

A decorative graphic consisting of several clusters of yellow dots of varying sizes, arranged in a pattern that suggests movement or data points.

2023

# Idaho State Legislative Scorecard

See how Members of Idaho's State Legislature are voting on economic growth issues.



Club for Growth Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization focused on educating the public about the value of free markets, pro-growth policies, and economic prosperity.

State Scorecards are created by the Club for Growth Foundation to educate the public about the voting records of the legislators who serve in state legislatures. This is part of a larger scorecard project that the Club for Growth Foundation has created to educate the public about the economic positions taken by legislators in states across the country.

## Our Mission

THE FOUNDATION  
EDUCATES THE  
PUBLIC ABOUT PRO-  
GROWTH POLICIES.

THE FOUNDATION  
CONDUCTS  
COMPREHENSIVE  
EXAMINATIONS OF  
VOTING RECORDS.

THE FOUNDATION'S  
GOAL IS TO INFORM  
THE PUBLIC AND  
BRING AWARENESS  
TO LAWMAKERS.

# Methodology | Idaho 2023

Club for Growth Foundation publishes the scorecard study so the public can monitor the actions and the voting behavior of Idaho’s elected state lawmakers on economic growth issues.

The Foundation conducted a comprehensive examination of each lawmaker’s record on votes related to pro-growth policies and computed an Economic Growth Score on a scale of 0 to 100. A score of 100 indicates the highest support for pro-growth policies.

**The Foundation examines legislative votes related to the Club’s immediate pro-economic growth policy goals, including:**

- Reducing or eliminating tax rates and enacting tax reform
- Limited government through limited spending and budget reform
- Regulatory reform and deregulation
- Ending abusive lawsuits through medical malpractice and tort reform
- Expanding school choice
- Implementing term limits

Not all of these policy goals will come up for a vote in each legislative session.

The Foundation also examines votes on bills that would directly harm these goals.

This scorecard is based on selected votes of importance to the Foundation, and does not include the complete voting record of any legislator. There are inherent limitations in judging the overall qualifications of any legislator based on a selected voting record, and the Foundation does not endorse or oppose any legislator for public office.

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# LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED IN IDAHO IN 2023

The Foundation’s study examined over 750 floor votes and, in the end, included 20 Idaho House votes and 19 Idaho Senate votes.

## COMPUTATION

Scores are computed on a scale of 0 to 100. Each vote or action in the rating is assigned a certain number of points depending on its relative importance. If a lawmaker casts a correct vote, the scorecard will denote it with that number. If a lawmaker casts an incorrect vote, the scorecard will denote that vote with a hyphen (-). Absences are not counted – signified as an “X” on the scorecard – though the Foundation reserves the right to do so if, in its judgment, a lawmaker’s position was otherwise discernible. If a lawmaker was not officially sworn into office at the time of a vote, the scorecard will denote that vote with an “I”.

To provide some additional guidance concerning the scores, each lawmaker was ranked. Aside from ties, lawmakers with 0% scores are, by default, ranked #70 in the

House and #35 in the Senate if all lawmakers are present. Scores and ranks cannot be directly compared between the House and Senate, as different votes were taken in each chamber. If applicable, the study also records a “Lifetime Score” for each lawmaker. This is a simple average of the scores from 2023 and all previous years where the lawmaker earned a score.

In some cases, a lawmaker was not present for enough votes for a meaningful score or ranking to be computed. In such cases “n.a.” for “not applicable” appears. In computing lifetime scores, years with “n.a.” listed instead of a score are not included. Comparing such scores to other members without “n.a.” years may be misleading.

## ADDITIONAL FACTORS

A study of roll call votes on the floor of the Idaho House and Idaho Senate and legislative actions is just that. It cannot account for a lawmaker’s work in committee, advocacy in his party’s caucus meetings, and effectiveness as a leader in advocating pro-growth policies.

“Through the release of this series, the Club for Growth Foundation is looking at how state legislatures perform in terms of pro-growth policies. We believe that this scorecard will help inform citizens and entrepreneurs about who supports the policies that are good for economic prosperity.”

**- DAVID McINTOSH**  
PRESIDENT, CLUB FOR GROWTH FOUNDATION

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35 MEMBERS

# Idaho Senate Snapshot



28 Republicans

7 Democrats

0 Independent

0 Vacancy

Average Republican Score: 52%

(Up from 47% in 2020)

Average Democrat Score: 10%

(Down from 34% in 2020)



## HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICANS

Multiple Senators | 100%



## LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

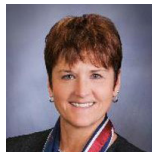
Senator Van Burtenshaw (SD-31) | 16%



## HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRATS

Senator James Ruchti (SD-29) | 11%

Senator Carrie Semmelroth (SD-17) | 11%



## LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRATS

*Clockwise from left*

Senator James Just (SD-15) | 10%

Senator Alison Rabe (SD-16) | 10%

Senator Ron Taylor (SD-26) | 10%

Senator Janie Ward-Engelking (SD-18) | 10%

Senator Melissa Wintrow (SD-19) | 10%

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Name	District	Party	Score	Life-score	H0024	H0106	H0161	H0191	H0203	H0206	H0276	H0292	H0323	H0356	H0369	S1038	S1097	S1129	S1159	S1192	S1203	S1206	S1211	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					5	3	3	3	5	5	3	5	8	4	10	7	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	
Adams, Ben	SD-12	R	45%	45%	5	3	3	3	-	5	-	5	-	4	-	-	5	-	7	-	-	-	5	12
Anthon, Kelly Arthur	SD-27	R	20%	37%	-	3	3	3	-	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	20
Bernt, Treg	SD-21	R	28%	28%	-	3	3	3	-	5	-	5	-	4	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Bjerke, Carl	SD-05	R	40%	40%	5	3	3	3	5	5	-	5	-	4	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Burtenshaw, Van	SD-31	R	16%	36%	-	3	3	3	-	X	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	28
Carlson, Cindy	SD-07	R	100%	100%	5	3	3	3	5	5	3	5	8	4	10	7	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Cook, Kevin	SD-32	R	23%	23%	-	3	3	3	-	5	-	5	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Den Hartog, Lori	SD-22	R	48%	58%	5	3	3	3	-	5	3	5	-	4	-	7	-	-	-	-	5	-	5	11
Foreman, Daniel	SD-06	R	100%	100%	5	3	3	3	5	5	3	5	8	4	10	7	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Grow, C. Scott	SD-14	R	20%	41%	-	3	3	3	-	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	20
Guthrie, Jim	SD-28	R	24%	35%	-	3	3	3	-	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	17
Harris, Mark	SD-35	R	22%	40%	-	3	3	3	-	5	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Hart, Phil	SD-02	R	100%	100%	5	3	3	3	5	5	3	5	8	4	10	7	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Hartgen, Linda	SD-25	R	19%	35%	-	3	3	3	-	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Herndon, Scott	SD-01	R	100%	100%	5	3	3	3	5	5	3	5	8	4	10	7	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Just, James	SD-15	D	10%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Lakey, Todd	SD-23	R	33%	43%	5	3	3	3	-	5	-	5	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	14
Lee, Abby	SD-09	R	19%	28%	-	3	3	3	-	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Lenney, Brian	SD-13	R	100%	100%	5	3	3	3	5	5	3	5	8	4	10	7	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Lent, Dave	SD-33	R	20%	40%	-	3	3	3	-	5	X	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Nichols, Tammy	SD-10	R	100%	98%	5	3	3	3	5	5	3	5	8	4	10	7	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					5	3	3	3	5	5	3	5	8	4	10	7	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	
Okuniewicz, Douglas	SD-03	R	100%	100%	5	3	3	3	5	5	3	5	8	4	10	7	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Rabe, Alison	SD-16	D	10%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Ricks, Doug	SD-34	R	27%	50%	5	3	X	3	-	X	-	5	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	16
Ruchti, James	SD-29	D	11%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
Schroeder, Geoff	SD-08	R	19%	19%	-	3	3	3	-	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Semmelroth, Carrie	SD-17	D	11%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	29
Taylor, Ron	SD-26	D	10%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Toews, Ben	SD-04	R	92%	92%	5	3	3	3	5	5	3	5	8	4	10	7	5	5	X	5	5	-	5	10
Trakel, Christopher	SD-11	R	100%	100%	5	3	3	3	5	5	3	5	8	4	10	7	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
VanOrden, Julie	SD-30	R	20%	20%	-	3	3	3	-	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	20
Ward-Engelking, Janie	SD-18	D	10%	25%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Winder, Charles	SD-20	R	19%	40%	-	3	3	3	-	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Wintrow, Melissa	SD-19	D	10%	17%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Zuiderveld, Glenneda	SD-24	R	100%	100%	5	3	3	3	5	5	3	5	8	4	10	7	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1

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# Idaho 2023 | Senate Vote Descriptions

## H. 24

### EXPANDED TUITION SUBSIDY PROGRAM (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill expands a recently created taxpayer-funded grant program. Specifically, the legislation expands the Idaho LAUNCH program to high school graduates and provides recipients with up to \$8,500 in career-training grants that can be applied to tuition or other costs at community colleges, universities, government-sponsored workforce training centers, and career technical programs. While the bill sunsets two existing subsidy programs, it mostly consolidates the funding and increases the overall programmatic spending baseline from the original \$80 million requested to \$102 million. Taxpayers already fund a \$30 billion federal Pell Grant program and numerous career training subsidy programs. Hardworking Idahoans should not be forced to further subsidize the tuition and career-training costs for select individuals seeking “in-demand” jobs. The Idaho House passed the bill, 36-34,

on February 6, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 20-15, on March 22, 2023.

## H. 106

### PREEMPTING MUNICIPAL UTILITY REGULATIONS (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill preempts local governments from regulating utility services predicated on the source of energy provided to a consumer. Specifically, the legislation ensures that municipalities cannot restrict or prohibit the connection or reconnection of utility services that use reliable sources of energy. Some municipal governments across the country have attempted to force costly Green New Deal-style mandates on their citizens that curb natural gas and coal in favor of expensive and unreliable solar and wind power. This measure protects hardworking Idahoans from that emerging threat. The Idaho House passed the bill, 58-12, on February 17, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 28-7, on March 14, 2023.

