

GOVERNOR'S COPY

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Date 3/26 Time 2:54 pm



BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR
March 26, 2022

The Honorable Janice McGeachin
President of the Senate
Idaho State Senate
Hand Delivered

Dear Madam President,

I hereby advise you that I have returned without my approval, disapproved, and vetoed, the following bill, to wit:

SENATE BILL 1301

within the time prescribed by law, the same having arrived in the Office of the Governor at the hour of 8:10 a.m. on March 22, 2022.

I recognize there may be a problem with property tax assessments for self-storage facilities, but I am reluctant to perform surgery on a wound that may only require a band aid.

This is undoubtedly a complex issue that has resulted in protracted administrative and legal challenges. Self-storage properties are inherently difficult to assess; however, I am disinclined to require county assessors to cap self-storage assessments using just the cost approach when no other commercial property type would be subject to the same standard. I am concerned this may open a Pandora's Box of other types of commercial properties seeking similar treatment. This concern is particularly heightened during a time when home prices in Idaho are skyrocketing and much of this legislative session has been focused on addressing rising property taxes, particularly for homeowners. As we all are aware, any reduction in value of one property type results in a shift of tax burden to other property tax payers.

If this is, as the proponents say, a clarification of the existing law, then I encourage the bill proponents, the county assessors, and other stakeholders to attempt to resolve the issue. If this cannot be done, it may be appropriate to clarify in rule or bring legislation in the future.

Sincerely,

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

Brad Little
Governor of Idaho