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## Idaho State Legislature 2009 Legislative Session

### 2009 Session Overview

The 2009 Legislative Session lasted for 117 days, convening on January 12 and adjourning *sine die* (without setting a date to reconvene) on May 8, 2009. This year:

- 933 pieces of legislation were drafted;
- 624 bills (and 63 other pieces of legislation) were introduced; and
- 374 bills passed both houses.

Governor Otter vetoed 36 bills, and 338 bills were or will be enacted into law (as stated in the [2009 Sine Die Report](#), published by the [Legislative Services Office](#)).

### S1112 - Day Care Licensing

S1112 was perhaps the most significant bill enacted this session benefiting Idaho's children. It was actively promoted by [Idaho AEYC](#). In April it was unclear whether the bill would pass the House. At this critical time, we sent an [opinion piece](#) to news outlets across the state explaining the importance of day care licensing and encouraged IVC members to contact their legislators in support of S1112. Following passage of the bill in May, we sent a letter commending legislators and the governor for taking this important step in protecting Idaho's children. Excerpts from the [second letter](#) are below.

*...S1112 provides for the safety of Idaho's children in day care facilities. Rep. George Saylor, D-Coeur d'Alene deserves special acknowledgement for his perseverance in attempting to pass day care licensing in each of the last five years. Sen. Tim Corder, R-Mtn. Home was the co-sponsor of this bill.*

*With three out of five of Idaho's children in childcare settings (more than 70,000 kids under age six) this bill goes a long way in protecting these, our most vulnerable citizens. The bill requires criminal background checks for owners, operators, and employees of day care facilities that care for between four and 12 children. (Criminal background checks were previously required for larger day care facilities.) For day care facilities that care for seven or more children, this bill would also begin requiring fire/smoke alarms and a functional telephone on the premises; ensure that bodies of water be fenced and locked; and prohibit smoking and alcohol consumption during working hours.*

*...Governor Otter signed this legislation into law. It goes a long way toward updating much needed daycare licensing. We applaud the Governor's actions in helping parents make informed decisions about the safety of their children in childcare settings.*

IVC will continue to coordinate closely with Idaho AEYC and the legislature to assure that parents are provided with safe day care options for their children in Idaho.

### Early Childhood Development and Education

IVC has been actively working for two years to encourage members of the Idaho House and Senate to create a select committee to develop a public policy strategy for early learning in Idaho.

The potential benefits of early learning are enormous, but the challenges are also great. Idaho's current childhood education and development efforts begin for the most part at age five. However,

80% of all of life's brain development occurs before the age of three and 90% occurs by the age of five. Determining an effective state role that takes advantage of what science teaches us and also effectively complements parental efforts is a political challenge. In 2007, IVC introduced the committee concept and was successful in persuading leadership to conduct a baseline inventory of current early education services in Idaho. [This study](#) was completed in the fall of 2008 and was presented by [Legislative Services](#) at a Joint Education Committee meeting early in the 2009 session.

During the past legislative session, both House Education Chairman Nonini and Senate Education Chairman Goedde graciously invited IVC to present the concept of a select committee at separate House and Senate Education Committee meetings. Many legislators were genuinely interested and intrigued by the potential benefits for Idaho's children.

IVC will be visiting with various legislators in the next several months to discuss options for furthering this important objective.

## State Children's Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP)

IVC is committed to the goal of providing quality health care to all of Idaho's children. Our efforts this year have focused on increasing enrollment for children under the S-CHIP program which provides health insurance for children in families who meet the state poverty guidelines. In Idaho, it's estimated that about 47,000 children lack medical insurance. Over half of them, about 26,000, are eligible for the program but are not enrolled. Enrolling these children will provide access to preventive care, which is better for the child and is a more cost-effective delivery of health care services.

This legislative session we worked with key legislators to see what could be done to enhance efforts to enroll children. Several excellent ideas emerged, including simplifying the cumbersome and lengthy application form, and incorporating sign-up into the state's Free & Reduced Lunch Program application. These ideas were well received and we are continuing discussions with legislators over the summer to address the S-CHIP under-enrollment issue.

On a very positive note, IVC received a \$10,850 grant from the [Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation](#) in support of an executive director to work on increasing S-CHIP enrollment of children from Ada and Canyon Counties. IVC is extremely grateful to the IWCF for their financial support of this critical effort.

