



C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
GOVERNOR

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **GOVERNOR APPROVES IDAHO EDUCATION NETWORK SHORT-TERM FUNDING FIX**

(BOISE) – Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter signed a bill into law today that the Legislature quickly approved to pay for continuing operations of the Idaho Education Network (IEN) through the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

The bill also provides legislative guidance on the use of the \$3.64 million appropriated to the Idaho Department of Education, which will be responsible for ensuring payments to vendors providing broadband Internet connectivity to Idaho public schools.

“With this bill, the Legislature is sending a strong message to the people of Idaho that we will not let the education of Idaho’s children or this dynamic tool for preparing them for the future be sidetracked – as well as the opportunities for enabling even the smallest of our rural communities to fully participate in Idaho’s economic growth,” Governor Otter said.

“A lot of work remains to be done to set this right, including a funding solution beyond the current school year. But I’m confident that we are working with a singular focus on the good of Idaho students – and that means a strong and reliable IEN.”

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