

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS32727 / H0458

Amending Idaho Code 33-1613 to create requirements for safe public school facilities, provide fines for violation, ensuring protections for Idaho's children and those who care for them every day. Idaho's children must learn in a safe, healthy school environment. Some of our public school facilities currently face serious safety and health concerns that put students and staff at risk. This legislation strengthens existing school safety requirements by mandating rigorous facility inspections, requiring prompt abatement of unsafe conditions related to lead and mold, and prompt mitigation of high levels of radon, and establishing clear accountability measures including mandatory reporting to parents. By implementing these enhanced safety protocols and protections, Idaho reaffirms its commitment to our communities and parents that Idaho's public school children are learning in school facilities that meet basic safety and health standards.

FISCAL NOTE

The cost of abatement in some cases would fall within the capital projects funding of HB 521 (2024). If abatement falls under general maintenance, the cost to the general fund could be as much as \$29 million. That total is the amount of dedicated facilities maintenance funding that was discontinued when lottery funds were shifted into the modernization fund.

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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).