## H. 161

### STRENGTHENED FOOD STAMP REFORMS (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements common-sense reforms to the administration of the state’s food stamp program. Specifically, the legislation implements mandatory work training for all able-bodied adults with a minimum of 30 hours of work per week to remain enrolled, prohibits the Department of Health and Welfare from using waivers without the legislature’s approval, and prohibits the use of exemptions without good cause. Estimates suggest that these reforms would remove over 20,000 food stamp recipients from the state welfare rolls and return them to the workforce. The Idaho House passed the bill, 57-11, on February 24, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 27-7, on March 24, 2023.

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H. 191  
PROHIBITION ON ESG CONTRACTING  
(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill prohibits state agencies from entering into contracts with certain entities that prioritize woke Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG) edicts over the pecuniary interests of clients, consumers, and taxpayers. Specifically, the legislation prohibits Idaho state agencies from contracting with entities on construction and procurement projects that engage in boycotts or discrimination against certain industries, including the reliable energy sector, at the expense of investors and taxpayers. The Idaho House passed the bill, 59-10, on March 2, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 28-7, on March 20, 2023.

H. 203  
SUBSIDIZED HEALTH INSURANCE  
EXPANSION  
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill further increases a taxpayer-subsidized health insurance program for government school employees. Specifically, the legislation

eliminates the existing \$4,500 cap per support unit for the Public School Health Insurance Participation Fund which is designed to push employees into the state health and dental plan. The total cost of the program is difficult to determine as it is subject to appropriations and without a statutory cap to restrain spending per support unit, the cost is guaranteed to increase. Additionally, the legislation extends sunset from June 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025. Aside from increasing the burden on Idaho families and taxpayers, the bill will further consolidate the health insurance market in the state, reducing competition and increasing prices. The Idaho House passed the bill, 50-18, on March 13, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 24-11, on March 28, 2023.

H. 206  
SIGNIFICANT REGULATORY REFORM  
(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements numerous new tools for reining in excessive state regulations. Specifically, the legislation requires all new rules and regulations to undergo legislative approval

via concurrent resolution in both chambers before they are enacted. Additionally, the bill places all regulations on a staggered review cycle over an 8-year timeframe, providing the legislature with the ability to rescind or modify onerous regulations negatively impacting hardworking Idahoans. The Idaho House passed the bill, 56-8, on March 31, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 26-6, on the same day.

H. 276  
PUBLIC TELEVISION APPROPRIATIONS  
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates annual funding for Idaho state television. Specifically, the legislation appropriates over \$2.9 million to Idaho Public Television (IPTV), an increase of four percent from FY2023 levels. Consumers have an abundance of choices for programming in the free market, underscoring the fact that government-funded television should not exist and this program should be zeroed out. The Idaho House passed the bill, 47-22, on March 9, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 22-12, on March 17, 2023.

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## H. 292

### SUBSTANTIAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

#### (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements numerous measures that cut property taxes for hardworking families and taxpayers in Idaho. Specifically, the legislation establishes a new school district facilities fund in place of property tax levies funded in part from a dedicated 2.25 percent of sales tax revenue and expands the existing homestead exemption for property taxes. Additionally, the bill implements a three-year surplus eliminator making total savings somewhat difficult to determine. Initial estimates suggest the bill could reduce property taxes by as much as \$960 million over the next three years. The Idaho House passed the bill and overrode the governor's veto, 58-12, on March 28, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it and overrode the governor's veto, 28-7, on March 29, 2023.

## H. 323

### SUPPLEMENTAL MEDICAID SPENDING INCREASE

#### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates new spending for the current

fiscal year in the state Medicaid program. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$535 million in new spending for a provider rate increase for the final quarter of FY2023 to cover cost overruns. This supplemental comes at the same time the legislature approved a record \$4.5 billion in Medicaid spending. The expansion of the Medicaid welfare program to able-bodied adults has devoured state budgets all across the country and Idaho is no exception. Lawmakers should focus on moving Idahoans off Medicaid and constraining spending instead of funneling ever higher amounts of taxpayer resources to keep costly and ineffective welfare programs afloat. The Idaho House passed the bill, 46-24, on March 20, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 25-10, on March 23, 2023.

## H. 356

### CRONY NURSING LOAN BAILOUT PROGRAM

#### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates money for the Rural Nursing Loan Repayment Program. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$500,000 to provide taxpayer-subsidized loan repayments for nurses who work in areas of Idaho with fewer than 20,000

people. Lawmakers should not create central-planning schemes that determine in what parts of the state nurses should seek to practice their profession. Further, hardworking taxpayers should not be forced to subsidize select professions, much less ones that routinely earn salaries above the state's per capita income. The Idaho House passed the bill, 39-28, on March 23, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 18-17, on March 27, 2023.

## H. 369

### MASSIVE MEDICAID SPENDING BONANZA

#### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates a historic amount of money for the Idaho Medicaid program. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$4.5 billion in state and federal money for Medicaid, including a \$29 million provider rate increase and \$72 million to implement a new behavioral health plan. The bill increases Medicaid spending by 12.2 percent from the original FY2023 base funding levels. Idaho has one of the highest levels of improper Medicaid payments in the nation for a program that continues to devour the state budget following its expansion to able-bodied adults in 2018. Lawmakers should

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focus on moving Idahoans off Medicaid and out of a program that is both costly and proven to facilitate poor health outcomes. The Idaho House passed the bill, 40-30, on March 29, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 18-17, on March 30, 2023.

