



Executive Department  
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor  
**Proclamation**

State Capitol  
Boise

WHEREAS, bullying – the act of frightening, threatening or hurting another student, child or person – is no longer limited to the physical world but is now occurring in the cyber world as well; and bullying can just as easily occur on the Internet and social media sites as it can on the playground or schoolyard; and

WHEREAS, cyberbullying – the act of bullying involving the use of computer devices or computer networks – is becoming more and more prevalent with the increased use of computer devices (cell phones, laptop computers, tablet computers, etc.) and social networking sites (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Tumblr, YouTube, Vine, etc.); and

WHEREAS, common forms of cyberbullying include:

*Flaming and Trolling* – sending or posting hostile messages intended to “inflare” the emotions of others,

*Happy-Slapping* – recording someone being harassed or bullied in a way that usually involves physical abuse, then posting the video online for public viewing,

*Identity Theft/Impersonation* – stealing someone’s password and/or hijacking their online accounts to send or post incriminating or humiliating pictures, videos or information,

*Photoshopping* – doctoring digital images so that the main subject is placed in a compromising or embarrassing situation,

*Physical Threats* – sending messages that involve threats to a person’s physical safety, and

*Rumor Spreading* – spreading gossip through e-mail, text messaging, or social networking sites; and

WHEREAS, about one-third of online teens (ages 12-17) have been cyberbullied; and girls are more likely to be targeted than boys; and

WHEREAS, about 17 percent of Idaho high school students reported being electronically bullied in 2011; and

WHEREAS, health professionals warn that cyberbullying can affect the safety, social and emotional health of a child; and

WHEREAS, kids who are cyberbullied are more likely to use alcohol and drugs, skip school, experience in-person bullying, be unwilling to attend school, receive poor grades, have lower self-esteem, and have more health problems; and

WHEREAS, Idaho students, parents, teachers and community leaders can help address the growing problem of cyberbullying by educating others about the dangers of cyberbullying and by encouraging all Idahoans to engage in activities designed to prevent cyberbullying;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. “Butch” Otter, Governor of the State of Idaho, by the virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim October 2014 to be

**CYBERBULLING PREVENTION AND  
AWARENESS MONTH**

in Idaho.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and fourteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-ninth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-fifth.

C.L. “BUTCH” OTTER  
GOVERNOR

BEN YURSA  
SECRETARY OF STATE