

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 113

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 TO ENCOURAGE HOSPITALS IN THE STATE OF IDAHO TO HELP DEVELOP RESIDENCY PRO-
3 GRAMS FOR NEW IDAHO PHYSICIANS.

4 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

5 WHEREAS, Idaho ranks 48th in the nation for the number of actively prac-
6 ticing physicians per 100,000 population, with just 180.7 physicians per
7 100,000 population; and

8 WHEREAS, more than 25% of physicians in Idaho are over the age of 60
9 years old and therefore are approaching retirement; and

10 WHEREAS, in 2009, the Medical Education Subcommittee of the Idaho State
11 Board of Education named as its top priority the expansion of medical resi-
12 dency programs in Idaho; and

13 WHEREAS, in 2016, the Governor's Medical Education Work Group of the
14 Idaho State Board of Education made the growth of accredited residency pro-
15 grams its top priority for the production of a quality healthcare workforce
16 for Idaho; and

17 WHEREAS, Idaho ranks 47th in the nation for the number of residency po-
18 sitions available to medical school graduates; and

19 WHEREAS, 54% of medical school graduates who complete their residencies
20 in Idaho stay in Idaho, which is well above the national average retention
21 rate of 44%; and

22 WHEREAS, Idaho is ranked second in the nation for the percentage in-
23 crease in the number of residency positions in Idaho between 2004 and 2014,
24 in areas such as family medicine, internal medicine and psychiatry; and

25 WHEREAS, there are still many types of residencies that are not offered
26 in Idaho, forcing Idaho medical school graduates to go to other states if
27 they specialize in areas such as emergency care, pediatrics or general
28 surgery; and

29 WHEREAS, creating new residency positions is a good investment for
30 Idaho, as it results in a higher likelihood that the new physicians who com-
31 plete their residencies in Idaho will stay in the state; and

32 WHEREAS, much of the federal money that previously assisted in setting
33 up new residency positions in Idaho has been capped; and

34 WHEREAS, all of Idaho will benefit from an increase in the number of resi-
35 dency positions in Idaho, and especially an increase in the types of resi-
36 dency positions in Idaho, such as adding general surgery, emergency care and
37 pediatrics; and

38 WHEREAS, Idaho hospitals should be encouraged to invest in Idaho by pro-
39 viding funding and faculty for setting up new residency positions in their
40 facilities.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Ses-
42 sion of the Sixty-fourth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Rep-
43 resentatives concurring therein, that hospitals in Idaho are hereby encour-

1 aged to take the actions needed to establish new residency programs and ad-
2 ditional residency positions in their facilities for Idaho medical student
3 graduates, thus planting the seeds for a new crop of physicians practicing in
4 Idaho.