S. 1038  
TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION SAVINGS  
ACCOUNT BILL  
(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements a universal ESA program for all K-12 students in Idaho. Specifically, the legislation provides for tax dollars to follow students to a school of their parents’ or guardians’ choice—including private education. Annual funding for the universal ESA is equal to \$45 million for the first year of the program. Parents will have access to roughly \$6,000 per year to use for tuition, books, and other related education expenses. Estimates suggest nearly 6,600 students will be able to receive ESA funding on an annual basis. The Idaho Senate rejected the bill, 12-23, on February 27, 2023. The Idaho House did not take it up.

S. 1097  
PERMANENT MEDICAID SLUSH FUND  
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill continues the state’s Medicaid spending spree. Specifically, the legislation uses leftover spending from the enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Program (FMAP) passed by Congress during the 2020 COVID spending spree to create an initial \$19 million Medicaid slush fund for program procurement and modernization. Further, the bill provides for General Fund surplus revenue to be diverted into this fund to offset future “budget shortfalls.” The Medicaid welfare program is rife with fraud and poor health outcomes. Lawmakers should focus on moving Idahoans off Medicaid and constraining spending instead of creating new slush funds to keep massive welfare programs afloat. The Idaho House passed the bill, 40-27, on March 21, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 23-12, on March 8, 2023.

S. 1129  
SUPPLEMENTAL BROADBAND  
BOONDOGGLE  
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates additional funding for broadband infrastructure in Idaho. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$124.1 million in federal ARPA funds to the Department of Commerce for FY2023 to centrally plan broadband development in rural parts of the state through a previous program. Broadband expansion is important, however, the multiple federal funding streams creates an artificial funding baseline once federal funds are tapped out leading to potential future spending increases and tax hikes. This bill institutes a prohibitive cost for hard-working Idaho families with such development initiatives better left to the private sector. The Idaho House passed the bill, 49-21, on March 14, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 23-10, on March 6, 2023.

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S. 1159

SIGNIFICANT COMMERCE SPENDING  
SPLURGE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates FY2024 funding for the Department of Commerce. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$204 million for department operations, including \$100.3 million in federal infrastructure funds to centrally plan broadband development in rural parts of the state and \$5.2 million in new department marketing operations. The bill increases Department of Commerce spending by an astounding 103 percent from the original FY2023 base funding levels. Earmarking federal money wrongly seen as “free” for myriad big government projects creates a false spending floor for future legislative sessions, building pressure for future spending and tax hikes. The Idaho House passed the bill, 46-23, on March 21, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed the bill, 23-10, on March 15, 2023.

S. 1192

FEDERAL ENERGY GRANT  
APPROPRIATIONS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates FY2024 funding for the Office of Energy and Mineral Resources. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$8.2 million for various energy-related priorities including \$5 million in federal infrastructure funds to implement federal resiliency grants that includes overhauling building codes to comport with costly federal green energy standards. The bill increases Office of Energy spending by an eyepopping 159 percent from the FY2023 base funding levels. Earmarking federal money wrongly seen as “free” for myriad big government projects creates a false spending floor for future legislative sessions, building pressure for future spending and tax hikes. The Idaho House passed the bill, 53-17, on March 28, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed the bill, 25-10, on March 23, 2023.

S. 1203

INCREASED STATE CHILDCARE SUBSIDIES  
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill increases spending for government-provided childcare grants. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$28 million to the Department of Labor through taxpayer-funded grants to government-preferred providers and so-called “wage enhancements” for select recipients. Lawmakers should not force hardworking families and taxpayers to subsidize the childcare costs of select beneficiaries, which will only increase the overall cost of such services throughout the state. Instead of increasing spending and costs, lawmakers should reduce regulatory and licensing barriers that make childcare services unaffordable and inaccessible. The Idaho House passed the bill, 43-27, on March 28, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 21-14, on March 27, 2023.

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S. 1206

BIG SPENDING EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS  
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates FY2024 funding for the state’s K-12 government schools. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$1.1 billion for K-12 school operations, including \$97.4 million in additional pay increases for select administrative staff including bus drivers and custodians as well as \$27 million in new spending for costly subsidized health insurance increases. The bill increases K-12 operations spending by 21.2 percent from the original FY2023 base funding levels. Overall, Idaho lawmakers increased education spending across all education-related appropriations bills by more than \$127 million in FY2024, locking in meritless pay increases, higher healthcare subsidies, and failing to empower parents through student-centered school choice initiatives. The Idaho House passed the bill, 54-15, on March 30, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed the bill, 24-9, on March 29, 2023.

S. 1211

CRONY SUPPLEMENTAL SPENDING PACKAGE  
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates supplemental spending for the current fiscal year and implements cash transfers to specific programs for FY2024. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$30 million in back-filled supplemental funding for crony economic development grants in the Workforce Development Council for FY2023 and provides another \$15 million for taxpayer-financed semiconductor grants to benefit Micron Technology’s factory in Treasure Valley. Additionally, the bill appropriates approximately \$130 million for various stabilization funds in FY2024. Lawmakers should not reward well-connected entities and special interests with taxpayer funds at the expense of hardworking Idahoans. The Idaho House passed the bill, 42-25, on March 30, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 23-12, on March 27, 2023.

