

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS33539 / H0791

In 2018, the Idaho Legislature changed the enforcement procedures for unpaid traffic citations and for unpaid misdemeanor/felony traffic related incidents. The practice of suspending driving privileges for unpaid fines was eliminated. The courts were empowered to collect the unpaid fines through civil procedures. Since the implementation of this change, drivers have learned their unsafe driving practices had fewer consequences. Additionally, the amount of unpaid traffic fines increased from approximately \$1 million to \$24 million (\$3 million /year). The Idaho courts estimate there are over 125,000 drivers with unpaid traffic fines. This legislation will empower the courts and the Idaho DMV to suspend driving privileges when traffic related fines are not paid after appropriate notice.

FISCAL NOTE

The Idaho Transportation Department estimates the cost of software changes, postage, a media campaign and materials will be approximately \$52,000.

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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).