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First Regular Session - 2011

## IN THE SENATE

## SENATE BILL NO. 1108

## BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; AMENDING SECTION 33-513, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO CERTAIN BOARDS OF TRUSTEES' POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AMENDING SECTION 33-514, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF CONTRACTS, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO RE-NEWABLE CONTRACTS AND TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO EVALUATIONS; AMENDING SECTION 33-514A, IDAHO CODE, TO REMOVE LANGUAGE RELATING TO CERTAIN CONTRACTS AND TO PROVIDE PROVISIONS RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT PUR-SUANT TO CATEGORY A OR B CONTRACTS; AMENDING SECTION 33-515, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO RENEWABLE CONTRACTS, TO PROVIDE THAT NO BOARD OF TRUSTEES SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO RENEWABLE CONTRACTS, TO PROVIDE EXCEPTIONS, TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPLICATION OF LAW, TO PROVIDE PROVISIONS RELATING TO REASSIGNMENT OF CERTAIN EMPLOY-EES, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE DISCHARGE OF CERTAIN PERSONS, TO DELETE LANGUAGE RELATING TO A DECLARATION AND TO PROVIDE PROVI-SIONS RELATING TO A GRANDFATHERED RENEWABLE CONTRACT; AMENDING SECTION 33-515A, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO SUPPLEMENTAL CON-TRACTS; AMENDING CHAPTER 5, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-515B, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE PROVISIONS RELATING TO CON-TRACT TERMINATION, REDUCED ENROLLMENT AND SEVERANCE PAYMENTS; AMENDING SECTION 33-516, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO A CERTAIN RENEWABLE CONTRACT AND TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION; AMENDING SECTION 33-521, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO CERTAIN SEVERANCE PAYMENTS AND TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION; AMENDING SECTION 33-522, IDAHO CODE, TO DELETE PROVISIONS RELATING TO FINANCIAL EMERGENCY AND TO PROVIDE PROVISIONS RELATING TO REDUCTIONS IN FORCE; AMENDING CHAP-TER 5, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-523, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE PROVISIONS RELATING TO A PRINCIPAL'S PERMISSION IN DETERMINING NEW STAFF; AMENDING CHAPTER 5, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-524, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE PROVI-SIONS RELATING TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS INFORMING EMPLOYEES OF PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE PROVIDERS; AMENDING SECTION 33-1003, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO SPECIAL APPLICATIONS OF EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAM AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; REPEALING SECTION 33-1004G, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO EARLY RETIREMENT INCENTIVE; AMENDING SECTION 33-1004H, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS EMPLOYING RETIRED TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS; AMENDING SECTION 33-1271, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO BOARDS OF TRUSTEES OR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES OF SUCH, PROFESSIONAL EM-PLOYEES, LOCAL EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONS OR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES OF SUCH AND NEGOTIATION AGREEMENTS AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AMENDING CHAPTER 12, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-1271A, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS RE-LATING TO EVERGREEN OR CONTINUATION CLAUSES IN CERTAIN CONTRACTS OR AGREEMENTS AND TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS THE INTENT OF THE LEGISLATURE THAT CERTAIN CONTRACTS OR AGREEMENTS SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF THIS ACT; AMENDING SECTION 33-1272, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE DEFINITIONS AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AMENDING SECTION 33-1273, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SELECTION AND DESIGNATION OF REP-RESENTATIVES FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES FOR PURPOSES OF NEGOTIATIONS AND TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO NEGOTIATIONS; AMENDING CHAPTER 12, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-1273A, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN NEGOTIATIONS OR MEETINGS SHALL BE OPEN AND AVAIL-ABLE FOR THE PUBLIC TO ATTEND AND TO PROVIDE FOR APPLICATION OF CERTAIN DISCLOSURE LAWS; AMENDING SECTION 33-1274, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE PRO-VISIONS RELATING TO MEDIATION AND TO PROVIDE PROVISIONS RELATING TO ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION UPON A FAILURE TO AGREE; AMENDING CHAPTER 12, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-1274A, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE PROVISIONS RELATING TO PROCEDURE IN THE EVENT CERTAIN PARTIES AGREE AND TO PROVIDE PROVISIONS RELATING TO CERTAIN PARTIES FAILING TO RATIFY AND APPROVE AN AGREEMENT; AMENDING SECTION 33-1275, IDAHO CODE, TO DELETE LANGUAGE RELATING TO MEDIATION, FACT-FINDING AND CERTAIN HEARINGS AND TO PROVIDE PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE TERMS OF CER-TAIN AGREEMENTS OR CONTRACTS; AMENDING SECTION 33-1276, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR THE INTENT OF THE ACT, TO PROVIDE THAT EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES IS ENTITLED TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTION DUE TO SITUATIONS OF EMERGENCY OR ACTS OF GOD AND TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION; AMEND-ING SECTION 33-402, IDAHO CODE, TO REMOVE A REFERENCE TO A FINANCIAL EMERGENCY AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES.

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

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SECTION 1. That Section 33-513, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 33-513. PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL. The board of trustees of each school district including any specially chartered district, shall have the following powers and duties:
- 1. To employ professional personnel, on written contract in form approved by the state superintendent of public instruction, conditioned upon the provisions of section 33-523, Idaho Code, and a valid certificate being held by such professional personnel at the time of entering upon the duties thereunder. Should the board of trustees fail to enter into written contract for the employment of any such person, the state superintendent of public instruction shall withhold ensuing apportionments until such written contract be entered into. When the board of trustees has delivered a proposed contract for the next ensuing year to any such person, such person shall have a period of time to be determined by the board of trustees in its discretion, but in no event less than ten (10) days from the date the contract is delivered, in which to sign the contract and return it to the board. If the board of trustees does not make a determination as to how long the person has to sign and return the contract, the default time limit shall be twenty-one (21) days after it is delivered to the person. Delivery of a contract may be made only in person or by certified mail, return receipt requested. When delivery

is made in person, delivery of the contract must be acknowledged by a signed receipt. When delivery is made by certified mail, delivery must be acknowledged by the return of the certified mail receipt from the person to whom the contract was sent. Should the person willfully refuse to acknowledge receipt of the contract or the contract is not signed and returned to the board in the designated period of time, or if no designated period of time is set by the board, the default time, the board may declare the position vacant.

