



BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Scott Bedke
Speaker of the House
House of Representatives
Statehouse Mail

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I have the honor to advise you that I have signed on May 10, 2021 and am transmitting to the Secretary of State the following House bills to wit:

HOUSE BILL 391
HOUSE BILL 392
HOUSE BILL 393

While these bills are not perfect, they do not contain the serious flaws that were fatal to House Bill 135a, which I vetoed previously in this session. In contrast to other legislative attempts, I am satisfied House Bills 391, 392 and 393 will not critically impair the state's ability to timely and effectively protect Idahoans during future emergencies.

I also fully support the addition of language emphasizing that our constitutional rights as citizens of this state continue to exist during declared emergencies and that any restrictions on those rights must be both narrow and necessary. While our shared freedoms may at times conflict with what is required to protect lives and property during an emergency, our rights must never be subjected to unnecessary or arbitrary limitations. Further, while a Governor must have the flexibility to suspend enforcement of laws that impede Idahoans' ability to respond to emergencies, only the legislature should promulgate and enact Idaho Code.

Thank you to my colleagues and friends in the legislature who worked with my office to improve and modernize the emergency statutes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Little".

Brad Little
Governor of Idaho

cc: Secretary of State