



Executive Department  
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor  
**Proclamation**

State Capitol  
Boise

WHEREAS, careful estate and financial planning can greatly assist our citizens in preserving assets built over a lifetime for the benefit of family, heirs or charities; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that over half our adult residents do not have up-to-date estate plans to protect themselves or their families in the event of sickness, accidents or untimely death; and

WHEREAS, estate planning involves many considerations, including safekeeping of important documents, documentation of assets, operation of law in the various states, preparation of legal instruments, insurance, availability of trust arrangements, charitable giving, inter vivos care of the benefactor, and other important factors; and

WHEREAS, estate planning encourages timely decisions about the method of holding title to certain assets, the designation of beneficiaries, and the possible transfer of assets during the life of the benefactor; and

WHEREAS, many Idaho adults are unaware that lack of estate planning and "financial illiteracy" may cause their assets to be disposed of to unintended parties by default through the complex process of probate; and

WHEREAS, alternatives to disposition of assets after death, such as planned gift-giving, may accomplish a benefactor's goal of providing for his or her family and favorite charities; and

WHEREAS, careful planning can prevent family members or other beneficiaries from being subjected to complex legal and administrative processes requiring significant expenditure of time and greatly reduce confusion or even animosity among family members or other heirs upon the death of a loved one; and

WHEREAS, important considerations about donation of organs and use of life-support functions may be made through the estate planning process; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of an estate plan starts with sound education and planning, and then may require the proper drafting and execution of appropriate legal documents, including wills, trusts, and durable powers of attorney for asset management and health care; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. House of Representatives encourages the distribution of estate planning information by professionals to all Americans and passed H. Res 1499 in 2008, proclaiming the third week in October as National Estate Planning Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, the Financial Awareness Foundation along with the following professional associations: National Association of Estate Planners and Councils, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the American Association of Attorney-Certified Public Accountants; the American Bar Association Section of Real Property, Trust and Estate Law; the Society of Financial Service Professionals, the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, the Partnership for Philanthropic Planning, the Financial Planning Association®, the Association of Fundraising Professionals, and the International Association of Advisors in Philanthropy have supported National Estate Planning Awareness Month.

WHEREAS, collectively these organizations represent nearly 1 million financial professionals, and the accountants, attorneys, estate planners, financial planners and advisors, insurance agents and brokers, trust officers, nonprofit executive directors and development officers that are members of these associations can help mobilize the financial and estate planning and nonprofit communities by providing support, tools, and education for the professionals and the public they serve;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2015 to be

**ESTATE PLANNING AWARENESS MONTH**

in Idaho and encourage residents of all ages to learn the essential principles of estate and financial planning.



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 fifteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred fortieth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-sixth.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
GOVERNOR

LAWRENCE DENNEY  
SECRETARY OF STATE