- (a) The board of trustees shall withhold the salary of any teacher who does not hold a teaching certificate valid in this state. No teacher whose salary is withheld pursuant to this provision shall have the right to any amounts owed, notwithstanding the provisions of the Idaho wage claims act or any other provision of law.
- (b) The board of trustees It shall not contract to require any teacher to make up time spent in attending any meeting called by the state board of education or by the state superintendent of public instruction; nor while attending regularly scheduled official meetings of the state teachers' association.
- 2. In the case of school districts other than elementary school districts, to employ a superintendent of schools for a term not to exceed three (3) years, who shall be the executive officer of the board of trustees with such powers and duties as the board may prescribe. The superintendent shall also act as the authorized representative of the district whenever such is required, unless some other person shall be named by the board of trustees to act as its authorized representative. The board of trustees shall conduct an annual, written formal evaluation of the work of the superintendent of the district. The evaluation shall indicate the strengths and weaknesses of the superintendent's job performance in the year immediately preceding the evaluation and areas where improvement in the superintendent's job performance, in the view of the board of trustees, is called for. For all evaluations conducted after June 30, 2012, at least fifty percent (50%) of the evaluation shall be based on objective measure(s) of growth in student achievement, as determined by the board of trustees.
- 3. To employ through written contract principals who shall hold a valid certificate appropriate to the position for which they are employed, who shall supervise the operation and management of the school in accordance with the policies established by the board of trustees and who shall be under the supervision of the superintendent.
- 4. To employ assistant superintendents, directors, and principals and other district administrative employees for a term not to exceed two (2) years. Service performed under such contract shall be included in meeting the provisions of section 33-515, Idaho Code, as a teacher and persons eligible for a renewable contract as and teacher holding renewable contract status in Idaho pursuant to section 33-515, Idaho Code, immediately previous to such administrative employment shall retain such eligibility. The superintendent, the superintendent's designee, or in a school district that does not employ a superintendent, the board of trustees, shall conduct an annual, written evaluation of each such employee's performance. For all evaluations conducted after June 30, 2012, at least fifty percent (50%) of the evaluation shall be based on objective measure(s) of growth in student achievement, as determined by the board of trustees. In addition, input from the parents

and guardians of students shall be considered as a factor in the evaluation of principals and any other school-based administrative employees' evaluation.

- 5. To suspend, grant leave of absence, place on probation or discharge certificated professional personnel for a material violation of any lawful rules or regulations of the board of trustees or of the state board of education, or for any conduct which could constitute grounds for revocation of a teaching certificate. Any certificated professional employee, except the superintendent, may be discharged during a contract term under the following procedures:
  - (a) The superintendent or any other duly authorized administrative officer of the school district may recommend the discharge of any certificated employee by filing with the board of trustees written notice specifying the alleged reasons for discharge.
  - (b) Upon receipt of such notice the board, acting through their duly authorized administrative official, shall give the affected employee written notice of the allegations and the recommendation of discharge, along with written notice of a hearing before the board prior to any determination by the board of the truth of the allegations.
  - (c) The hearing shall be scheduled to take place not less than six (6) days nor more than twenty-one (21) days after receipt of the notice by the employee. The date provided for the hearing may be changed by mutual consent.
  - (d) The hearing shall be public unless the employee requests in writing that it be in executive session.
  - (e) All testimony at the hearing shall be given under oath or affirmation. Any member of the board, or the clerk of the board, may administer oaths to witnesses or affirmations by witnesses.
  - (f) The employee may be represented by legal counsel and/or by a representative of a local or state teachers association.
  - (g) The chairman of the board or the designee of the chairman shall conduct the hearing.
  - (h) The board shall cause an electronic record of the hearing to be made or shall employ a competent reporter to take stenographic or stenotype notes of all the testimony at the hearing. A transcript of the hearing shall be provided at cost by the board upon request of the employee.
  - (i) At the hearing the superintendent or other duly authorized administrative officer shall present evidence to substantiate the allegations contained in such notice.
  - (j) The employee may produce evidence to refute the allegations. Any witness presented by the superintendent or by the employee shall be subject to cross-examination. The board may also examine witnesses and be represented by counsel.
  - (k) The affected employee may file written briefs and arguments with the board within three (3) days after the close of the hearing or such other time as may be agreed upon by the affected employee and the board.
  - (1) Within fifteen (15) days following the close of the hearing, the board shall determine and, acting through their duly authorized administrative official, shall notify the employee in writing whether the evidence presented at the hearing established the truth of the

 allegations and whether the employee is to be retained, immediately discharged, or discharged upon termination of the current contract.

- (m) If the employee appeals the decision of the board of trustees to the district court, the district court may affirm the board's decision or set it aside and remand the matter to the board of trustees upon the following grounds, and shall not set the same aside for any other grounds:
  - (i) That the findings of fact are not based on any substantial, competent evidence;
  - (ii) That the board of trustees has acted without jurisdiction or in excess of its authority;
  - (iii) That the findings by the board of trustees as a matter of law do not support the decision.
- (n) The determination of the board of trustees shall be affirmed unless the employee's substantial rights, as that term is used in section 67-5279, Idaho Code, are violated.
- 6. The board of trustees has the authority to grant any employee's request for a leave of absence. The board may also delegate this authority to the district superintendent or any other individual so designated by the board.
- 7. The board of trustees has the authority to delegate its authority to the district superintendent or any other individual so designated by the board. If the board delegates this authority to the district superintendent or any other individual, the board shall ratify or nullify the action of placing an employee on a period of suspension, or involuntary leave of absence at the next regularly scheduled board meeting or at a special board meeting should the next regularly scheduled board meeting not be within a period of twenty-one (21) days from the date of such action.
  - (a) Should an employee of the district be in a position where there is a court order preventing the employee from being in the presence of minors or students, the district may place such an employee on a period of unpaid leave of absence or probation due to the employee's inability to perform the essential functions of the employee's position.
- SECTION 2. That Section 33-514, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 33-514. ISSUANCE OF ANNUAL CONTRACTS -- SUPPORT PROGRAMS -- CATE-GORIES OF CONTRACTS -- OPTIONAL PLACEMENT -- WRITTEN EVALUATION. (1) The board of trustees shall establish criteria and procedures for the supervision and evaluation of certificated employees who are not employed on a renewable contract, as provided for in section 33-515, Idaho Code.
- (2) There shall be  $\frac{\text{two}}{\text{two}}$  (32) categories of annual contracts available to local school districts under which to employ certificated personnel:
  - (a) A category  $\frac{1}{4}$  contract is a limited one-year contract as provided in section  $\frac{33-514A}{1}$ , Idaho Code.
  - (b) A category 2 contract is one (1) year contract for certificated personnel in the first and second or greater years of continuous employment with the same school district. Upon the decision by a local school board not to reemploy the person for the following year, the certificated employee shall be provided a written statement of reasons for non-reemployment by no later than  $\frac{\text{May }25}{\text{July }1}$ . Provided however, that

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no such decision shall be made until after the completion of the written evaluation required by subsection (4) of this section, unless such decision is being made pursuant to a reduction in force. No property rights shall attach to a category  $2 \pm 0$  contract and therefore the employee shall not be entitled to a review by the local board of trustees of the reasons or decision not to reemploy.

