IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 128

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND ENCOURAGING IDAHO HIGH SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, AND UNIVERSITIES TO OFFER CREDIT-BEARING PERSONAL FINANCE CLASSES TO THEIR STUDENTS.

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

WHEREAS, recent studies show that Americans between the ages of 18 and 29 owe over one trillion dollars in debt; and

WHEREAS, high levels of debt are associated with anxiety, depression, and other adverse health conditions; and

WHEREAS, high levels of debt can delay or prevent the achievement of major life milestones, including marriage, parenthood, and home ownership; and

WHEREAS, according to a recent study by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, only 22% of Americans aged 18 to 24 are financially stable; and

WHEREAS, lack of financial stability while young can have long-lasting effects; and

WHEREAS, few young Americans report feeling confident in their financial literacy; and

WHEREAS, young Americans who receive financial advice at an early age report less financial stress and adversity; and

WHEREAS, it is the belief of the Legislature that making personal finance classes available to Idaho students would promote financial stability.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-fifth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein, that Idaho high schools, colleges, and universities are encouraged to offer credit-bearing personal finance classes to their students in order to impart financial literacy and promote financial stability among young Idahoans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such classes should cover the fundamentals of personal finance, including lessons on opening checking and savings accounts, buying a car, taking out a mortgage or other loans, purchasing insurance, making investments, credit card use, and credit reports.