

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 22

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE, DECLARING 2026 TO BE THE YEAR OF VOL-
UNTEERISM AND THE AMERICA250 IN IDAHO SERVICE CHALLENGE, RECOGNIZING A
THEME SONG TO CELEBRATE AMERICA'S 250TH BIRTHDAY, AND ENCOURAGING ALL
IDAHOANS TO COMMEMORATE AMERICA'S 250TH BIRTHDAY BY SIGNING IDAHO'S
REPLICA OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, the Idaho Legislature has invited all Idahoans to promote an awareness and understanding of the principles contained in the nation's founding documents, including representative government, personal responsibility, individual liberty, and equal and inalienable rights; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Legislature has encouraged Idahoans to reflect on American and state history and heritage, develop deeper connections within their communities, and advance Idaho's contributions and values for the benefit of our children and future generations; and

WHEREAS, Idaho is proudly joining the nation in celebrating America's 250th birthday by implementing America250 in Idaho, a statewide effort to honor our nation's founding, engage families and students, and create lasting memories for future generations; and

WHEREAS, using Spuddy Buddy, the official mascot of the Idaho Potato Commission, the Revolutionary Spud characters were created to honor historic revolutionary leaders, and each was given a personality as well as handcrafted costumes to make history fun, approachable, and unforgettable for Idahoans of all ages; and

WHEREAS, the Revolutionary Spuds are official America250 in Idaho ambassadors and have traveled thousands of miles throughout the state visiting community events and collecting signatures for the historic capitol rotunda Declaration of Independence; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Idahoans have already signed Idaho's replica of the Declaration of Independence, which hangs in the capitol rotunda; and

WHEREAS, "Forever Idaho" is the official theme song for America250 in Idaho ambassadors and the Revolutionary Spuds and was created as a gift for all Idahoans; and

WHEREAS, the song "Forever Idaho" celebrates Idaho's breathtaking landscapes, resilient communities, and shared love of home as we come together to honor America's 250th birthday and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the America250 in Idaho ambassadors are setting a bold vision and challenging Idahoans to collectively perform 250,000 acts of service from January until July 4, 2026, inviting every generation, from our youngest students to our wisest seniors, to join hands in this shared endeavor and fill our communities with hope and kindness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-eighth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and

1 the Senate concurring therein, that the Idaho Legislature declares 2026 to
2 be the Year of Volunteerism and the America250 in Idaho Service Challenge.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Legislature recognize
4 "Forever Idaho" as the theme song of the America250 in Idaho ambassadors and
5 the Revolutionary Spuds and invite all Idahoans to include this song in their
6 celebrations throughout 2026 and beyond.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Legislature encourage all
8 Idahoans to commemorate America's 250th birthday by signing Idaho's replica
9 of the Declaration of Independence, so that their names will be included in
10 this powerful display of American patriotism.