

## LICENSED COUNSELORS

**WHEREAS**, more than ever, Idaho students need social and emotional support from trained and licensed mental health professionals; and

**WHEREAS**, Idaho Code §33-1212 states that “counseling offered at Idaho public schools should be flexible and responsive”; and

**WHEREAS**, Idaho Code §33-1212 includes licensed social workers within the definition of a school counselor, but omits licensed professional counselors and licensed clinical professional counselors.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Idaho School Boards Association work with the Idaho legislature to amend Idaho Code §33-1212 to also allow licensed professional counselors or licensed clinical professional counselors as provided by chapter 32, title 54, Idaho Code, to be included within the scope of the legal definition of school counselors, provided they meet the requirements of the State Board of Education.

### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This resolution directs the Idaho School Boards Association (ISBA) to work with the legislature to amend existing statute to allow school districts more flexibility in addressing the mental, social, and emotional needs of students by allowing districts to hire LPCs (Licensed Professional Counselors) and LCPCs (Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors) as school counselors. This amendment will align the requirements for these professionals more closely with the requirements for licensed social workers, whom school districts are currently permitted to hire as school counselors.

**Submitted by Bonneville Joint School District No. 93**

**ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD RECOMMENDATION: DO PASS**

Margy Hall of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board’s recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

**PASSED**

<b>AYES</b>	<b>7885</b>
<b>NAYES</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7906</b>