

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 111

BY AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND AUTHORIZING THE STATE BOARD OF ED-
2 UCATION TO INVESTIGATE OPPORTUNITIES AND COMMENCE PRELIMINARY CONVER-
3 SATIONS WITH THE STATE OF UTAH TO ESTABLISH AN OPERATING AGREEMENT FOR
4 IDAHO STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN UTAH'S VETERINARY PROGRAM SIMILAR TO
5 THE EXISTING PROGRAM WITH WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY.
6

7 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

8 WHEREAS, the Idaho Legislature recognizes the value of the livestock
9 industries to the state's economy, communities, and families; and

10 WHEREAS, the combined revenues of the largest sectors of the state's
11 livestock industry exceeds 6.4 billion dollars, with an even larger overall
12 economic impact throughout the state; and

13 WHEREAS, many of the supporting sectors and other crop commodities that
14 are produced in the state go to serve the needs of the state's livestock in-
15 dustry; and

16 WHEREAS, the need and availability of animal care professionals and
17 veterinarian services remain a top concern for the animal agricultural in-
18 dustry in the state; and

19 WHEREAS, the lack of available livestock veterinary services in the
20 state's most rural areas is also of significant concern; and

21 WHEREAS, the state of Idaho does not have a veterinarian school; and

22 WHEREAS, the state of Idaho already has an operating agreement with
23 Washington State University to allow Idaho students to participate in its
24 veterinary training program; and

25 WHEREAS, the state of Utah will soon open its new veterinary medicine
26 school at Utah State University to start training students; and

27 WHEREAS, the University of Idaho, College of Agriculture and Life Sci-
28 ences held a workgroup made up of industry representatives, university pro-
29 fessionals, and state leaders to research the needs of the livestock indus-
30 try in the state and the opportunities that the state might pursue to help ad-
31 dress the needs for trained veterinarians in the state; and

32 WHEREAS, the possibility of pursuing an interstate veterinary training
33 program with the state of Utah was one of the items identified by the work-
34 group as a possible consideration.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Ses-
36 sion of the Sixty-seventh Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Rep-
37 resentatives concurring therein, that we authorize the State Board of Edu-
38 cation to investigate opportunities and commence preliminary conversations
39 with the state of Utah to establish an operating agreement for Idaho students
40 to participate in Utah's veterinary program similar to the existing program
41 with Washington State University.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Board of Education report back to
2 the Legislature their findings and outcomes from the conversations with the
3 state of Utah and Utah State University.