

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 16

BY JUDICIARY, RULES AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

A HOUSE RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SUPPORTING THE IDAHO STATE POLICE'S REQUEST OF \$7.1 MILLION FOR PURCHASE OF AN H124 AIRBUS HELICOPTER AND HOIST SYSTEM, CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW HANGAR, AND ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AIR SUPPORT DIVISION.

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, the Idaho State Police (ISP) serve as a significant resource to each of Idaho's county sheriffs during search and rescue operations, and a majority of search and rescue operations have little air support; and

WHEREAS, the limited air support that is available in Idaho does not include the ability to hoist individuals from ground to air; and

WHEREAS, each year county search and rescue teams put themselves at significant risk in responding to calls for service for lost hunters, hikers, and outdoor enthusiasts; and

WHEREAS, in addition, air support during law enforcement operations would dramatically increase the safety of the public and law enforcement on the ground; and

WHEREAS, risks during high-profile law enforcement operations could be mitigated with the support of an air support division. Pursuits could be discontinued sooner, manhunt operations could be coordinated more effectively, and SWAT team operations could be launched and conducted with more precision; and

WHEREAS, in a supplemental request from fiscal year 2022 and in its proposed budget for fiscal year 2023, the Idaho State Police requested approximately \$7.1 million for purchase of an H124 Airbus helicopter and hoist system, construction of a new hangar, and establishment of an air support division within ISP's patrol program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the House of Representatives, assembled in the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-sixth Idaho Legislature, that the House of Representatives supports the Idaho State Police's request of \$7.1 million for purchase of an H124 Airbus helicopter and hoist system, construction of a new hangar, and establishment of an air support division within ISP's patrol program.