A category 3 contract is for certificated personnel during the third year of continuous employment by the same school district. District procedures shall require at least one (1) evaluation prior to the beginning of the second semester of the school year and the results of any such evaluation shall be made a matter of record in the employee's personnel file. When any such employee's work is found to be unsatisfactory a defined period of probation shall be established by the board, but in no case shall a probationary period be less than eight (8) weeks. After the probationary period, action shall be taken by the board as to whether the employee is to be retained, immediately discharged, discharged upon termination of the current contract or reemployed at the end of the contract term under a continued probationary status. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 67-2344 and 67-2345, Idaho Code, a decision to place certificated personnel on probationary status may be made in executive session and the employee shall not be named in the minutes of the meeting. A record of the decision shall be placed in the employee's personnel file. This procedure shall not preclude recognition of unsatisfactory work at a subsequent evaluation and the establishment of a reasonable period of probation. In all instances, the employee shall be duly notified in writing of the areas of work which are deficient, including the conditions of probation. Each such certificated employee on a category 3 contract shall be given notice, in writing, whether he or she will be reemployed for the next ensuing year. Such notice shall be given by the board of trustees no later than the twenty-fifth day of May of each such year. If the board of trustees has decided not to reemploy the certificated employee, then the notice must contain a statement of reasons for such decision and the employee shall, upon request, be given the opportunity for an informal review of such decision by the board of trustees. The parameters of an informal review shall be determined by the local board B contract is a limited two (2) year contract that may be offered at the sole discretion of the board of trustees for certificated personnel in their fourth or greater year of continuous employment with the same school district. The board of trustees may, at its sole discretion, add an additional year to such a contract upon the expiration of the first year, resulting in a new two (2) year contract. The board of trustees may, at its sole discretion, terminate the second year of a category B contract upon the conclusion of the first year, in the event of a reduction in force. Upon the decision by a board of trustees not to reemploy the person employed on a category B contract for the following year, the certificated employee shall be provided a written statement of reasons for non-reemployment by no later than July 1. The employee shall, upon request, be given the opportunity for an informal review of such decision by the board of trustees. The parameters of an informal review shall be determined by

the local board. Provided however, that no such decision shall be made until after the completion of the written evaluation required by subsection (4) of this section, unless such decision is being made pursuant to a reduction in force. No property rights shall attach to a category B contract and therefore the employee shall not be entitled to a formal review by the board of trustees of the reasons or decision not to reemploy.

- (3) School districts hiring an employee who has been on renewable contract status as provided in section 33-515, Idaho Code, with another Idaho district or has out-of-state experience which would otherwise qualify the certificated employee for renewable contract status in Idaho, shall have the option to immediately grant renewable contract status, or to place the employee on a category 3 annual A or B contract. Such employment on a category 3 contract under the provisions of this subsection may be for one (1), two (2) or three (3) years A certificated instructional employee hired with previous out-of-state experience shall not be eligible to receive a renewable contract, but may be offered a category A or B contract, based on the employee's years of experience, including out-of-state years of experience as if such years had been worked in Idaho.
- (4) There shall be a minimum of two one (21) written evaluations in each of the annual contract years of employment, and at least one (1) evaluation the first portion of which shall be completed before January February 1 of each year, and shall include input from parents and guardians of students as a factor. The provisions of this subsection (4) shall not apply to employees on a category 1 contract A second portion shall be included for all evaluations conducted after June 30, 2012. This second portion shall comprise at least fifty percent (50%) of the total written evaluation and shall be based on objective measure(s) of growth in student achievement. The requirement to provide at least one (1) written evaluation does not exclude additional evaluations that may be performed. No civil action for money damages shall arise for failure to comply with this subsection.

SECTION 3. That Section 33-514A, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 33-514A. ISSUANCE OF LIMITED CONTRACT TRANSITION TO CATEGORY 1 A AND B CONTRACTS. After August 1, the board of trustees may exercise the option of employing certified personnel on a one (1) year limited contract, which may also be referred to as a category 1 contract consistent with the provisions of section 33-514, Idaho Code. Such a contract is specifically offered for the limited duration of the ensuing school year, and no further notice is required by the district to terminate the contract at the conclusion of the contract year (1) Any certificated employee employed pursuant to a category 1 or 2 contract, as defined by sections 33-514 and 33-514A, Idaho Code, as such sections existed on January 31, 2011, who will be offered an employment contract by the same school district for the ensuing school year, shall be employed pursuant to a category A contract.
- (2) Any certificated employee employed pursuant to a category 3 contract, as defined in section 33-514, Idaho Code, as such section existed on January 31, 2011, who will be offered an employment contract by the same

school district for the ensuing school year, shall be employed pursuant to a category A or B contract, as determined by the board of trustees.

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48 49 SECTION 4. That Section 33-515, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

33-515. ISSUANCE OF RENEWABLE CONTRACTS. (1) During the third full year of continuous employment by the same school district, including any specially chartered district, each certificated employee named in subsection (16) of section 33-1001, Idaho Code, and each school nurse and school librarian shall be evaluated for a renewable contract and shall, upon having been offered a contract for the next ensuing year, having given notice of acceptance of renewal and upon signing a contract for a fourth full year, be placed on a renewable contract status with said school district subject to the provisions included in this chapter It is the intent of the legislature that after January 31, 2011, no new employment contract between a school district and a certificated employee shall result in the vesting of tenure, continued expectations of employment or property rights in an employment relationship. Therefore, no board of trustees shall have the authority to enter into any renewable contract with any certificated or other employee hired by such district, except as specifically addressed by this section and section 33-514(3), Idaho Code. For any certificated employees already holding renewable contract status with a district as of January 31, 2011, the provisions of this section shall apply.

(2) After the third full year of employment and aAt least once annually, the performance of each such certificated employee, school nurse, or school librarian employed pursuant to a grandfathered renewable contract shall be evaluated according to criteria and procedures established by the board of trustees in accordance with section 33-514(4), Idaho Code, and general quidelines approved by the state board of education. Except as otherwise provided, that person the employee employed pursuant to a grandfathered renewable contract shall have the right to the continued automatic renewal of that employee's employment contract by giving notice, in writing, of acceptance of renewal. Such notice shall be given to the board of trustees of the school district then employing such person not later than the first twentieth day of June preceding the expiration of the term of the current contract July. Except as otherwise provided by this paragraph, the board of trustees shall notify each person entitled to be employed on a grandfathered renewable contract of the requirement that such person must give the notice hereinabove and that failure to do so may be interpreted by the board as a declination of the right to automatic renewal or the offer of another contract. Such notification shall be made, in writing, not later than the fifteenth first day of May July, in each year, except to those persons to whom the board, prior to said date, has sent proposed contracts for the next ensuing year, or to whom the board has given the notice required by this section. These deadlines may not be altered by contract, including any currently existing or future negotiated agreement or master contract entered into pursuant to the professional negotiations act, sections 33-1271 through 33-1276, Idaho Code. Should any existing negotiated agreement or master contract contain such a provision as of January 31, 2011, such provision is declared to be null and void and of no force and effect as of January 31, 2011.

(3) Any contract automatically renewed under the provisions of this section shall be for the same length as the term stated in the current contract and at a salary no lower than that specified therein, to which shall be added such increments as may be determined by the statutory or regulatory rights of such employee by reason of training, service, or performance, except where a board of trustees has declared a financial emergency pursuant to section 33-522, Idaho Code may be renewed for a shorter term, longer term or the same length of term as the length of term stated in the current contract, and at a greater, lesser or equal salary to that stated in the current contract.

