Dear Chairman Mendive,

On behalf of the Idaho Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA Idaho), I am writing to register my organization’s support regarding House Bill 110, the amendment to Section 67-8204A regarding Impact Fee Intergovernmental Agreements.

Our organization represents more than 250 local planning officials, private-sector planners, and planning commission members statewide. We are the technicians, professionals, policy and decision makers who represent the public interest in carrying out the authorities vested with local government under Idaho’s Local Land Use Planning Act, Title 67, Chapter 65 of the Idaho Statutes and regularly use the Impact Fee provisions found in Idaho Code Title 67, Chapter 82.

APA Idaho strongly supports the ability of local communities to determine if the utilization of a development impact fee is appropriate for them. Local communities should have the ability to adopt impact fees, for services provided by governmental entities, if they so choose. The way Idaho’s Impact Fee enabling legislation is written, it requires governmental agencies without “Comprehensive Planning Powers”, such as fire districts, irrigation districts, highway districts and ambulance districts, to enter into an agreement with the city or county where services are being provided. This agreement allows the city and/or county to collect the impact fees and pass them onto the governmental entity providing the services. This is a common practice and happens all over the state currently for a variety of services.

In our opinion the fact that ambulance districts were not included in the list of districts that are eligible to enter into these agreements, in 67-6204A, was a simple oversight. Idaho State Code requires the Board of County Commissioners to also act as the “Board” for an ambulance district (IC §31-3903). However, these are two separate government entities and should be treated as such.

This simple amendment will allow ambulance districts the opportunity to collect impact fees for capital- things like buildings and ambulances, so that the level of emergency medical service provided to a community is not compromised, due to rapid population growth and/or
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Idaho Chapter

community expansion. We feel this is a very positive change in the impact fee enabling legislation.

We appreciate your service and would greatly appreciate your consideration of our perspective on this matter. As the professionals that will be working with elected officials, community members and other government districts to ensure the state our communities grow in a positive way, we want to make sure there are options for funding necessary services. Please contact me at your earliest convenience should you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Jason Boal- AICP, CFM
APA Idaho Legislative Committee, Chair

Cc: Honorable Representative Mike Kingsley
Honorable Representative Vito Barbieri
Honorable Representative Steve Berch
Honorable Representative Mathew Bundy
Honorable Representative Chad Christensen
Honorable Representative Lance W. Clow
Honorable Representative Muffy Davis
Honorable Representative Marco Erickson
Honorable Representative Codi Galloway
Honorable Representative Booke Greene
Honorable Representative Ron Nate
Honorable Representative Bruce D. Skaug
Honorable Representative Jon O. Webber
APA Idaho Executive Board
Association of Idaho Cities
Idaho Association of Counties