



## House of Representatives State of Idaho

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

April 27, 2015

Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter  
HAND DELIVERED

Dear Governor Otter,

During the two weeks since the 2015 session ended without passing S1067, I have taken the opportunity to visit with some members of the House Judiciary, Rules and Administration Committee who voted against this legislation. I have also spent a considerable amount of time visiting with Director Armstrong and have facilitated meetings between the Director and those same committee members and the Chairman. After these conversations, I have come to a fuller understanding of the circumstances surrounding the bill's failure, and I am writing to you now to share the new perspective I've gained.

As you know, the 31-page bill was complex and required thorough consideration by the Judiciary, Rules and Administration Committee. I commend Chairman Wills for affording S1067 a lengthy hearing, with ample time for questions to be answered and concerns to be alleviated. Yet despite the good faith efforts of everyone involved, the questions and concerns of the committee were not adequately met. Thus, as a result of their unease, some had no choice but to vote against the bill, based on the information that was put before them.

Now, faced with the necessity of "fixing" the potential problems caused by S1067's failure, the committee members and the Department have developed amendments that seem to adequately address the members' concerns. I commend Director Armstrong and his staff for the time he has devoted to this effort, and I thank Reps. Luker, Trujillo, Dayley, and Kerby for their willingness to move toward a workable solution. Let me be clear, these amendments are the work product of the House committee members working with the Department. Since the amendments deal with due process considerations and security of personal information, I do not foresee significant disagreement between the House and the Senate.

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Thank you, Governor, for your leadership and direction in making the resources of your office and agency available to achieve an amiable resolution of this matter. Because of the progress we've made in meeting the House members' concerns, I do not anticipate any problem with your convening a special legislative session. With no workable administrative remedy, this appears to be the only path forward in order to assure that this important function of state government can proceed uninterrupted.

Sincerely



Speaker Scott Bedke

SB/mlm

Cc: Dick Armstrong, Director, Idaho Department of Health & Welfare  
Senator Brent Hill, President Pro Tempore