March 16, 2022

The Honorable Scott Bedke Speaker of the House Idaho House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Speaker,

I hereby advise you that I have returned without my approval, disapproved, and vetoed, the following House bill, to wit:

HOUSE BILL 533

I veto this legislation because Master Educator Premiums are currently set to sunset on July 1, 2024. Prior to sunsetting this program, Master Educator Premiums were intended to be an incentive to keep teachers in the classroom. By providing them to teachers who moved outside of teaching roles, this appears to be at odds with the original purpose of this program.

I share the goal of ensuring all our educators are appropriately compensated and rewarded. A more appropriate way of doing that is focusing on pay and benefits. My budget this year provides a record CEC and a historic investment in health insurance for teachers, classified staff, and administrators. I urge the legislature to bring these critical budget items across the finish line this session.

Sincerely,

Brad Little Governor of Idaho