## Kinship Care

In too many families, children suffer greatly as a result of problems their parents have such as drug addiction or incarceration. Grandparents or other relatives frequently step in to take over parental duties in these situations. However, some of Idaho's statutes create obstacles to good outcomes in these circumstances.

Elizabeth Brandt, a law professor at the University of Idaho, and Bob Aldridge, a local attorney, both of whom have extensive experience in this area of the law, have worked closely with IVC and devoted countless volunteer hours to develop proposed amendments to improve Idaho's "Kin Care" statutes. While the legislature has shown a strong interest in legislation to address these issues, Elizabeth and Bob felt that the best approach would be to circulate drafts of their legislation to Idaho court committees and Idaho State Bar committees to ensure we have a bill with widespread support of the legal community. We anticipate this will happen and that we will have good success on this issue in the next legislative session.

## Moving Forward

We intend to build on these legislative efforts over the next several months by visiting a number of legislators in their home districts. We'll discuss IVC's legislative priorities in an environment away from the competing demands of the Idaho Statehouse. This will provide an opportunity for us to build on relationships we've developed over the last few years. It will also provide us the opportunity to understand local and regional perspectives so that we can work with legislators to develop solutions that work for all of Idaho.

# Legislation tracked by IVC that affected Idaho's children

Throughout the 2009 legislative session IVC tracked 38 pieces of legislation\* that affected children or child/family issues. We have provided details and links to those bills or resolutions below.

Of the 38 pieces of legislation tracked by IVC, 17 pieces were adopted or passed (44.7%)

## Legislation by topic area:

<b>Early Learning</b>	2 bills introduced; neither passed (0%)
<b>K-12 Education</b>	16 bills were introduced; 9 bills were passed (56.3%) 2 resolutions were introduced; neither passed (0%)
<b>Safety</b>	3 bills were introduced; 1 bill was passed (33.3%)
<b>Family Economic Security</b>	3 bills were introduced; 1 bill was passed (33.3%) 1 resolution introduced; the resolution was adopted (100%)
<b>Child Welfare</b>	9 bills were introduced; 4 bills were passed (44.4%)
<b>Health</b>	2 bills were introduced; 1 bill was passed (50.0%)

\*NOTE – there were many bills introduced relating to children during the legislative session. The statistics above reflect the specific bills that IVC tracked under the issue areas of Early Learning, K-12 Education, Safety, Family Economic Security, Child Welfare, and Health. For a complete list of bills by topic, please visit <http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/legislation/2009/topicind.htm> on the Idaho Legislature website.

## Legislative Tracking 2009

H = House bill

S = Senate bill

aa = as amended in the house of origin

aaH = as amended in the House

aaS = as amended in the Senate

Voting records = Ayes - Nays - Absent & Excused

\* = Multiple sponsors. For names of sponsors, click on the legislative link in the table. Main sponsor is listed at the end of the "Statement of Purpose/Fiscal Note" document. Additional sponsors are listed on the "Legislative Co-Sponsors" document.

### Early Learning

<a href="#">H0245</a> Multiple sponsors*	<b>Parents As Teachers Family Support Act</b> - The purpose of this legislation is to provide statutory authority for the Idaho Children's Trust Fund to administer or contract out the administration of the Parents as Teachers Program. The legislation also gives the Idaho Children's Trust Fund the authority to pursue grants and other sources of funding to support this program.	House PASSED 59-10-1 Senate PASSED 28-6-1 <b>Vetoed by Governor</b>
<a href="#">S1023</a> Sponsor: Sen. Bock	<b>Prekindergarten</b> - The purpose of this bill is to reduce the age at which children may be enrolled in public schools and, thereby, effectively authorize, but not require, public school districts to establish prekindergarten programs.	Senate Education Committee No hearing held

### K-12 Education

<a href="#">H0025</a> Sponsor: Rep. Thayn	<b>Kindergarten mastery, requirements</b> - This bill encourages parents of kindergarten age children to meet with their kindergarten teacher prior to the beginning of the school year to discuss what the child needs to learn in kindergarten. The parents can then choose to send their child to public kindergarten or to choose another option including home kindergarten.	Held in House Ways & Means Committee No hearing held
<a href="#">H0058</a> Sponsor: Rep. Jarvis	<b>School attendance, parent/guardian role</b> - This legislation amends Idaho Code to change the legal dropout age from age sixteen to age eighteen.	Held in the House Education Committee on a 9-8 vote.
<a href="#">H0084</a> Sponsor: Rep. Jarvis	<b>School attendance, first grade enrollment</b> - Amends existing law relating to school age to revise provisions relating to school age for purposes of enrollment in first grade.	House PASSED 57-7-6 Held in the Senate Education Committee on a 5-3 vote