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70 MEMBERS

# Idaho House Snapshot

59 Republicans

11 Democrats

0 Independent

0 Vacancies

Average Republican Score: 52%

(Down from 66% in 2020)

Average Democrat Score: 12%

(Down from 18% in 2020)



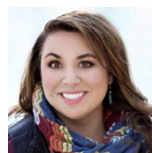
## HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICANS

Multiple Representatives | 100%



## LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

Rep. Gregory Lanting (HD-25B) | 11%



## HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Rep. Brooke Green (HD-18B) | 16%



## LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Rep. Sue Chew (HD-17B) | 0%

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Name	District	Party	Score	Life-score	H0024	H0106	H0161	H0180	H0191	H0203	H0206	H0273	H0276	H0292	H0323	H0356	H0369	S1097	S1129	S1159	S1192	S1203	S1206	S1211	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	
Alfieri, Joe	HD-04A	R	100%	100%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	X	5	X	5	5	7	5	1
Allgood, Christopher	HD-11B	R	22%	22%	-	3	3	-	X	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	42
Andrus, Kevin	HD-35A	R	85%	88%	5	3	3	4	3	-	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	-	-	7	5	16
Barbieri, Vito	HD-03A	R	100%	94%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Berch, Steve	HD-15A	D	14%	22%	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	62
Blanksma, Megan	HD-08B	R	26%	45%	-	3	3	4	3	-	X	3	-	5	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
Boyle, Judy	HD-09B	R	93%	84%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	-	5	13
Bundy, Matthew	HD-08A	R	23%	23%	-	3	3	4	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
Burns, Ned	HD-026A	D	13%	13%	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	64
Cannon, David	HD-30A	R	58%	58%	5	3	3	4	3	-	5	3	-	5	8	4	10	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
Cheatum, Richard	HD-28A	R	16%	16%	-	-	3	-	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	52
Chew, Sue	HD-17B	D	0%	16%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70
Clow, Lance	HD-25A	R	20%	36%	-	3	3	-	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	43
Cornilles, Jeff	HD-12A	R	41%	41%	5	3	3	4	3	-	5	3	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	5	29
Crane, Brent	HD-13A	R	77%	70%	5	3	3	4	3	X	5	3	3	5	8	4	-	5	-	7	-	5	X	5	20
Crane, Jaron	HD-12B	R	85%	85%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	-	5	5	7	-	5	7	5	16
Dixon, Chenele	HD-24A	R	19%	19%	-	3	3	-	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
Dixon, Sage	HD-01B	R	83%	76%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	-	5	-	-	18
Durrant, Melissa	HD-23A	R	26%	26%	-	3	3	4	3	-	5	3	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
Ehardt, Barbara	HD-33A	R	83%	94%	5	3	3	4	3	-	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	-	-	5	5	7	5	18
Ehlers, Jeff	HD-21B	R	40%	40%	5	3	3	4	3	-	5	3	-	5	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	30

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Name	District	Party	Score	Life-score	H0024	H0106	H0161	H0180	H0191	H0203	H0206	H0273	H0276	H0292	H0323	H0356	H0369	S1097	S1129	S1159	S1192	S1203	S1206	S1211	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	
Erickson, Marco	HD-33B	R	15%	15%	-	3	3	-	3	-	X	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56
Furniss, Rod	HD-31B	R	27%	48%	-	3	3	-	3	-	X	X	X	5	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36
Galaviz, Sonia	HD-16A	D	10%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66
Gallagher, Jacyn	HD-09A	R	100%	100%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Gannon, John	HD-17A	D	15%	23%	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56
Garner, Dan	HD-28B	R	16%	16%	-	-	3	-	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	52
Green, Brooke	HD-18B	D	16%	21%	-	-	-	X	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	10	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	52
Handy, Clay	HD-27B	R	16%	16%	-	3	X	-	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	52
Hawkins, Dale	HD-02B	R	100%	100%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Healey, Dori	HD-15B	R	52%	52%	5	3	3	4	3	X	5	3	-	5	8	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	5	27
Hill, Edward	HD-14A	R	36%	36%	-	3	3	4	3	-	5	3	-	5	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	5	-	-	32
Holtzclaw, James	HD-20B	R	60%	60%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	-	5	-	4	-	5	-	7	-	5	-	X	24
Horman, Wendy	HD-32B	R	31%	44%	5	3	3	4	3	-	5	3	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33
Kingsley, Mike	HD-07A	R	100%	84%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Lambert, Tina	HD-23B	R	100%	100%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Lanting, Gregory	HD-25B	R	11%	11%	-	-	3	-	3	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65
Manwaring, Dustin	HD-29A	R	26%	26%	-	3	3	4	3	-	5	3	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
Mathias, Chris	HD-19B	D	10%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66
McCann, Lori	HD-06A	R	19%	19%	-	3	3	-	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44

