

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1330

BY JUDICIARY AND RULES COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO THE SMALL CLAIMS DEPARTMENT OF THE MAGISTRATE DIVISION; AMENDING
2 SECTION 1-2301, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE A PROVISION REGARDING THE SCOPE OF
3 A CLAIM; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
4

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

6 SECTION 1. That Section 1-2301, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
7 amended to read as follows:

8 1-2301. SMALL CLAIMS DEPARTMENT -- CREATION -- SCOPE OF CLAIMS --
9 VENUE. In every magistrate's division of the district court of this state,
10 the district court may create and organize a "Small Claims Department of
11 the Magistrate's Division," which shall have jurisdiction in cases for the
12 recovery of money where the amount of each claim does not exceed five fifteen
13 thousand dollars ~~(\$5,000)~~ (\$15,000), and in cases for the recovery of per-
14 sonal property where the value of the property does not exceed five fifteen
15 thousand dollars ~~(\$5,000)~~ (\$15,000); provided however, that the small
16 claims department shall not award punitive damages or damages for pain or
17 suffering in any proceeding. Any action brought in a small claims department
18 of the magistrate's division shall be brought in the magistrate's division
19 in the county where the defendant resides or the county where the cause of ac-
20 tion arose. A defendant may request a change of venue if an action is brought
21 in an improper county.

22 SECTION 2. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
23 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after
24 July 1, 2026.