

FOR THE RECORD, MY NAME IS KARI OVERALL AND I AM THE PRESIDENT OF THE IDAHO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION. I AM HERE TODAY ON BEHALF OF THE IDAHO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION MEMBERS ACROSS THE STATE TO TESTIFY ON HB 153.

THE IEA URGES YOUR SUPPORT ON THIS IMPORTANT BILL. WE APPRECIATE THE COMMITMENT BY THE IDAHO LEGISLATURE TO INCREASE TEACHERS SALARIES THE LAST FIVE YEARS. THE ORIGINAL GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION CALLED FOR A STARTING TEACHER SALARY OF \$40,000. THIS BILL MAKES THAT RECOMMENDATION A REALITY.

THE PIPELINE REPORT DONE BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ILLUSTRATES IDAHO HAS ONE OF THE HIGHEST ATTRITION RATES OF TEACHERS IN THE COUNTRY. SCHOOL DISTRICTS ACROSS THE STATE CONTINUE TO STRUGGLE TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN EDUCATORS. THIS BILL SEEKS BRINGS ONE SOLUTION TO HELP SOLVE THIS ONGOING PROBLEM.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO THIS SUMMER'S GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE TO CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION FOR ADDITIONAL SOLUTIONS TO THE TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION DISCUSSION TO FIND ADDITIONAL SOLUTIONS.

ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERS OF THE IDAHO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, I ASK YOU TO SUPPORT HB 153.

THANK YOU AND I WILL STAND FOR QUESTIONS.