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Name	District	Party	Score	Life-score	H0024	H0106	H0161	H0180	H0191	H0203	H0206	H0273	H0276	H0292	H0323	H0356	H0369	S1097	S1129	S1159	S1192	S1203	S1206	S1211	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	
Mendive, Ron	HD-05A	R	100%	98%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Mickelsen, Stephanie	HD-32A	R	15%	15%	-	3	3	-	3	-	X	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56
Miller, Steven	HD-24B	R	28%	28%	5	3	3	4	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
Mitchell, Brandon	HD-06B	R	55%	55%	5	3	3	4	3	-	5	3	-	5	8	4	-	5	-	7	-	-	-	-	26
Monks, Jason	HD-22B	R	70%	74%	5	3	3	4	3	-	5	3	3	5	-	4	-	5	5	7	5	5	-	5	21
Moyle, Mike	HD-10A	R	40%	61%	5	3	3	4	3	-	5	3	-	5	-	4	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Nash, Colin	HD-16B	D	10%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66
Necochea, Lauren	HD-19A	D	10%	13%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66
Nelsen, Jack	HD-26B	R	19%	19%	-	3	3	-	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
Palmer, Joe	HD-20A	R	62%	72%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	-	5	-	4	-	-	5	7	-	5	-	5	23
Petzke, James	HD-21A	R	19%	19%	-	3	3	-	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
Pickett, Douglas	HD-27A	R	28%	28%	5	3	3	4	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
Price, Elaine	HD-04B	R	100%	100%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Raybould, Britt	HD-34B	R	19%	37%	-	3	3	-	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
Raymond, Jerald	HD-31A	R	19%	41%	-	3	3	-	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
Redman, Jordan	HD-03B	R	100%	100%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Roberts, Nate	HD-29B	D	15%	15%	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56
Rubel, Ilana	HD-18A	D	14%	19%	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	62
Sauter, Mark	HD-01A	R	19%	19%	-	3	3	-	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44

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Name	District	Party	Score	Life-score	H0024	H0106	H0161	H0180	H0191	H0203	H0206	H0273	H0276	H0292	H0323	H0356	H0369	S1097	S1129	S1159	S1192	S1203	S1206	S1211	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	
Scott, Heather	HD-02A	R	100%	97%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Shepherd, Charlie	HD-07B	R	70%	70%	5	3	3	4	3	-	5	3	-	5	8	4	-	5	5	7	-	5	-	5	21
Skaug, Bruce	HD-10B	R	93%	93%	5	3	X	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	-	5	13
Tanner, Josh	HD-14B	R	95%	95%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	-	5	7	5	12
Vander Woude, John	HD-22A	R	44%	61%	5	3	3	4	3	-	5	3	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	5	28
Weber, Jon	HD-34A	R	15%	15%	-	3	3	-	3	-	X	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56
Wheeler, Josh	HD-35B	R	15%	15%	-	3	3	-	3	-	X	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56
Wisniewski, Tony	HD-05B	R	100%	98%	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	5	8	X	10	5	5	7	5	5	7	5	1
Wroten, Kenny	HD-13B	R	23%	23%	-	3	3	4	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
Yamamoto, Julie	HD-11A	R	19%	19%	-	3	3	-	3	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
Young, Julianne	HD-30B	R	88%	92%	5	3	3	4	3	-	5	3	3	5	8	4	10	5	5	7	5	5	-	5	15

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## H. 24

### EXPANDED TUITION SUBSIDY PROGRAM

#### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill expands a recently created taxpayer-funded grant program. Specifically, the legislation expands the Idaho LAUNCH program to high school graduates and provides recipients with up to \$8,500 in career-training grants that can be applied to tuition or other costs at community colleges, universities, government-sponsored workforce training centers, and career technical programs. While the bill sunsets two existing subsidy programs, it mostly consolidates the funding and increases the overall programmatic spending baseline from the original \$80 million requested to \$102 million. Taxpayers already fund a \$30 billion federal Pell Grant program and numerous career training subsidy programs. Hardworking Idahoans should not be forced to further subsidize the tuition and career-training costs for select individuals seeking “in-demand” jobs. The Idaho House passed the bill, 36-34,

on February 6, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 20-15, on March 22, 2023.

## H. 106

### PREEMPTING MUNICIPAL UTILITY

#### REGULATIONS

#### (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill preempts local governments from regulating utility services predicated on the source of energy provided to a consumer. Specifically, the legislation ensures that municipalities cannot restrict or prohibit the connection or reconnection of utility services that use reliable sources of energy. Some municipal governments across the country have attempted to force costly Green New Deal-style mandates on their citizens that curb natural gas and coal in favor of expensive and unreliable solar and wind power. This measure protects hardworking Idahoans from that emerging threat. The Idaho House passed the bill, 58-12, on February 17, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 28-7, on March 14, 2023.

## H. 161

### STRENGTHENED FOOD STAMP REFORMS

#### (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements common-sense reforms to the administration of the state’s food stamp program. Specifically, the legislation implements mandatory work training for all able-bodied adults with a minimum of 30 hours of work per week to remain enrolled, prohibits the Department of Health and Welfare from using waivers without the legislature’s approval, and prohibits the use of exemptions without good cause. Estimates suggest that these reforms would remove over 20,000 food stamp recipients from the state welfare rolls and return them to the workforce. The Idaho House passed the bill, 57-11, on February 24, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 27-7, on March 24, 2023.

