

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS30983C2 / S1325

This legislation safeguards freedom of speech and public participation by providing a mechanism to swiftly dismiss meritless lawsuits aimed at stifling public discourse. This legislation protects individuals and organizations from being targeted by Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPPs), ensuring that public engagement and expression, especially on matters of societal or community interest, are not hindered by legal intimidation tactics.

### FISCAL NOTE

The fiscal impact would likely be minimal, primarily affecting court procedures and litigation processes. Costs could arise from initial implementation and education for the legal system, but potential savings may occur due to reduced frivolous lawsuits and more efficient court operations.

#### Contact:

Senator Brian Lenney

(208) 332-1000

Representative Heather Scott

(208) 332-1190

**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).