

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 135

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND ENCOURAGING THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE TO CONDUCT TOWN HALL MEETINGS THROUGHOUT THE STATE TO COLLECT FEEDBACK ON HOW TO RETAIN AND RECRUIT VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDERS.

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

WHEREAS, Idaho is predominantly a rural state that relies heavily on volunteers for the provision of emergency medical services (EMS); and

WHEREAS, the existence of competent volunteer EMS providers throughout Idaho is vital to the well-being of all those who live in or visit Idaho; and

WHEREAS, the requirements placed on volunteer EMS providers must provide an assurance of public safety while not being onerous to the point that volunteer participation is discouraged; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, at the request of the Legislature, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare conducted a series of outreach town hall meetings throughout the state that provided feedback and suggestions for improvement in the programs, policies, plans and procedures that support and regulate emergency medical services in Idaho.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-fourth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the Legislature encourages the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare to conduct follow-up town hall meetings throughout Idaho to collect firsthand feedback on the progress that has been made in the years since the initial outreach town hall meetings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department should schedule the town hall meetings in the evening hours to enable maximum participation by concerned stakeholders and should hold the town hall meetings in locations that will enable concerned stakeholders to attend without having to drive farther than 50 miles whenever possible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department should facilitate the town hall meetings in such a manner as to gather as much feedback and suggestions for improvement as possible and should consider the feedback received during the town hall meetings as the Department continues to develop the programs, policies, plans and procedures that support and regulate emergency medical services in Idaho.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the Legislature are encouraged to attend town hall meetings in their districts in order to hear the firsthand feedback and to participate in the discussion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that EMS stakeholders from local communities are encouraged to attend and actively participate in a town hall meeting in their area.