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H. 180  
SOUND MONEY INVESTMENT  
(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill requires the State Treasurer to prioritize the investment of idle state funds into gold and silver. Specifically, the legislation requires the State Treasurer to include the physical ownership of gold and silver as an investment priority of the state. Additionally, the bill further codifies in statutory language that gold and silver are legitimate legal tender in the state of Idaho. This bill helps ensure gold and silver can serve as an alternative competitive currency to the dollar, as well as provide taxpayers some protection during a significant inflation or hyperinflationary event. The Idaho House passed the bill, 40-29, on March 2, 2023. The Idaho Senate did not take it up.

H. 191  
PROHIBITION ON ESG CONTRACTING  
(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill prohibits state agencies from entering into contracts with certain entities that prioritize woke Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG) edicts over the pecuniary interests of clients, consumers,

and taxpayers. Specifically, the legislation prohibits Idaho state agencies from contracting with entities on construction and procurement projects that engage in boycotts or discrimination against certain industries, including the reliable energy sector, at the expense of investors and taxpayers. The Idaho House passed the bill, 59-10, on March 2, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 28-7, on March 20, 2023.

H. 203  
SUBSIDIZED HEALTH INSURANCE  
EXPANSION  
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill further increases a taxpayer-subsidized health insurance program for government school employees. Specifically, the legislation eliminates the existing \$4,500 cap per support unit for the Public School Health Insurance Participation Fund which is designed to push employees into the state health and dental plan. The total cost of the program is difficult to determine as it is subject to appropriations and without a statutory cap to restrain spending per support unit, the cost is guaranteed to increase. Additionally, the

legislation extends sunset from June 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025. Aside from increasing the burden on Idaho families and taxpayers, the bill will further consolidate the health insurance market in the state, reducing competition and increasing prices. The Idaho House passed the bill, 50-18, on March 13, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 24-11, on March 28, 2023.

H. 206  
SIGNIFICANT REGULATORY REFORM  
(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements numerous new tools for reining in excessive state regulations. Specifically, the legislation requires all new rules and regulations to undergo legislative approval via concurrent resolution in both chambers before they are enacted. Additionally, the bill places all regulations on a staggered review cycle over an 8-year timeframe, providing the legislature with the ability to rescind or modify onerous regulations negatively impacting hardworking Idahoans. The Idaho House passed the bill, 56-8, on March 31, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 26-6, on the same day.

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H. 273  
MODEST LOCAL PROPERTY TAX  
PROTECTIONS  
(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill clarifies statutory protection for residents against property tax increases. Specifically, the legislation makes clear that residents may implement a citizen-led referendum or initiative to lower city or county property tax rates. While the legislation does not include stronger language on requiring a majority vote to approve any property tax increase, the statutory approval at the municipal level provides families and households with an important avenue to reduce their property tax burden. The Idaho House passed the bill, 36-33, on March 9, 2023. The Idaho Senate did not take it up.

H. 276  
PUBLIC TELEVISION APPROPRIATIONS  
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates annual funding for Idaho state television. Specifically, the legislation appropriates over \$2.9 million to Idaho Public Television (IPTV), an increase of four percent from

FY2023 levels. Consumers have an abundance of choices for programming in the free market, underscoring the fact that government-funded television should not exist and this program should be zeroed out. The Idaho House passed the bill, 47-22, on March 9, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 22-12, on March 17, 2023.

H. 292  
SUBSTANTIAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF  
(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements numerous measures that cut property taxes for hardworking families and taxpayers in Idaho. Specifically, the legislation establishes a new school district facilities fund in place of property tax levies funded in part from a dedicated 2.25 percent of sales tax revenue and expands the existing homestead exemption for property taxes. Additionally, the bill implements a three-year surplus eliminator making total savings somewhat difficult to determine. Initial estimates suggest the bill could reduce property taxes by as much as \$960 million over the next three years. The Idaho House passed the bill and overrode the governor’s veto, 58-12, on March 28,

2023. The Idaho Senate passed it and overrode the governor’s veto, 28-7, on March 29, 2023.

H. 323  
SUPPLEMENTAL MEDICAID SPENDING  
INCREASE  
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates new spending for the current fiscal year in the state Medicaid program. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$535 million in new spending for a provider rate increase for the final quarter of FY2023 to cover cost overruns. This supplemental comes at the same time the legislature approved a record \$4.5 billion in Medicaid spending. The expansion of the Medicaid welfare program to able-bodied adults has devoured state budgets all across the country and Idaho is no exception. Lawmakers should focus on moving Idahoans off Medicaid and constraining spending instead of funneling ever higher amounts of taxpayer resources to keep costly and ineffective welfare programs afloat. The Idaho House passed the bill, 46-24, on March 20, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 25-10, on March 23, 2023.

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H. 356  
CRONY NURSING LOAN BAILOUT PROGRAM  
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates money for the Rural Nursing Loan Repayment Program. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$500,000 to provide taxpayer-subsidized loan repayments for nurses who work in areas of Idaho with fewer than 20,000 people. Lawmakers should not create central-planning schemes that determine in what parts of the state nurses should seek to practice their profession. Further, hardworking taxpayers should not be forced to subsidize select professions, much less ones that routinely earn salaries above the state’s per capita income. The Idaho House passed the bill, 39-28, on March 23, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 18-17, on March 27, 2023.

