March 21, 2019

The Honorable Janice McGeachin
President of the Senate
Idaho Legislature
Boise, ID 83720

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Dear Madam President,

I hereby advise you that I have transmitted to the Office of the Secretary of State, with my approval, the following Senate Bill, to wit:

S 1162

within the time prescribed by law, the same having arrived in the Office of the Governor at the hour of 2:05 p.m. on March 20, 2019.

We have tremendous difficulty filling positions at the Idaho Department of Correction (IDOC) during boom economic times and rapid turnover among probation officers. It will be hard to fill the 17 positions—10 probation officers and seven support staff—authorized in this bill because these positions will have to be advertised as ending in one year. It will be especially difficult to fill the 10 probation officer vacancies because those positions require some POST training. The new, one-time probation officers will finish their training with little more than a half of a year left of the one-time appropriation. Ironically, because of the frequent turnover in these positions, IDOC will probably be able manage this year with this one-time appropriation. But structuring the appropriation in this manner is not helpful to the personnel issues IDOC is facing.

My hope is that next year the legislature will make these 17 positions permanent as we work together to solve personnel issues at IDOC.

Sincerely,

Brad Little
Governor of Idaho

Cc: Secretary of State