



Governor's Copy

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C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

GOVERNOR

April 10, 2012

The Honorable Brad Little
President of the Senate
State Capitol
Boise, ID 83702

Dear Mr. President,

I hereby advise you that I have transmitted today to the Secretary of State the following Senate Bill, which was allowed to become law without my signature:

S 1321a

as prescribed by the Constitution.

Idaho Code 36-111 establishes a set-aside feeding account funded by a portion of the fee for antelope, elk, and deer tags. The statute provided for \$1.50 from each tag and put at least half that amount into the separate feeding account to be used for winter feeding and winter range rehabilitation.

Previously, statute allowed for expenditure of winter feeding account funds for all costs associated with winter feeding. Senate Bill 1321a restricts expenditures to only "blocks, pellets and hay." Current winter feeding expenditures that appear to be restricted by S 1321a are: 1) motorized vehicle travel costs used to deliver winter feed; 2) emergency temporary personnel costs associated with winter feeding; 3) travel reimbursement costs for volunteers, and, 4) equipment costs, such as feed troughs, sleds, and winter feed storage facilities.

Necessary costs associated with winter feeding, but not covered by the winter feeding fund, most likely would be shifted to other license-funded budgets, diminishing other programs important to sportsmen. There would no longer be any "problem solving" of winter feeding issues via range rehabilitation.

Hunters, who have long supported the mission of this account to support emergency winter feeding and long-term natural feeding via winter range rehabilitation would find the use of their license funds restricted.

As Always, Idaho, "Esto Perpetua"

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Governor of Idaho

Cc: Speaker Lawrence Denney