<b>K-12 Education (continued)</b>		
<a href="#">H0117</a> Multiple sponsors*	<b>Education, provisions revised</b> - reduce the cost of the FY10 Public Schools appropriation and grant school districts the tools and flexibility they will need to manage a likely reduction in state funding for employee salaries.	Held in the House Education Committee
<a href="#">H0118</a> Multiple sponsors*	<b>Public Schools, transportation costs</b> - eliminates reimbursement for miles that are unrelated to transporting students to and from school, including the elimination of state funding for field trips.	Held in the House Education Committee
<a href="#">H0158</a> Sponsors: Rep. Boe, Rep. Wills	<b>Interstate compact on education opportunity</b> - This legislation will allow the entry of Idaho into an interstate compact to help military children. The Interstate Compact Commission will remove barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families because of frequent moves and deployment of their parents.	House Education Committee No hearing held
<a href="#">H0212</a> Sponsors: Rep. Jaquet, Rep. Pence	<b>Public charter school</b> - The purpose of this legislation is to require written notice of a public hearing for a petition to establish nonvirtual public charter schools and a petition to make revisions to a nonvirtual public charter school provided that the amendment includes a proposal to increase the enrollment cap by ten percent (10%) or more.	House PASSED 59-3-8 Senate PASSED 35-0-0 Governor signed <b>Law effective 7/1/09</b>
<a href="#">H0250</a> Sponsor: Office of Budget & Policy Analysis	<b>Appropriations - Omnibus</b> - The Idaho Budget Reduction Act of 2009 takes five actions to balance the current year budget... the bill transfers \$85,097,600 from the American Reinvestment Fund to the Public School Income Fund to hold Public Schools harmless from revenue shortfalls in fiscal year 2009.	House PASSED 64-3-3 Senate PASSED 33-2-0 Governor signed <b>Law effective 4/14/09</b>
<a href="#">H0252</a> Multiple sponsors*	<b>School Districts - Financial Emergencies</b> - Amends and adds to existing law relating to school district financial emergencies to provide for notice requirements in the event a financial emergency has been declared; to provide an exception to the issuance of certain contracts; to clarify language; to provide for an informal review under certain circumstances; to provide for a due process hearing and procedure under certain circumstances; to provide that a due process hearing is not required under certain circumstances; to provide for financial emergencies; and to provide a time requirement for preparation of a budget if a financial emergency has been declared.	House PASSED 69-0-1 Senate PASSED 26-8-1 Governor signed <b>Law effective 4/15/09</b>
<a href="#">H0256aaS</a> Multiple sponsors*	<b>Public Schools</b> - This legislation eliminates reimbursement for miles that are unrelated to transporting students to and from school, including the elimination of state funding for field trips. Secondly, it requires that high population density school districts be measured based on cost per student rider, for the purposes of the pupil transportation cost cap. Thirdly, it reduces the state reimbursement match from 85% to 50% for all but SDE assessments and fees, and bus purchases and maintenance, and converts the dollars saved into a pupil transportation block grant. And lastly, it defines the area in which public charter schools may receive reimbursement for the cost of transporting students.	House PASSED 50-20-0 Senate PASSED (aaS) 25-8-2 House concurred in Senate amendments, House PASSED (aaS) 61-5-4 Governor signed <b>Section 2 Law effective 5/5/09; Law effective 7/1/09 all other sections</b>
<a href="#">H0262aaS</a> Multiple sponsors*	<b>Education</b> - The purpose of this legislation is to reduce the cost of the FY10 Public Schools appropriation to minimize the amount that will have to be cut from teacher and other K12 staff salaries. Provisions related to reducing costs include the institution of a one-year freeze in movement on the state salary reimbursement grid for years of experience. This bill also phases out of the Early Retirement Program for teachers. The legislation also encourages districts to accommodate reductions in state funding for salaries by either reducing the level of pay, or reducing the number of paid contract days, and requires that any reduction in contract days not result in a reduction of student-teacher contact time.	House PASSED 49-20-1 Senate PASSED (aaS) 26-8-1 House concurred in Senate amendments, House PASSED (aaS) 46-20-4 Governor signed <b>Law effective 7/1/09</b>
<a href="#">H0303aaS,aaS</a> Sponsor: Tom Luna, Superintendent of Public Instruction	<b>Education - Virtual School</b> - Amends and adds to existing law relating to education to revise provisions relating to instructional staff allowance; to provide that school districts may offer virtual school instruction and a blend of virtual and traditional instruction and to provide for the counting and reporting of average daily attendance.	House PASSED 51-19-0 Senate PASSED (aaS,aaS) 26-7-2 House concurred in Senate amendments, House PASSED 57-2-11 Governor signed <b>Sections 1 &amp; 2, law effective 7/1/09 Sections 4 &amp; 5 effective 7/1/11</b>

