

REVISED

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS32884 / H0558

The Trump Administration has encouraged States to preserve Social Security survivor benefits for foster youth rather than divert them to offset state government costs. Survivor benefits are an earned benefit through work and represent perhaps the last financial support a deceased parent can provide their child. The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare ended this diversion through administrative action in 2025, and this bill codifies this practice to ensure foster youth will continue to have access to their deceased parents' survivor benefits over time.

FISCAL NOTE

This legislation causes no increase or decrease in revenue, or additional expenditure of funds at the state or local level of government; therefore, this legislation has no fiscal impact. The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare already ended this action and based its budget submission around it. That said, it is estimated the Department was previously diverting \$250,000 to \$500,000 from Social Security survivor benefits from the pockets of foster youth into state coffers.

Contact:

Representative Josh Tanner
(208) 332-1000
Senator Tammy Nichols
(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).