

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 601

BY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

APPROPRIATING MONEYS TO THE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013; AND PROVIDING GUIDANCE FOR EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS.

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby appropriated to the Board of Regents of the University of Idaho for the Agricultural Research and Cooperative Extension Service, the following amounts to be expended from the listed funds for the period July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013:

FROM:

General Fund	\$23,604,100
Equine Education Fund	<u>50,000</u>
TOTAL	\$23,654,100

SECTION 2. EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS. The Legislature recognizes and thanks all state workers for their dedication, professionalism and for the personal sacrifices they make every day in the performance of their duties to serve our citizens. In accordance with the provisions of Section 67-5309C, Idaho Code, the Legislature supports the Governor's recommendation in not making changes in annual salaries and benefits for state employees based upon labor markets or specific occupational inequities; directs agencies and institutions that have excess personnel cost appropriations or salary savings due to turnover to use such funding for a merit increase component, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 67-5309B(4), Idaho Code, to recognize and reward permanent and temporary state employees; and does provide funding to agencies and institutions to provide a two percent (2%) pay increase for all classified and nonclassified permanent performing employees. Performing employees shall be all permanent employees, including adjunct faculty at colleges and universities, who have been rated as "achieves" or better on a performance plan if required by Division of Human Resources rule, including probationary permanent employees making satisfactory progress. The Legislature supports the Governor's recommendation to fund increases in the cost of health insurance benefits and directs the director of the Department of Administration, as the administrator of the state insurance plan, to maintain the current benefit package to the extent possible, which may require a cost sharing on the part of employees for the increased cost of the health insurance plan.