- (4) Should the board of trustees determine to reassign an administrative employee who, prior to being employed as an administrative employee was employed pursuant to a renewable contract to a nonadministrative position, the board of trustees, at its discretion, shall employ such nonadministrative employee pursuant to a grandfathered renewable contract. Such contract shall be deemed to have continued in place as if the nonadministrative employee was employed by the district pursuant to a renewable contract since January 31, 2011. Such grandfathered renewable contract is subject to the provisions of this section.
  - (a) If the board of trustees reassigns an administrative employee to a nonadministrative position, the board shall give written notice to the employee which contains a statement of the reasons for the reassignment. The employee, upon written request to the board, shall be entitled to an informal review of that decision. The process and procedure for the informal review shall be determined by the board of trustees.
  - $(4\underline{b})$  Nothing in this section shall prevent the board of trustees from offering a renewed grandfathered renewable contract increasing the salary of any certificated person, or from reassigning an administrative employee to a nonadministrative position with appropriate reduction of salary from the preexisting salary level. In the event the board of trustees reassigns an administrative employee to a nonadministrative position, the board shall give written notice to the employee which contains a statement of the reasons for the reassignment. The employee, upon written request to the board, shall be entitled to an informal review of that decision. The process and procedure for the informal review shall be determined by the local board of trustees who is eligible to receive such a contract.
- (5) Before a board of trustees can determine not to renew for reasons of an the unsatisfactory report of the performance of any certificated person whose who holds a grandfathered renewable contract would otherwise be automatically renewed, or to renew the contract of any such person at a reduced salary, such person shall be entitled to a reasonable period of probation lasting at least six (6) instructional weeks, following an observation, evaluation or partial evaluation. This period of probation shall be preceded by a written notice from the board of trustees or its designee with reasons for such probationary period and with provisions for adequate supervision and evaluation of the person's performance during the probationary period. Such period of probation shall not affect the person's grandfathered renewable contract status. Consideration of probationary status for certificated personnel is consideration of the status of an employee within the

meaning of section 67-2345, Idaho Code, and the consideration and decision to place an employee on probation may be held in executive session. If the consideration results in probationary status, the individual on probation shall not be named in the minutes of the meeting. A record of the decision shall be placed in the teacher's personnel file.

- (6) If the board of trustees takes action to immediately discharge or discharge upon termination of the current contract a certificated person whose contract would otherwise be automatically renewed, or to renew the contract of any such person at a reduced salary, the action of the board shall be consistent with the procedures specified in section 33-513(5), Idaho Code, and furthermore, the board shall notify the employee in writing whether there is just and reasonable cause not to renew the contract or to reduce the salary of the affected employee, and if so, what reasons it relied upon in that determination.
- (7) If the board of trustees takes action after the declaration of a financial emergency pursuant to section 33-522, Idaho Code, and such action is directed at more than one (1) certificated employee and, if mutually agreed to by both parties, a single informal review shall be conducted. Without mutual consent of both parties, the board of trustees shall use the following procedure to conduct a single due process hearing within sixty-seven (67) days of the declaration of financial emergency pursuant to section 33-522(2), Idaho Code, or on or before June 22, whichever shall occur first:
  - (a) The superintendent or any other duly authorized administrative officer of the school district may recommend the change in the length of the term stated in the current contract or reduce the salary of any certificated employee by filing with the board of trustees written notice specifying the purported reasons for such changes.
  - (b) Upon receipt of such notice, the board of trustees, acting through its duly authorized administrative official, shall give the affected employees written notice of the reductions and the recommendation of the change in the length of the term stated in the current contract or the reduction of salary, along with written notice of a hearing before the board of trustees prior to any determination by the board of trustees.
  - (c) The hearing shall be scheduled to take place not less than six (6) days nor more than fourteen (14) days after receipt of the notice by the employees. The date provided for the hearing may be changed by mutual consent.
  - (d) The hearing shall be open to the public.
  - (e) All testimony at the hearing shall be given under oath or affirmation. Any member of the board, or the clerk of the board of trustees, may administer oaths to witnesses or affirmations by witnesses.
  - (f) The employees may be represented by legal counsel and/or by a representative of a local or state education association.
  - (g) The chairman of the board of trustees or the designee of the chairman shall conduct the hearing.
  - (h) The board of trustees shall cause an electronic record of the hearing to be made or shall employ a competent reporter to take stenographic or stenotype notes of all the testimony at the hearing. A transcript of

 the hearing shall be provided at cost by the board of trustees upon request of the employee.

- (i) At the hearing the superintendent or other duly authorized administrative officer shall present evidence to substantiate the reduction contained in such notice.
- (j) The employees may produce evidence to refute the reduction. Any witness presented by the superintendent or by the employees shall be subject to cross-examination. The board of trustees may also examine witnesses and be represented by counsel.
- (k) The affected employees may file written briefs and arguments with the board of trustees within three (3) days after the close of the hearing or such other time as may be agreed upon by the affected employees and the board of trustees.
- (1) Within seven (7) days following the close of the hearing, the board of trustees shall determine and, acting through its duly authorized administrative official, shall notify the employees in writing whether the evidence presented at the hearing established the need for the action taken.

The due process hearing pursuant to this subsection (7) shall not be required if the board of trustees and the local education association reach an agreement on issues agreed upon pursuant to section 33-522(3), Idaho Code unless the decision to discharge upon termination has been made as part of a reduction in force, or the decision to immediately discharge has been made pursuant to section 33-515B, Idaho Code.

- (87) If the board of trustees, for reasons other than unsatisfactory service, for the ensuing contract year, determines to change the length of the term stated in the current contract, or reduce the salary or not renew the contract of a certificated person whose contract would otherwise be is being automatically renewed, nothing herein shall require any due process proceedings or probationary period.
- (8) If the board of trustees, for reason of a reduction in force, for the ensuing contract year determines not to renew the grandfathered renewable contract of a certificated person whose contract would otherwise be automatically renewed, nothing herein shall require any probationary period.

SECTION 5. That Section 33-515A, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 33-515A. SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS. (1) In addition to the provisions of sections 33-514, 33-514A and 33-515, Idaho Code, a board of trustees may enter into supplemental contracts to provide extra duty assignments for certificated employees. An extra duty assignment is, and supplemental contracts may be used for, an assignment which is not part of a certificated employee's regular teaching duties. Any such supplemental extra duty contract shall be separate and apart from an annual, a category A, B or a grandfathered renewable or a limited one (1) year contract, and no property rights shall attach to a supplemental extra duty contract. The supplemental extra duty contract shall be in a form approved by the state superintendent of public instruction.
- (2) If a board of trustees determines not to reissue a supplemental contract, the board shall give written notice to the employee describing

 reasons for the decision not to reissue. The employee, upon written request to the board, shall be entitled to an informal review. The process and procedure for the informal review shall be determined by the local board of trustees. Within fifteen (15) days following the meeting with the employee, the board shall notify the employee of its final decision in the matter. Should a school district provide for additional procedures, nothing in this statute shall be interpreted to limit those procedures In addition to the provisions of sections 33-514 and 33-515, Idaho Code, a board of trustees may enter into supplemental contracts to provide extra day assignments for certificated employees. An extra day assignment is an assignment of days of service in addition to the standard contract length used for the majority of certificated employees of the district. Such additional days may or may not be in service of the same activities of the employee's regular teaching duties. Any such contract shall be separate and apart from a category A, B or a grandfathered renewable contract and no property rights shall attach to a supplemental extra day contract. The supplemental extra day contract shall be in a form approved by the state superintendent of public instruction.

