veterans Recognition Fund was established from moneys appropriated by excess revenues maintained by the Idaho Division of Veterans Services (Section 65-702, Idaho Code). The intent of this fund was to safeguard these reserves, at a higher mid-term holding earning rate, so that they are available to support the initial construction costs of a second cemetery and fourth veterans nursing home without the use of the general funds.

The second fund, identified as the Idaho Veterans Recognition Income Fund (Section 65-704, Idaho Code), consists of monies transferred from the Idaho Veterans Recognition Fund. It was the intent of the Legislature that the interest and earnings from the moneys in the Idaho Veterans Recognition Fund be annually transferred to the Income Fund to be used to fund programs operated both within and outside state and local government that are in support Idaho Veterans of the armed forces of the United States through the means of providing grant opportunities as provided in IDAPA Rule 21.01.08.

While the Division of Veterans Services maintains the higher interest and investment earnings generated by such moneys in the Veterans Recognition Fund, the lower interest rate generated by the short-term holdings in the Veterans Recognition Income Fund is currently swept to the General Fund.

This legislation permits the short-term holdings in the Veterans Recognition Income Fund to also be used solely to benefit Idaho veterans.

FISCAL NOTE

The estimated General Fund impact is \$480.00 per year. Currently, the lower interest rates earned by these short-term holdings in the Veterans Recognition Income Fund are swept to the General Fund. This legislation allows the Division of Veterans Services to maintain these funds to be used for Idaho Veterans.

Contact:

Senator Carl Crabtree
(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).