## K-12 Education (continued)

<p><a href="#">HCR007</a> Sponsor: Rep. Thayn</p>	<p><b>Public ed, innovative practices</b> - A resolution to identify broad policies that may improve the K through 12 Public Education system in times of budget shortfalls including: grade acceleration, early graduation, parental empowerment and flexibility.</p>	<p>Returned to House Education Committee at the request of Chairman Nonini (see note on HCR 27)</p>
<p><a href="#">HCR027</a> Sponsor: Rep. Thayn</p>	<p><b>Public education, support</b> - A resolution to identify broad policies that may improve the K through 12 Public Education system even in times of budget shortfalls including: grade acceleration, early graduation, parental empowerment and flexibility.</p>	<p>Note: Replaces HCR 7 House ADOPTED by voice vote Held in Senate Education Committee on a voice vote</p>
<p><a href="#">S1017aa,aa</a> Sponsor: Kirtlan Naylor</p>	<p><b>School attendance, requirements</b> - This proposed amendment to Idaho Code clarifies under what circumstances a child may be found to suffer educational neglect by tying this term to the compulsory education requirements of Idaho Code.</p>	<p>Senate PASSED (aa,aa) 34-0-1 House PASSED 67-0-3 Governor signed <b>Law effective 7/1/09</b></p>
<p><a href="#">S1074aa,aa</a> Sponsor: Mike Rush, Office of the State Board of Education</p>	<p><b>Education services, deaf &amp; blind</b> - The purpose of this bill is to provide for improved educational opportunities for deaf and blind students across the state.</p>	<p>Senate PASSED (aa,aa) 33-0-2 House PASSED 67-0-3 Governor signed <b>Law effective 7/1/09</b></p>
<p><a href="#">S1077</a> Sponsor: Sen. Davis</p>	<p><b>Interstate compact on education opportunity</b> - The purpose of this legislation is to adopt the interstate compact on educational opportunity for military children.</p>	<p>Senate Education Committee No hearing held</p>
<p><a href="#">S1165</a> Sponsor: Sen. Goedde</p>	<p><b>Interstate compact on education opportunity</b> - The State Department of Education has found that various organizations as well as the United States Department of Education desire a state-approved definition to substantiate the claim that a district is rural. The intent of this legislation is to provide for the definition of a "rural school district." Idaho's lack of such a definition hinders the ability of these districts to qualify for certain private grants, as well as federal funds.</p>	<p>Senate PASSED 35-0-0 House PASSED 53-13-4 Governor signed <b>Law effective 7/1/09</b></p>

## Safety

<p><a href="#">H0225aa</a> Sponsor: Rep. Thayn</p>	<p><b>Day care, access to information</b> - The purpose of this legislation is to empower day care consumers with tools useful in identifying quality day care.</p>	<p>House PASSED 61-1-8 Senate Health &amp; Welfare Committee No hearing held</p>
<p><a href="#">S1089</a> Multiple sponsors*</p>	<p><b>Motor vehicle passenger safety, children</b> - The purpose of this legislation is to remove two exemptions in Idaho's Child Safety Seat Statute. The first exemption does not require restraints for children if all restraints are utilized. This language assures protection for adults but leaves children unprotected. The second exemption allows a child to be removed from his or her safety restraint for virtually any reason so long as it is to accommodate the child's "psychological needs." This term is undefined and extremely broad. This loophole makes enforcement nearly impossible for law enforcement, prosecution and judges.</p>	<p>Senate PASSED 19-15-1 House Transportation &amp; Defense Committee No hearing held</p>
<p><a href="#">S1112aa,aaH</a> Sponsors: Sen. Corder, Rep. Saylor</p>	<p><b>Basic Day Care License</b> - This legislation amends Idaho Code to revise and extend the State's licensing requirements for child care providers. The current code provides minimum health and safety standards for day care centers with thirteen or more children, but does not provide licensure for providers with fewer than thirteen. This legislation would extend licensing to all providers who receive compensation and care for four or more children, with specific exceptions maintained. Basic requirements include: criminal history background checks, health, safety and fire inspections and restrictions on firearms, alcohol and tobacco use. Minimum standards for infant CPR and first aid training are specified. This act establishes staff-child ratio recommendations consistent with nationally accepted standards and provides for fees to be established based upon the number of children. The Health and Welfare Department will serve as the portal or administrator for the program. The Department will contract for the inspection services, receive and compile complaints and provide for a one-stop application process.</p> <p>NOTE: see legislation for amendments to the bill</p> <p><b>Idaho Voices for Children supports this legislation.</b></p>	<p>Senate PASSED (aa) 30-5-0</p> <p>House Health &amp; Welfare Committee unanimously supported the bill with various amendments</p> <p>House PASSED (aa,aaH) 61-5-4</p> <p>Senate concurred in House amendments, Senate PASSED (aa,aaH) 31-0-4</p> <p>Governor signed <b>Law effective 1/1/10</b></p>

