

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS31784 / H0067

On average, Idaho has 27 work-related fatalities per year. The purpose of this proposed legislation is to amend Idaho Code 72-436 to increase the maximum allowable burial expenses for workers who suffer fatal work-related injuries from the current cap of \$6,000 to \$10,000. This adjustment reflects the inflationary costs associated with burial and related services, ensuring that families are adequately supported during their time of loss. The costs related to this benefit have not been increased since 1993.

Additionally, this amendment seeks to provide clear language that includes the transportation of the deceased worker's body as part of the covered burial expenses. The proposed changes also remove geographic limitations on the transportation of the body, allowing for the deceased worker to be transported to their final resting place. This clarification is to ensure all necessary costs associated with the burial process, including returning the deceased worker to their final resting place, are comprehensively covered under the statute.

### FISCAL NOTE

This legislation will have no impact on the general fund, any dedicated fund, or federal fund. The additional costs will be covered by workers' compensation insurance companies at an estimated cost of \$108,000. This estimated cost would be offset by savings resulting from the inclusion of transportation costs within burial expenses.

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**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).