SECTION 6. That Chapter 5, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a  $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$ , to be known and designated as Section 33-515B, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

33-515B. REDUCED ENROLLMENT -- CONTRACT TERMINATION AND SEVERANCE STIPEND. (1) Each certificated employee contract shall include a provision allowing the board of trustees to terminate the contract in the event of a reduction in student enrollment of greater than one percent (1%). The percent of certificated employees that may be so terminated shall be limited to the percent that enrollment decreased beyond said one percent (1%) reduction. The enrollment figures used for such calculations shall be the same as those used for the calculation of emergency levies pursuant to section 33-805, Idaho Code.

- (2) The school district shall notify those employees whose contracts are being terminated by no later than October 1. Such termination shall be effective as of a date specified by the board of trustees, but shall be no earlier than two (2) weeks after the date that the employee received notification, and no later than the end of the current term. No other notification, hearing or other process shall be required to terminate the contracts of employees pursuant to this section.
- (3) Selection of which employee contracts are to be terminated shall be at the sole discretion of the board of trustees, provided however, that the board of trustees shall not use seniority or contract status as a factor in making such determinations.
- (4) Employees whose contracts are terminated under the provisions of this section shall receive a severance payment from the school district equal to ten percent (10%) of the moneys that had yet to be earned under the contract for the remainder of the school year.
- (5) School districts shall furnish the state department of education with a list of employees whose contracts were terminated pursuant to this section, the dates on which such terminations were effective and the percentage of salary that had yet to be earned under the contract for the remainder of the school year. The state department of education shall calculate

the salary-based apportionment and state-paid employee benefit amounts for each such employee, and, after reducing this allocation to account for the percent of the employee's salary that had already been earned for the school year, distribute ten percent (10%) of the remaining allocation to the school district as a reimbursement for severance payments made, from moneys appropriated to the educational support program.

SECTION 7. That Section 33-516, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

33-516. RIGHT TO RENEWABLE CONTRACT WHEN DISTRICT IS DIVIDED, CONSOLIDATED OR REORGANIZED. If, by reason of the division of a school district, including any specially chartered district, or by reason of the consolidation of such a district with another district, or other districts, or by reason of the reorganization of such a district, the position held by any teacher entitled to a grandfathered renewable contract is transferred from the control of one  $\underline{(1)}$  board of trustees to the control of a new or different board of trustees, the right to automatic renewal is not thereby lost, and such new or different board of trustees shall be subject to all of the provisions of this chapter with respect to such teacher in the same manner as if such teacher were its employee and had been its employee during the time such teacher was actually employed by the board of trustees from whose control the position was transferred.

SECTION 8. That Section 33-521, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

33-521. EMPLOYEE SEVERANCE IN CONSOLIDATED DISTRICT. The board of trustees of any school district newly formed within the last twelve (12) months through the consolidation of two (2) or more school districts may offer a one (1) time severance payment to a maximum of ten percent (10%) of the employees that were previously employed by the separate school districts. Such severance offers shall be made entirely at the discretion of the board of trustees, and shall not be bound by custom, seniority or contractual commitment. Employees are under no obligation to accept a severance offer. Any employee accepting a severance payment shall not be eligible for reemployment by the school district for a one (1) year period thereafter.

The severance payment shall consist of fifty-five percent (55%) of the salary-based apportionment funds allocated for the employee in the last year, plus any applicable state paid employee benefits. Such severance shall be reduced by one-half (1/2) for any employee who is simultaneously receiving a disbursement of early retirement incentive funds, pursuant to section 33-1004G, Idaho Code. The state department of education shall reimburse eligible school districts for one hundred percent (100%) of such costs, upon application by the school district.

SECTION 9. That Section 33-522, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

33-522. FINANCIAL EMERGENCY REDUCTIONS IN FORCE. (1) Prior to declaring a financial emergency, the board of trustees shall hold a public meeting

for the purpose of receiving input concerning possible solutions to the financial problems facing the school district.

- (2) If the state department of education certifies that one (1) or more of the conditions in paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of this subsection are met, then the board of trustees may declare a financial emergency if it determines that the condition in paragraph (f) of this subsection is also met. Alternatively, the board of trustees may declare a financial emergency if it determines that either of the conditions in paragraph (d) or (e) of this subsection are met and the state department of education certifies that the condition set forth in paragraph (f) of this subsection is also met.
  - (a) Any of the base salary multipliers in section 33-1004E, Idaho Code, are reduced by one and one-half percent (1 1/2%) or more from any prior fiscal year.
  - (b) The minimum instructional salary provision in section 33-1004E, Idaho Code, is reduced by one and one-half percent (1 1/2%) or more from any prior fiscal year.
  - (c) The amount of total general fund money appropriated per support unit is reduced by greater than three percent (3%) from the original general fund appropriation per support unit of any prior fiscal year.
  - (d) The amount of property tax revenue to be collected by the school district that may be used for any general fund purpose, with the exception of any emergency levy funds, is reduced from the prior fiscal year, and the amount of said reduction represents more than five percent (5%) of the school district's general fund budget for combined state and local revenues from the prior fiscal year.
  - (e) The school district's general fund has decreased by at least three percent (3%) from the previous year's level due to a decrease in funding or natural disaster, but not as a result of a drop in the number of support units or the index multiplier calculated pursuant to section 33-1004A, Idaho Code, or a change in the emergency levy.
  - (f) The school district's unrestricted general fund balance, which excludes funds restricted by state or federal law and considering both anticipated expenditures and revenue, is less than five and one-half percent (5 1/2%) of the school district's unrestricted general fund budget at the time the financial emergency is declared or for the fiscal year for which the financial emergency is declared.
- (3) Upon its declaration of a financial emergency, the board of trustees shall:
  - (a) Have the power to reopen the salary and benefits compensation aspects of the negotiated agreement, including the length of the certificated employee contracts and the amount of compensation and benefits; and
  - (b) If the parties to the negotiated agreement mutually agree, reopen other matters contained within the negotiated agreement directly affecting the financial circumstances in the school district.
- If the board of trustees exercises the power provided in this subsection consistent with the requirements of subsection (2) of this section, both the board of trustees and the local education association shall meet and confer in good faith for the purpose of reaching an agreement on such issues.

(4) If, after the declaration of a financial emergency pursuant to subsection (2) of this section, both parties have met and conferred in good faith and an agreement has not been reached, the board of trustees may impose its last, best offer, following the outcome of the due process hearing held pursuant to section 33-515(7), Idaho Code.

- (5) A financial emergency declared pursuant to subsection (2) of this section shall be effective for only one (1) fiscal year at a time and shall not be declared by the board of trustees for a second consecutive year, unless so qualified by additional reductions pursuant to the conditions listed in subsection (2) of this section.
- (6) The time requirements of sections 33-514(2) and 33-515(2), Idaho Code, shall not apply in the event a financial emergency is declared pursuant to subsection (2) of this section The decision to institute a reduction in force, and the selection of employee(s) subject to such reduction, shall be at the sole discretion of the board of trustees, except for the following limitation: The decision as to which employee(s) shall be subject to such reduction shall be made without consideration of employee seniority or contract status.
- SECTION 10. That Chapter 5, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a  $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$ , to be known and designated as Section 33-523, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- PRINCIPALS TO DETERMINE NEW STAFFING. The legislature finds that in order to fairly evaluate the performance of principals based on the growth in student performance at their schools, it is necessary to grant them more control over the hiring and assignment of certificated employees to their schools. To this end, no certificated employee shall be transferred to a principal's school without the principal's permission, unless the transfer is being made due to shifting student population levels, nor shall a certificated individual who the board of trustees wishes to hire be assigned to the principal's school without the principal's permission. As a consequence of this requirement, no new certificated individual shall be considered hired, nor shall a contract be issued to such individual, until a principal has given permission for the assignment to their school. In the case of a transfer that is being made due to shifting student population levels, the principal shall be provided with a choice of at least two (2) individuals to be transferred for each position to be filled, unless there is only one (1) individual whose certificates or endorsements qualify them for the position. For the purposes of this section, the term "principal" also means the head of school of a public charter school.
- SECTION 11. That Chapter 5, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a <u>NEW SECTION</u>, to be known and designated as Section 33-524, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
  - 33-524. LIABILITY INSURANCE. The legislature finds and declares:
- (1) Educators make decisions everyday that may affect their families' financial future and therefore finds a need for educators to have accessible information about providers of professional liability insurance for educators.

