



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor
Proclamation

State Capitol
Boise

WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of Idaho stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they

- Provide safe, challenging and engaging learning experiences that help children develop social, emotional, physical and academic skills;
- Offer extended learning opportunities in science, technology, engineering, art, math, and healthy living;
- Support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends;
- Build stronger communities by involving students' parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among youth, families and adults;
- Engage families, schools and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children;
- Have the potential to provide between 234 to 400 hours of enriched learning time to enhance the school day; and

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho has demonstrated significant growth in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our children become successful adults; and

WHEREAS, Lights on Afterschool, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 23, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families and communities; and

WHEREAS, in Idaho over 78,000 children are on their own during the hours after school, and more than 75,000 children would participate in an afterschool program if one were available; and

WHEREAS, many afterschool programs across the country are facing funding shortfalls so severe that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights; and

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing expanded learning opportunities that will help close the achievement gap and prepare young people to compete in the global economy; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim, October 23rd, 2014 as

LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY

in Idaho and encourage all Idahoans to support Lights on Afterschool and promote afterschool programs and activities that can keep lights on and doors open for all children afterschool.



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 23rd 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