

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS32807 / H0482

This bill addresses several end-of-session items. 1. It provides a FY 2025 supplemental appropriation to the Military Division to support the commissioning of the USS Idaho SSN 799, a Virginia Class nuclear-powered fast attack submarine; 2. it directs no transfer shall be made from the Budget Stabilization Fund to the General Fund through FY 2026; 3. it provides three cash transfers to consolidate moneys from accounts either no longer or rarely in use; 4. it moves cash to support the public schools appropriation subject to House Bill 479; and 5. it directs the Military Division to implement FY 2026 change in employee compensation to maintain parity with the federal pay scale.

FISCAL NOTE

Section 1 of the bill provides \$200,000 for trustee and benefit payments from the General Fund to support the commissioning of the USS Idaho SSN 799, a Virginia Class nuclear-powered fast attack submarine. Funding will be directed to the USS Idaho Commissioning Committee as a customary contribution of the naming state to promote Idaho and to support the crew through a scholarship program.

Section 2 of the bill will maintain the rainy day fund's \$880.2 million balance through FY 2026. Section 57-814, Idaho Code, requires the Office of the State Controller to transfer any balance in excess of 15% General Fund revenue collections for the year just ended to the General Fund. If FY 2025 revenues are below the current forecast, the fund would be above the statutory cap sending moneys back to the General Fund. The Legislature has directed the Office of the State Controller to maintain the fund balance rather than transfer moneys out.

Section 3 of the bill transfers the remaining balance of approximately \$37.8 million in the Bond Levy Equalization Fund to the General Fund. The Bond Levy Equalization Fund program was removed from Idaho Code with House Bill 521 of 2024.

Section 4 of the bill transfers the remaining balance of approximately \$1.1 million in the Constitutional Defense Fund to the Legislative Legal Defense Fund.

Section 5 of the bill transfers the remaining balance of approximately \$652,500 in the Governor's Emergency Fund to the General Fund. This transfer centralizes the state's emergency funds in the Office of Emergency Management in the Military Division.

Section 6 of the bill transfers \$330,000,000 from the General Fund to the Public School Income Fund for FY 2026 to support the appropriation provided in House Bill 251 for Public Schools Program Maintenance. This transfer is necessary following the passage of House Bill 479, which clarified that the \$330 million that was earmarked for Public Schools in House Bill 1 of the 2022 special session is transferred to the General Fund. Appropriations will control this activity going forward. This money has already been appropriated in House Bill 251, and this action ensures that there is cash to support the appropriation.

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).

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