(2) School districts seek to protect their employees from harmful liability and are also in the best position to inform employees about protections available to them.

- (3) All employees of a school district shall be informed of all of their options in regards to professional liability insurance for educators. To that end school districts shall disclose to all employees a professional liability insurance for educators provider list. Districts shall encourage employees who have interaction with students to have such insurance although no employee is required to carry such insurance.
- (4) School districts shall create a list for such disclosure. Any provider authorized by the state shall be added to the school district's list by request, if the insurance provided is underwritten by a licensed insurance company with an A.M. Best rating of B+ or better. No provider shall be denied if the provider is properly authorized within the state and meets the provisions of this section.
- (5) Providers are required to submit complete and accurate information regarding their insurance to each school district in the state by June 30 in order for information to be included on the list for the ensuing school year. School districts receiving information regarding insurance after June 30 shall not be required to include the information in the list of insurance options.
- (6) "Complete and accurate information" is defined as name of provider, business mailing address, telephone number and website information.
- (7) School districts shall provide name of provider, business mailing address, telephone number and website information to all employees. School districts shall not endorse any provider, product or service.
- (8) School districts are hereby required to provide all employees with a list of insurance options on the first day all teachers and staff are required to report back to school for the start of the school year. All employees shall be required to sign a form indicating that they have received information about their insurance options. School districts shall require employees to review and sign the disclosure each year he or she is employed with the district. Disclosure forms shall list the names of insurance providers disclosed to employees and remain on file with the school district. The disclosure forms shall be held for a period of three (3) years and shall be accessible to the public by request.
- (9) School districts are required to provide substitute teachers and pre-service teachers with a list of insurance options prior to their first day of teaching in the school district. Substitute teachers and pre-service teachers will be required to sign a form indicating that they have received information about their insurance options. This form shall list the names of insurance providers disclosed to employees.
- (10) Each school district shall have an updated list available upon request from an employee of that district. School districts may post such information on a staff website or the intranet.
- (11) For the purposes of this section, "providers" refers to any provider of professional liability insurance for educators. "Employees" refers to all certificated and noncertificated staff in a school district. "List" refers to the document containing a description of all providers offering professional liability insurance for educators to employees of the

school district. "Form" refers to a document to be signed by school district employees who acknowledge such disclosure.

SECTION 12. That Section 33-1003, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 33-1003. SPECIAL APPLICATIONS OF EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAM. (1) Decrease in Average Daily Attendance. -- Any school district which has a decrease in total average daily attendance of one percent (1%) of its average daily attendance in the then current school year from the total average daily attendance used for determining the allowance in the educational support program for the school year immediately preceding, the allowance of funds from the educational support program may be based on the average daily attendance of the school year immediately preceding, less one percent (1%). When this provision is applied, the decrease in average daily attendance shall be proportionately distributed among the various categories of support units that are appropriate for the district.
- (2) Application of Support Program to Separate Schools/Attendance Units in District.
  - (a) Separate Elementary School. -- Any separate elementary school shall be allowed to participate in the educational support program as though the school were the only elementary school operated by the district.
  - (b) Hardship Elementary School. -- Upon application of the board of trustees of a school district, the state board of education is empowered to determine that a given elementary school or elementary schools within the school district, not otherwise qualifying, are entitled to be counted as a separate elementary school as defined in section 33-1001, Idaho Code, when, in the discretion of the state board of education, special conditions exist warranting the retention of the school as a separate attendance unit and the retention results in a substantial increase in cost per pupil in average daily attendance above the average cost per pupil in average daily attendance of the remainder of the district's elementary grade school pupils. An elementary school operating as a previously approved hardship elementary school shall continue to be considered as a separate attendance unit, unless the hardship status of the elementary school is rescinded by the state board of education.
  - (c) Separate Secondary School. -- Any separate secondary school shall be allowed to participate in the educational support program as though the school were the only secondary school operated by the district.
  - (d) Elementary/Secondary School Attendance Units. -- Elementary grades in an elementary/secondary school will be funded as a separate attendance unit if all elementary grades served are situated more than ten (10) miles distance from both the nearest like elementary grades within the same school district and from the location of the office of the superintendent of schools of such district, or from the office of the chief administrative officer of such district if the district employs no superintendent of schools. Secondary grades in an elementary/secondary school will be funded as a separate attendance unit if all secondary grades served are located more than fifteen (15) miles by

an all-weather road from the nearest like secondary grades operated by the district.

- (e) Hardship Secondary School. -- Any district which operated two (2) secondary schools separated by less than fifteen (15) miles, but which district was created through consolidation subsequent to legislative action pursuant to chapter 111, laws of 1947, and which school buildings were constructed prior to 1935, shall be entitled to count the schools as separate attendance units.
- (f) Minimum Pupils Required. -- Any elementary school having less than ten (10) pupils in average daily attendance shall not be allowed to participate in the state or county support program unless the school has been approved for operation by the state board of education.
- (32) Remote Schools. -- The board of trustees of any Idaho school district which operates and maintains a school which is remote and isolated from the other schools of the state because of geographical or topographical conditions may petition the state board of education to recognize and approve the school as a remote and necessary school. The petition shall be in form and content approved by the state board of education and shall provide such information as the state board of education may require. Petitions for the recognition of a school as a remote and necessary school shall be filed annually at least ninety (90) days prior to the date of the annual meeting of the board of trustees as established in section 33-510, Idaho Code.

Within forty-five (45) days after the receipt of a petition for the recognition of a remote and necessary school, the state board of education shall either approve or disapprove the petition and notify the board of trustees of its decision. Schools which the state board of education approves as being necessary and remote shall be allowed adequate funding within the support program for an acceptable educational program for the students of the school. In the case of a remote and necessary secondary school, grades 7-12, the educational program shall be deemed acceptable when, in the opinion of the state board of education, the accreditation standard relating to staff size, established in accordance with section 33-119, Idaho Code, has been met. The final determination of an acceptable program and adequate funding in the case of a remote and necessary elementary school shall be made by the state board of education.

- (43) Support Program When District Boundaries are Changed.
- (a) In new districts formed by the division of a district, the support program computed for the district, divided in its last year of operation, shall be apportioned to the new districts created by the division, in the proportion that the average daily attendance of pupils, elementary and secondary combined, residing in the area of each new district so created, is to the average daily attendance of all pupils, elementary and secondary combined, in the district divided in its last year of operation before the division.
- (b) When boundaries of districts are changed by excision or annexation of territory, the support program of any district from which territory is excised for the last year of operation before such excision shall be divided, and apportioned among the districts involved, as prescribed in subsection (4) paragraph (a) of this subsection.