H. 369  
MASSIVE MEDICAID SPENDING BONANZA  
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates a historic amount of money for the Idaho Medicaid program. Specifically,

the legislation appropriates \$4.5 billion in state and federal money for Medicaid, including a \$29 million provider rate increase and \$72 million to implement a new behavioral health plan. The bill increases Medicaid spending by 12.2 percent from the original FY2023 base funding levels. Idaho has one of the highest levels of improper Medicaid payments in the nation for a program that continues to devour the state budget following its expansion to able-bodied adults in 2018. Lawmakers should focus on moving Idahoans off Medicaid and out of a program that is both costly and proven to facilitate poor health outcomes. The Idaho House passed the bill, 40-30, on March 29, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 18-17, on March 30, 2023.

S. 1097  
PERMANENT MEDICAID SLUSH FUND  
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill continues the state’s Medicaid spending spree. Specifically, the legislation uses leftover spending from the enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Program (FMAP) passed by Congress during the 2020 COVID spending spree to

create an initial \$19 million Medicaid slush fund for program procurement and modernization. Further, the bill provides for General Fund surplus revenue to be diverted into this fund to offset future “budget shortfalls.” The Medicaid welfare program is rife with fraud and poor health outcomes. Lawmakers should focus on moving Idahoans off Medicaid and constraining spending instead of creating new slush funds to keep massive welfare programs afloat. The Idaho House passed the bill, 40-27, on March 21, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 23-12, on March 8, 2023.

S. 1129  
SUPPLEMENTAL BROADBAND BOONDOGGLE  
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates additional funding for broadband infrastructure in Idaho. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$124.1 million in federal ARPA funds to the Department of Commerce for FY2023 to centrally plan broadband development in rural parts of the state through a previous program. Broadband

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expansion is important, however, the multiple federal funding streams creates an artificial funding baseline once federal funds are tapped out leading to potential future spending increases and tax hikes. This bill institutes a prohibitive cost for hard-working Idaho families with such development initiatives better left to the private sector. The Idaho House passed the bill, 49-21, on March 14, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 23-10, on March 6, 2023.

S. 1159  
SIGNIFICANT COMMERCE SPENDING  
SPLURGE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates FY2024 funding for the Department of Commerce. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$204 million for department operations, including \$100.3 million in federal infrastructure funds to centrally plan broadband development in rural parts of the state and \$5.2 million in new department marketing operations. The bill increases Department of Commerce spending by an astounding 103 percent from the original FY2023 base funding

levels. Earmarking federal money wrongly seen as “free” for myriad big government projects creates a false spending floor for future legislative sessions, building pressure for future spending and tax hikes. The Idaho House passed the bill, 46-23, on March 21, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed the bill, 23-10, on March 15, 2023.

S. 1192  
FEDERAL ENERGY GRANT  
APPROPRIATIONS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates FY2024 funding for the Office of Energy and Mineral Resources. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$8.2 million for various energy-related priorities including \$5 million in federal infrastructure funds to implement federal resiliency grants that includes overhauling building codes to comport with costly federal green energy standards. The bill increases Office of Energy spending by an eyepopping 159 percent from the FY2023 base funding levels. Earmarking federal money wrongly seen as “free” for myriad big government projects creates a false spending floor for future

legislative sessions, building pressure for future spending and tax hikes. The Idaho House passed the bill, 53-17, on March 28, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed the bill, 25-10, on March 23, 2023.

S. 1203  
INCREASED STATE CHILDCARE SUBSIDIES  
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill increases spending for government-provided childcare grants. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$28 million to the Department of Labor through taxpayer-funded grants to government-preferred providers and so-called “wage enhancements” for select recipients. Lawmakers should not force hardworking families and taxpayers to subsidize the childcare costs of select beneficiaries, which will only increase the overall cost of such services throughout the state. Instead of increasing spending and costs, lawmakers should reduce regulatory and licensing barriers that make childcare services unaffordable and inaccessible. The Idaho House passed the bill, 43-27, on March 28, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 21-14, on March 27, 2023.

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S. 1206

BIG SPENDING EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates FY2024 funding for the state’s K-12 government schools. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$1.1 billion for K-12 school operations, including \$97.4 million in additional pay increases for select administrative staff including bus drivers and custodians as well as \$27 million in new spending for costly subsidized health insurance increases. The bill increases K-12 operations spending by 21.2 percent from the original FY2023 base funding levels. Overall, Idaho lawmakers increased education spending across all education-related appropriations bills by more than \$127 million in FY2024, locking in meritless pay increases, higher healthcare subsidies, and failing to empower parents through student-centered school choice initiatives. The Idaho House passed the bill, 54-15, on March 30, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed the bill, 24-9, on March 29, 2023.

S. 1211

CRONY SUPPLEMENTAL SPENDING PACKAGE (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates supplemental spending for the current fiscal year and implements cash transfers to specific programs for FY2024. Specifically, the legislation appropriates \$30 million in back-filled supplemental funding for crony economic development grants in the Workforce Development Council for FY2023 and provides another \$15 million for taxpayer-financed semiconductor grants to benefit Micron Technology’s factory in Treasure Valley. Additionally, the bill appropriates approximately \$130 million for various stabilization funds in FY2024. Lawmakers should not reward well-connected entities and special interests with taxpayer funds at the expense of hardworking Idahoans. The Idaho House passed the bill, 42-25, on March 30, 2023. The Idaho Senate passed it, 23-12, on March 27, 2023.

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