

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS32103 / S1048

This legislation works to protect freedom of inquiry and the pursuit of knowledge in Idaho's institutions of higher education by freeing students and faculty from compulsory ideological training. It prohibits DEI-based discrimination in admission and hiring, DEI-related employee incentives, DEI offices and officer positions, diversity training, and bias reporting systems. Students also may not be forced to enroll in a course designed and implemented with DEI principles unless their chosen course of study is based on these concepts.

Institutions are held accountable via annual reporting to the Attorney General and legislature, along with a private cause of action for injunctive relief and/or penalties from the AG's office for failure to comply.

This will not affect centers and scholarships for American Indian students.

FISCAL NOTE

There may be long-term cost savings associated with ending the DEI administrative apparatus in taxpayer-funded institutions of higher education, as some positions and programs will end. It could save up to \$3.8 Million based on the 51 associated positions previously identified in Idaho's Higher Education institutions.

Contact:

Senator Ben Toews
(208) 332-1000

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).