- (c) In new districts formed by consolidation of former districts after January 1, 2007, the support program allowance, for a seven (7) year period following the formation of the new district, shall not be less than the combined support program allowances of the component districts in the last year of operation before consolidation. After the expiration of this period, the state department of education shall annually calculate the number of support units that would have been generated had the previous school districts not consolidated. All applicable state funding to the consolidated district shall then be provided based on a support unit number that is halfway between this figure and the actual support units, provided that it cannot be less than the actual support units.
- SECTION 13. That Section 33-1004G, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby repealed.
  - SECTION 14. That Section 33-1004H, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
  - 33-1004H. EMPLOYING RETIRED TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS. (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33-514, 33-1271 or 33-1273, Idaho Code, school districts may employ certificated school teachers and administrators who are receiving retirement benefits from the public employee retirement system of Idaho, except those who received benefits under the early retirement program previously provided in section 33-1004G, Idaho Code, by the state in positions requiring such certification, as at-will employees. Any employment contract between the retiree and the school district shall be separate and apart from the collective bargaining agreement of the school district.
  - (2) Retirees employed under this section shall accrue one (1) day per month of sick leave, with no annual sick leave accumulation unless additional sick leave is negotiated between the candidate and the school district at the time of employment. No sick leave accrued under this section qualifies for unused sick leave benefits under section 33-1228, Idaho Code.
  - (3) School districts are not required to provide health insurance or life insurance benefits to persons employed under this section. Post-termination benefits may be negotiated between the school district and the certificated employee at the time of rehiring but in no event can the parties affect or attempt to affect the provisions governing the public employee retirement system.
  - SECTION 15. That Section 33-1271, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
  - 33-1271. SCHOOL DISTRICTS -- PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES -- NEGOTIATION AGREEMENTS. The board of trustees of each school district, including specially chartered districts, or the designated representative(s) of such district, is hereby empowered to and shall, upon its own initiative or upon the request of a local education organization representing a majority of the professional employees, enter into a negotiation agreement request negotiations with the local education organization or the designated repre-

sentative(s) of such organization on behalf of the professional employees employed by the school district and negotiate with such party in good faith on those matters specified in any such negotiation agreement between the local board of trustees and the local education organization related to compensation of professional employees. A request for negotiations may be initiated by either party to such negotiation agreement the local education organization or entity seeking to be designated the local education organization, or the board of trustees.

- $\underline{(1)}$  Accurate records or minutes of the proceedings shall be kept<sub> $\tau$ </sub> and shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the board of education during normal business hours.
- $\underline{\ \ }$  Joint ratification of all final offers of settlement shall be made in open meetings and notice of the ratification activity shall be provided to the parties to the agreement.
- (3) As the subject matter of negotiations is compensation provided through public funding, all negotiation sessions of the parties shall be conducted in open session, with all members of the public able to attend.
- SECTION 16. That Chapter 12, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a  $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$ , to be known and designated as Section 33-1271A, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 33-1271A. EXISTING AGREEMENTS. The legislature finds the inclusion of evergreen or continuation clauses in master contracts or negotiated agreements to be against the public policy of the state of Idaho. Such clauses purport to bind in perpetuity the actions of future elected boards of trustees, subvert the ability of the people to direct their own affairs through the free election of trustees, and are contrary to the tenets of a free republic. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature that any master contract or negotiated agreement, by any name or title, existing as a result of negotiations between a board of trustees and a local education organization shall be subject to the terms of this act, regardless of any evergreen or continuation clause included in such contract or agreement.
- SECTION 17. That Section 33-1272, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

## 33-1272. DEFINITIONS. Definition of terms as used in this act:

- 1. "Professional employee" means any certificated employee of a school district, including charter districts; provided, however, that superintendents, supervisors or principals may be excluded from the professional employee group if a negotiation agreement between the board and local education organization so specifies.
- 2. "Local education organization" means any local district organization duly chosen and selected by a majority of the professional employees as their representative organization for negotiations under this act. For the purposes of this definition, "majority" shall mean one (1) certificated professional employee more than fifty percent (50%) or greater of the professional employees in the district.
- 3. "Negotiations" means meeting and conferring in good faith  $\underline{\text{in open}}$   $\underline{\text{session}}$  by a local board of trustees and the authorized local education or-

ganization, or the respective designated representatives of both parties, for the purpose of reaching an agreement, upon matters and conditions subject to negotiations as specified in a negotiation agreement between said parties related to the compensation of professional employees.

- $\underline{\text{4.}}$  "Compensation" means salary and benefits for the professional employee.
- 5. "Benefits" includes employee insurance, leave time and sick leave benefits.

SECTION 18. That Section 33-1273, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 33-1273. SCHOOL DISTRICTS -- PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES -- NEGOTIATIONS DESIGNATION OF THE LOCAL EDUCATION ORGANIZATION -- DESIGNATION OF REPRESENTATIVES -- OBLIGATION TO NEGOTIATE. (1) The local education organization selected by a majority of the qualifying professional employees shall be the exclusive representative for all professional employees in that district for purposes of negotiations.
  - (a) At the commencement of each school year, the local education association identified in the agreement from the prior year, if such existed, shall certify to the board of trustees that the local education association has been selected and designated as the local education organization for the professional employees of the district. This certification shall be provided in writing on a form agreed upon between the parties as one (1) of the options detailed below. The purpose of such certification is to provide the district's administration and board with notice of the appropriate entity for the administration and board to work with relating to personnel matters.
  - (b) Within ten (10) days of the date a request for negotiations is initiated by either the local education organization or the board of trustees or its designee, the local education organization must provide proof that it has been duly chosen by a majority of the professional employees of the district as their representative organization for negotiations under this act. Such proof may be:
    - (i) A list of certificated professional employees, who would be subject to the agreement, who are members of the local education organization as of the date that the request for negotiations is initiated; or
    - (ii) Other evidence that the professional employees have chosen and selected the local education organization as their representative organization as of the date that the request for negotiations is initiated.
  - (c) If the local education organization or entity seeking to be declared the local education organization cannot provide evidence that the majority of the professional employees have chosen and selected it as the representative organization, the district shall have no obligation or authority to enter into negotiations as provided in this act.
- (2) The individual or individuals selected to negotiate for the professional employees shall be a member of the organization designated to represent the professional employees and shall be a <u>certificated</u> professional employee of the local school district. However, in the event a local board of

trustees chooses to designate any individual(s) other than the superintendent or elected trustee(s) of the school district as its representative(s) for negotiations, the local educational organization is authorized to designate any individual(s) of its choosing to act as its representative(s) for negotiations. A local board of trustees or its designated representative(s) shall negotiate matters covered by a negotiations agreement pursuant to section 33-1272, Idaho Code, only with the local education organization or its designated representative(s).

(3) Should there be no entity that qualifies as a local education organization by May 10, the board has no obligation or authority to negotiate as required under this act, and may establish compensation for professional employees for the ensuing school year as it deems appropriate.

