



BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

April 1, 2024

The Honorable Mike Moyle
Speaker of the House
Idaho House of Representatives
Hand Delivered

Dear Mr. Speaker,

I hereby advise you that I have signed on April 1, 2024, and transmitted to the Office of the Secretary of State, with my approval, the following House bill, to wit:

H 513

within the time prescribed by law, the same having arrived in the Office of the Governor at the hour of 3:27 p.m. on March 27, 2024.

Maintaining safety and access to Idaho's roads and highways is imperative because Idahoans rely on our transportation system to commute to work, transport goods, and travel throughout the state. Historically, the decision to close access to Idaho highways has been under the authority of Idaho State Police (ISP) and the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD). These two state agencies also have the responsibility for road maintenance and monitoring while ensuring the appropriate amount of personnel and equipment are available to remove snow and rocks, manage traffic, and address other barriers to safeguard access on the roads.

County sheriffs also play a critical role in maintaining safety and access to travel. House Bill 513 expands the authority to close access to Idaho highways to the Idaho county sheriffs' offices. For this new extension of authority to be effective, ISP, ITD, and Idaho county sheriff offices will need to align expectations and priorities. The priority should be keeping access open to roads and highways whenever possible. While nothing in this legislation delegates a county sheriff's authority to direct state resources, successful implementation requires seamless coordination and cooperation with all state and county entities involved.

We appreciate the partnership of state and local units of government working together to maintain our roads and highways. I urge ITD and ISP to work closely with the counties to outline standards and align processes for road and highway access and maintenance.

Sincerely,

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

Brad Little
Governor of Idaho