



SCOTT BEDKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

February 27, 2024

Senate Education Committee
Idaho State Senate

Dear Senators:

I write to express my support for **S1308** which will be heard by you on February 28, 2024, and I urge you to give this bill your favorable consideration.

My support for this legislation stems from my constant and long-term pro-life commitment. I believe that for Idaho women dealing with a crisis pregnancy, adoption should be a viable option. But the truth is, many women simply do not know the facts about adoption and therefore never consider it as one of their available choices. We should do everything possible to educate them about the availability of adoption so they can be encouraged to choose life for their unborn children.

S1308, which requires that adoption information be presented as part of Idaho's health education classes, seems to be a step in the right direction. By educating young people about modern adoption practices as part of their normal health curriculum, we equip them with solid information if they are later facing a crisis pregnancy situation – or if they are in a position to advise a friend in such a situation.

I am aware that there may be other bills proposed this session dealing with adoption. To the extent that they make adoption a more viable option for birth mothers, I support those efforts.

Again, I ask that you support S1308 when it comes before you for your consideration. Idaho could become a leader in innovative ways to make adoption an attractive and realistic option, including providing the educational component envisioned by this bill.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Scott Bedke
Lieutenant Governor