SECTION 19. That Chapter 12, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a  $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$ , to be known and designated as Section 33-1273A, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

33-1273A. NEGOTIATIONS IN OPEN SESSION. Any other provision of law notwithstanding, including any provisions to the contrary in section 67-2345, Idaho Code, all negotiations or meetings allowed or required pursuant to this act shall be in open session and shall be open and available for the public to attend. In addition, all documentation exchanged between the parties during negotiations, including all offers, counteroffers and meeting minutes shall be subject to public writings disclosure laws.

SECTION 20. That Section 33-1274, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 33-1274. APPOINTMENT OF MEDIATORS -- COMPENSATION MEDIATION -- ESTAB-LISHMENT OF COMPENSATION TERMS UPON FAILURE TO AGREE. (1) In the event the parties in negotiations are not able to come to an agreement upon items submitted for negotiations under a negotiations agreement between the parties, one or more mediators may be appointed. The issue or issues in dispute shall be submitted to mediation at the request of either party in an effort to induce the representatives of the board and the local education organization to resolve the conflict. The procedures for appointment of and compensation for the mediators shall be determined by both parties compensation for professional employees by May 10, if agreed to by both parties, a mediator may be appointed. The issue or issues in dispute shall be submitted to mediation in an effort to induce the representatives of the board of trustees and the local education organization to resolve the conflict. The procedure for appointment of and compensation for the mediator shall be determined by both parties. Mediation is nonbinding, and the recommendation or recommendations of the mediator, if any, shall not be construed as having any force or effect.
- (2) If no agreement regarding compensation has been reached by the parties on or before June 10, the board of trustees, at a meeting held no later than June 22, shall establish compensation for professional employees for the ensuing school year as it deems appropriate.
- (3) If the board of trustees establishes compensation pursuant to subsection (2) of this section, no hearing need be held by the board.

(4) The dates of June 10 and June 22 are not arbitrary or discretionary dates that may be modified by agreement of the parties. The only instance in which the days may be extended is if June 10 or June 22 fall on a Sunday. In such situation the board of trustees may, at its discretion, extend these days to June 11 or June 23.

- SECTION 21. That Chapter 12, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a  $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$ , to be known and designated as Section 33-1274A, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 33-1274A. PROCEDURES UPON AGREEMENT. (1) In the event the parties in negotiations agree regarding compensation of professional employees at any time prior to June 10, such agreement shall be placed in writing by the persons who negotiated on behalf of the board of trustees and the local education organization. Such written agreement shall be offered for approval and ratification by the local education organization at an open meeting on or before June 15. If such written agreement is approved and ratified by the local education organization on or before June 15, it shall thereafter be approved or disapproved by the board of trustees at a board meeting held on or before June 22.
- (2) Should the local education association or the board of trustees fail to ratify and approve the written agreement as provided for in this section, the board of trustees shall establish other compensation terms, as independently determined by the board and not controlled by the terms which failed ratification, for professional employees as provided in section 33-1274, Idaho Code.
- SECTION 22. That Section 33-1275, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 33-1275. FACT-FINDERS -- APPOINTMENT -- HEARINGS TERMS OF AGREE-MENTS. 1. If mediation fails to bring agreement on all negotiable issues, the issues which remain in dispute may be submitted to fact-finding by request of either party. One or more fact-finders shall be appointed by the parties by mutual agreement. If such agreement cannot be reached within thirty (30) days of the request for such appointment, the state superintendent of public instruction shall make such appointment. The fact-finder shall have authority to establish procedural rules, conduct investigations and hold hearings during which each party to the dispute shall be given an opportunity to present its case with supporting evidence (1) All negotiated agreements or master contracts, by any name or title, entered into pursuant to the provisions of this act, shall have a term of July 1 through June 30 of the ensuing fiscal year. The board of trustees shall not have the authority to enter into any agreement negotiated under the provisions of this act that has any clause or provision which allows for such agreement to be in any force or effect for multiple years or indefinitely, or otherwise does not expire on its own terms on or before June 30 of the ensuing fiscal year.
- 2. Within thirty (30) days following designation of the fact-finder, he shall submit a report in writing to the respective representatives of the board and the professional employees, setting forth findings of fact and recommendations on the issues submitted (2) Any agreement or contract

previously entered pursuant to the provisions of sections 33-1271 through 33-1276, Idaho Code, shall be deemed to expire as of June 30, 2011, regardless of any evergreen, continuation or other clause included in such contract which provides for continuation beyond June 30, 2011. In addition, any term of any existing agreement which conflicts with the current provisions of title 33, Idaho Code, is hereby declared void and unenforceable from the date of July 1, 2011.

SECTION 23. That Section 33-1276, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

33-1276. INTENT OF ACT. Nothing contained herein is intended to or shall conflict with, or abrogate, the powers or duties and responsibilities vested in the legislature, state board of education, and the board of trustees of school districts by the laws of the state of Idaho. Each school district board of trustees is entitled, without negotiation or reference to any negotiated agreement, to take action that may be necessary to carry out its responsibility due to situations of emergency or acts of God.

SECTION 24. That Section 33-402, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

33-402. NOTICE REQUIREMENTS.

(1) (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (q) (2) a b c d e (3) (4) (5)

(61) Notice of annual meeting of elementary school districts as provided for in section 33-510, Idaho Code, and of intent to discontinue a school, as provided for in section 33-511, Idaho Code, and annual budget hearing as provided for in section 33-801, Idaho Code, shall be given by posting (2) for not less than ten (10) days, and publishing once in a newspaper as provided in section 60-106, Idaho Code, published within the district, or, if there be none, then in a newspaper as provided in section 60-106, Idaho Code, published in the county in which such district lies. If more than one (1) newspaper is printed and published in said district or county, then in the newspaper most likely to give best general notice of the election within said district; provided that if no newspaper is published in the said district or county, then in a newspaper as provided in section 60-106, Idaho Code, most likely to give best general notice of the election within the district.  $\pm f$ a financial emergency has been declared pursuant to section 33-522, Idaho Code, the notice of annual meeting and the notice of the annual budget hearing shall be posted pursuant to subsection (2) of this section, for not less than five (5) days, and by such further notice as shall provide reasonable notice to the patrons of the school district if publication in a newspaper is not feasible.

(72) Notices calling for bids for the acquisition, use, or disposal of real and personal property as provided for in section 33-601, Idaho Code, and contracting for transportation services as provided for in section 33-1510, Idaho Code, shall be given in a newspaper of general circulation as required by chapter 1, title 60, Idaho Code, except that the notice for contracting for transportation services shall be made not less than four (4) weeks before the date of opening bids.

(83) Proof of posting notice shall be upon the affidavit of the person posting the same; and proof of publication shall be upon the affidavit of the publisher of the newspaper or newspapers respectively. Such affidavits shall be filed with the board by the clerk responsible for the posting and the publishing of said notice.

 SECTION 25. SEVERABILITY. The provisions of this act are hereby declared to be severable and if any provision of this act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance is declared invalid for any reason, such declaration shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this act.

SECTION 26. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby declared to exist, Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25 of this act shall be in full force and effect on and after passage and approval. Sections 6, 10, 11 and 12, shall be in full force and effect on and after July 1, 2011.