

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1142, As Amended in the House

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO EDUCATION; REPEALING SECTION 33-1029, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO
2 STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION AND NONPUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS; REPEALING SEC-
3 TION 33-1030, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS; REPEALING SECTION
4 33-1031, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO THE EMPOWERING PARENTS GRANT PROGRAM;
5 REPEALING SECTION 33-1032, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO THE PARENT ADVISORY
6 PANEL; REPEALING SECTION 33-1033, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO A CERTAIN RE-
7 PORT AND EVALUATION; AMENDING SECTION 33-1031, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE
8 FOR THE TERMINATION OF GRANT AWARDS; AMENDING SECTION 33-1034, IDAHO
9 CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN FUNDS; REPEALING SECTION
10 33-1034, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO THE EMPOWERING PARENTS GRANT PROGRAM
11 FUND; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES.
12

13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

14 SECTION 1. That Section [33-1029](#), Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
15 repealed.

16 SECTION 2. That Section [33-1030](#), Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
17 repealed.

18 SECTION 3. That Section [33-1031](#), Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
19 repealed.

20 SECTION 4. That Section [33-1032](#), Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
21 repealed.

22 SECTION 5. That Section [33-1033](#), Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
23 repealed.

24 SECTION 6. That Section 33-1031, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
25 amended to read as follows:

26 33-1031. EMPOWERING PARENTS GRANT PROGRAM. (1) There is hereby estab-
27 lished the empowering parents grant program, to be administered by the board
28 according to the provisions of this section. The purpose of the program is to
29 provide education grants for eligible students.

30 (2) In order to administer the program, the board:

31 (a) Shall create and administer, or designate a third party to create
32 and administer, a grant distribution platform;

33 (b) Shall establish a grant application process for parents;

34 (c) Shall establish provisions for the reimbursement of any eligi-
35 ble education expense for which reimbursement is required and di-
36 rect payment from the platform is not permitted pursuant to section
37 33-1030 (3) (a), Idaho Code;

1 (d) Shall, subject to appropriation, award grants. Grant awards shall
2 be made in the following order of preference:

3 (i) First to eligible students whose household has an adjusted
4 gross income under sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000), as verified
5 by the Idaho state tax commission using the prior year's tax re-
6 turns. Notification of grant awards for students in this category
7 shall be made within thirty (30) days of application, and grant
8 funds shall be made available for participants' use as soon as
9 practicable, but no later than thirty (30) days after the notifi-
10 cation of a grant award;

11 (ii) Starting sixty (60) days after grant awards in a fiscal year
12 are made under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, to eligible
13 students whose household has an adjusted gross income under sev-
14 enty-five thousand dollars (\$75,000), as verified by the Idaho
15 state tax commission using the prior year's tax returns; and

16 (iii) Starting sixty (60) days after grant awards in a fiscal year
17 are made under subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, to all other
18 eligible students on a first-come, first-served basis until all
19 available funds are distributed; and

20 (e) May take such other actions as are necessary to implement and en-
21 force the provisions of this section.

22 (3) Prior to the award of a grant, the parent of a participant shall
23 agree to verify program compliance. The parent of a participant shall use
24 grant funds only for eligible education expenses. If a parent is found to
25 misuse grant funds, then neither the parent nor another parent of the student
26 living in the same household may apply for a grant in the future for any stu-
27 dent, provided that the parent may appeal the finding to the board.

28 (4) Grant funds shall be expended within three (3) years after they
29 are awarded. Any unused funds at the end of the three (3) year period shall
30 revert to the empowering parents grant program fund established in section
31 33-1034, Idaho Code. At any time before the three (3) year period ends, un-
32 used funds may be forfeited and transferred from the participant account to
33 the program fund.

34 (5) Grant awards per family shall be capped at three thousand dollars
35 (\$3,000), regardless of the number of eligible students in the family.

36 (6) No grant awards shall be made under the provisions of this section
37 on or after the effective date of this act. Any grants awarded prior to the
38 effective date of this act may be used as provided in this section.

39 SECTION 7. That Section 33-1034, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
40 amended to read as follows:

41 33-1034. EMPOWERING PARENTS GRANT PROGRAM FUND. (1) There is hereby
42 established in the state treasury the empowering parents grant program fund,
43 to be administered by the board. Moneys in the fund shall:

44 ~~(1)~~ (a) Consist of the following:

45 ~~(a)~~ (i) Legislative appropriations;

46 ~~(b)~~ (ii) Donations and contributions made to the fund; and

47 ~~(c)~~ (iii) Interest earned on idle moneys in the fund;

48 ~~(2)~~ (b) Be continuously appropriated for the purpose described in sub-
49 section (3) of this section; and

1 ~~(3) (c)~~ Be used to pay grants awarded under the empowering parents grant
2 program.

3 (2) On June 20, 2028, and by no later than June 30, 2028, the state con-
4 troller shall transfer the unobligated cash balance remaining in the empow-
5 ering parents grant program fund into the general fund.

6 SECTION 8. That Section [33-1034](#), Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
7 repealed.

8 SECTION 9. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
9 declared to exist, Sections 6 and 7 of this act shall be in full force and ef-
10 fect on and after passage and approval, and Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 8 of
11 this act shall be in full force and effect on and after July 1, 2028.