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## Gov. Otter forced to correct ed funding claim

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter aides backtracked on a claim that Idaho teachers are due 2 percent pay increases, courtesy of the 2012 Legislature.

Lawmakers did restore teacher salary funding over the next five years that had been on the chopping block, to help pay for last year's education reforms.

But unlike state workers, teachers aren't due 2 percent pay increases.

A reporter on Friday caught the mistake in Otter's statement lauding the 2012 Legislature's accomplishments.

Otter's finance chief, Wayne Hammon, apologized for the overreach, calling it his mistake.

The Republican governor is eager to tout the session's education-related advances — as he plans to spend coming months defending public schools chief Tom Luna's "Students Come First" education reforms.

They're subject to a November ballot initiative seeking to throw them out.