

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 378

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO IDAHO DAY; PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE INTENT; AND AMENDING CHAPTER 1, TITLE 73, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 73-108C, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR AN ANNUAL IDAHO DAY.

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

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. President Abraham Lincoln, having signed the congressional act creating the Idaho Territory on March 4, 1863, it is the intent of the Legislature to recognize March 4 as IDAHO DAY, through which the people of Idaho may yearly celebrate the rich history, cultural diversity, unique beauty and boundless resources of the State of Idaho and thereby gain a renewed sense of courage and confidence for the future. Throughout its one hundred fifty year history, Idaho has been the birthplace and home of remarkable men and women who have distinguished themselves nationally and internationally in the fields of law, literature, music, the arts, athletics, philanthropy, politics and even space exploration. The same combination of adventure, ambition, industry, innovation and enterprise that led to Idaho's founding has created a cradle for entrepreneurs, innovators and visionaries. Their work has had a global reach and helped create the Panama Canal, Hoover Dam, the Chunnel, potato chips and computer memory chips, the supermarket, the engineering of wood products, farm machinery and locomotives, the laser printer and enough patents to rank Idaho among the nation's most prominent intellectual incubators. It is the purpose of this act to provide the mechanism through which state and local agencies of government, historical societies, schools, colleges and universities, Indian tribes, service organizations, clubs, the media and Idaho citizens in general can educate others about Idaho, her culture, her resources, her history and her greatness.

SECTION 2. That Chapter 1, Title 73, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and designated as Section 73-108C, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

73-108C. IDAHO DAY. March 4 shall be designated as Idaho day. If March 4 falls on a Sunday, the following Monday, March 5, shall be Idaho day; and if March 4 falls on a Saturday, the preceding Friday, March 3, shall be Idaho day. The governor of the state of Idaho shall issue a proclamation each year marking Idaho day. The president pro tempore of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives shall conduct appropriate ceremonies and programs on Idaho day to honor Idaho's heritage. The Idaho state historical society shall conduct appropriate activities and be encouraged to create exhibitions to commemorate Idaho day. The people of Idaho shall be encouraged to display the Idaho and United States flags on Idaho day. Idaho day shall not constitute a reason to close state and political subdivision offices.