

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 124

BY JUDICIARY AND RULES COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND RECOGNIZING THE IDAHO DIGITAL LEARNING ACADEMY FOR ITS ACHIEVEMENTS IN PROVIDING QUALITY ONLINE EDUCATION FOR IDAHO STUDENTS.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, the Idaho Digital Learning Academy (IDLA) is nationally recognized for its best practices in online learning and is a leader among state online programs; and

WHEREAS, the IDLA has demonstrated its ability to facilitate excellent student achievement, course quality, teacher development and has increased school district capacity; and

WHEREAS, the IDLA has developed and maintained a network of educational resources for all Idaho educators, and Idaho teachers and administrators have access to these resources, which cover a broad range of topics, including classroom instructional techniques, how to implement a blended learning environment and more; and

WHEREAS, the IDLA has presented hundreds of workshops and training seminars to local and national organizations on topics ranging from blended learning to online pedagogy to online teacher evaluations; and

WHEREAS, since 2002, the IDLA has increased the capacity and knowledge of technology staff in best practices for online implementation in 115 school districts plus another 40 charter schools; and

WHEREAS, the IDLA works with districts to ensure that technology used in online courses meets the specific requirements of Idaho school districts, and that the Academy partners with the Idaho Education Technology Association to ensure that Idaho technology directors are the first to know of technology changes; and

WHEREAS, from 2009-2010 to 2010-2011, Dual Credit courses grew by 46% and Advanced Placement courses grew by 44%; and

WHEREAS, the IDLA supports the matriculation of technical preparatory programs statewide by offering foundational courses as part of the overall course of study and, by providing these classes online, it allows districts to focus on advanced curriculum and accept a wider population into their programs; and

WHEREAS, the IDLA continuously reviews and upgrades digital content to align with Idaho standards and iNACOL online standards, and promotes student engagement through innovative multimedia; and

WHEREAS, IDLA teachers, through ongoing professional development and training, gain valuable knowledge and technical skills in online pedagogy, online course delivery, and quality content development, and IDLA teachers are often recognized as leaders in advancing education in their local schools; and

1 WHEREAS, the IDLA has employed more than 500 Idaho residents since its
2 creation and IDLA purchases products and services from local vendors and
3 suppliers, thereby keeping IDLA money in Idaho.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular
5 Session of the Sixty-first Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of
6 Representatives concurring therein, that we recognize the efforts of the
7 Idaho Digital Learning Academy in establishing and providing many of the
8 best practices in online learning and in helping Idaho students excel in
9 their educational endeavors.