

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS28601 / H0219

The purpose of this bill is to improve voting integrity consistently across counties and legislative districts, increase confidence in Idaho's election results, and provide an auditing process led by the Secretary of State for examining the validity of affidavits signed by those who vote without any photo ID. Revisions include requiring a driver's license or state-issued photo ID for new voter registrations. For those Idahoans who do not have a driver's license, a state-issued photo ID would be provided for free to those wanting to register to vote.

FISCAL NOTE

The fiscal impact would be unlikely to exceed \$2,000,000, which would cover the cost of issuing a free state photo ID to individuals who do not have a driver's license and would need to acquire a state-issued photo ID to register to vote. This legislation transfers this amount from the General Fund to the Election Integrity Fund to cover these possible costs, at \$10 per ID issued. In 2020, there were approximately 200,000 registered voters without a state-issued photo ID number on file. It is likely, however, that many of these individuals do, in fact, have a current driver's license. In addition, this legislation does not require these 200,000 registrants to re-register with a state-issued photo ID. Therefore, the need to issue free state photo IDs will be gradual, as new or relocating voters without driver's licenses register to vote.

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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).