<b>Family Economic Security</b>		
<a href="#">HCR023</a> Multiple sponsors*	<b>Equal Pay Day</b> - This resolution is to acknowledge that pay disparity in Idaho is genuine and to reaffirm that women deserve equal pay for equal work, and to demonstrate that Idaho families will benefit greatly by closing the pay gap. The resolution also calls for April 28, 2009, to be proclaimed as Equal Pay Day.	ADOPTED
<a href="#">H0081</a> Multiple sponsors*	<b>PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND WELFARE</b> - Amends existing law relating to public assistance and welfare to provide for medicaid reduction.	Held in House Health & Welfare Committee
<a href="#">H0123</a> Multiple sponsors*	<b>PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND WELFARE</b> - Amends existing law relating to public assistance and welfare to provide for Medicaid reduction. <b>Note:</b> this bill replaced H0081.	House PASSED 69-1-0 Senate PASSED 34-1-0 Governor signed <b>Session Law Chapter 34</b> <b>Effective: 4/1/09 Section 4;</b> <b>All other sections effective 7/1/09</b>
<a href="#">S1119</a> Neil Colwell, Avista	<b>Public Utility regulation</b> - Amends existing law to provide for low-income bill payment assistance and other programs to public utility customers under certain conditions.	Senate FAILED 17-18-0
<b>Child Welfare</b>		
<a href="#">H0060</a> Sponsor: Bill Von Tagen, Attorney General's Office	<b>Sex crimes with minors, subpoena computer records</b> - This proposed legislation will grant to prosecuting attorneys and the attorney general a limited power to issue administrative subpoenas to Internet service providers in the investigative phase of crimes committed against children through the use of the Internet or other electronic communication services.	House PASSED 63-0-7 Senate PASSED 33-0-2 Governor allowed bill to become law without signature <b>Law effective 7/1/09</b>
<a href="#">H0104</a> Sponsor: Patricia Tobais, The Courts	<b>Domestic Violence, family services</b> - Amends and adds to existing law relating to coordinated family services to provide that a Domestic Violence Court Coordinator is an effective response to address the needs of families and children; to provide that a Domestic Violence Court Coordinator shall submit to a fingerprint-based criminal history check; to provide a statement of policy relating to domestic violence courts; to provide for domestic violence courts; and to provide for domestic violence court fees and the distribution of domestic violence court fees.	House PASSED 67-0-3 Senate PASSED 32-0-3 Governor signed <b>Law effective 7/1/09</b>
<a href="#">H0145aa</a> Sponsor: Jim Baugh	<b>Sterilization, definition revised</b> - Recent cases have come to our attention involving involuntary sterilization of children with disabilities, making the change in wording from "person" to "adult" significant. The purpose of this bill is to restore the language to its original intent, and to provide statutory protections for people under the age of 18 who are subjected to involuntary sterilization, based on constitutional and common law principles.	House PASSED (aa) 68-0-2 Senate PASSED 35-0-0 Governor signed <b>Law effective 7/1/09</b>
<a href="#">H0167</a> Sponsor: Rep. Jarvis	<b>Custody, children, additional factors</b> - This legislation amends Idaho Code to provide additional relevant factors concerning a child's performance in school (including attendance and assignment completion) in determining the best interest of the child regarding his or her custody, care and education.	Held in the House Judiciary, Rules & Administration Committee by unanimous consent
<a href="#">H0168</a> Sponsor: Rep. Clark	<b>Sexual offender registration act, reporting requirements</b> - Currently, persons who are required to register as sexual offenders must list their address or a description of where they are living. However, many of those who have a transient status do not have a physical address, nor do they have a mailing address. This will allow law enforcement to track the location of these individuals until they are able to establish a residence with a physical address.	House PASSED 64-0-6 Senate PASSED 34-0-1 Governor signed <b>Law effective 7/1/09</b>
<a href="#">H0182</a> Sponsor: Rep. Clark	<b>Crimes Against Children</b> - This legislation relates to crimes against children. It amends Idaho Code to provide for additional acts that constitute injury to children that are subject to specific punishments.	House Judiciary, Rules & Administration Committee No hearing held
<a href="#">S1034</a> Sponsor: Sen. Schroeder	<b>Sex offenders, minimum sentencing</b> - The purpose of this legislation is to provide mandatory minimum penalties for persons who commit any lewd or lascivious act or acts upon or with the body or any part or member thereof of a minor child less than 12 years of age.	Senate Judiciary & Rules Committee No hearing held

<b>Child Welfare (continued)</b>		
<p><b>S1048</b> Sponsor: Robert Aldridge</p>	<p><b>Disabled persons, certain guardians prohibited</b> - This bill makes necessary corrections to the Idaho probate code regarding guardianships and conservatorships, especially for minors. Sections One, Two, and Three of the bill provide protections to the appointment of the guardian of a minor, including that the petition must include a statement as to whether the proposed guardian, or a person who resides at or frequents the proposed place of residence of the minor, is a felon, and, in Section Three, that the guardian must take reasonable steps to protect the minor from such felons. There have been an increasing number of cases involving minors where felons are involved, which can cause danger to the minor, including sexual or other abuse.</p>	<p>Senate PASSED 33-0-2; House Judiciary, Rules &amp; Administration Committee</p> <p>Subcommittee hearing held 2/25/09 - returned to full committee without recommendation</p> <p>No hearing held by full committee</p>
<p><b>S1105</b> Sponsor: Robert Aldridge</p>	<p><b>Visitation rights, Grandparents</b> - This bill takes a conservative approach to guarantee constitutionality of grandparent visitation in Idaho until there is a clear judicial statement that some lesser standard might be allowable.</p>	<p>Senate Judiciary &amp; Rules Committee</p> <p>Withdrawn at the request of Sen. Darrington.</p>
<b>Health</b>		
<p><b>H0108</b> Sponsor: Rep. Rusche</p>	<p><b>Insurance contracts, coverage</b> - The purpose of this revision is to allow individuals who are unmarried, are under the age of 25 years, and are financially dependent to remain under their parents' health insurance coverage. This revision will allow health insurance coverage for those who are part-time students or laid off from work and cannot afford health insurance on their own.</p>	<p>House PASSED 66-2-2 Senate PASSED 35-0-0 Governor signed <b>Law effective 7/1/09</b></p>
<p><b>S1107</b> Sponsors: Sen. Bair, Rep. Rusche</p>	<p><b>Insurance contracts, coverage</b> - Certain children suffer from severe, life-threatening food allergies. For children with this very rare condition, elemental (aminoacid based) formulas allow these children to absorb nutrition, heal and grow without requiring prolonged intravenous feeding. These severe food allergies usually are not present at birth and, when treated correctly, usually resolve over time. Some health plans refuse to cover the lifesaving nutritional formula which may cost more than many families can afford (up to \$2400/month). This bill requires that health plans not exclude coverage for these children, and cover the cost of this lifesaving treatment as they do for other conditions (congenital and metabolic conditions). Proof that the formula was medically necessary would still be required.</p>	<p>Held in the Senate Commerce &amp; Human Resources Committee on an 8-1 vote</p>

## IVC Legislative Updates will return for the 2010 Legislative Session.



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- Become a child advocate today! Donate to IVC and receive regular legislative updates.
- Support our work and lend your voice in support of Idaho's 374,000 children (Idaho Kids Count 2007)

Donate by visiting our website, [www.idahovoices.org/support/join.htm](http://www.idahovoices.org/support/join.htm)

This legislative report has been sent to all *Idaho Voices for Children* members. If you have questions or wish to remove your name from this mailing list, email Sara Herring at [sara@idahovoices.org](mailto:sara@idahovoices.org) or call 208. 336. 5533 x 233

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