



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

**Rep. Mike Simpson**

**FY2010 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations**  
**Member Project Requests**

In accordance with the policies put forth by the House Appropriations Committee, I would like to share with you some information regarding the projects that I have submitted for consideration in the FY2010 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations.

**Project Name:** Bear Lake Memorial Hospital Addition and Remodel

**Amount Requested:** \$300,000

**Account:** Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services account

**Recipient:** Bear Lake Memorial Hospital

**Recipient's Address:** 164 South 5th Street, Montpelier, Idaho 83254

**Description:** The Bear Lake Memorial Hospital is a key service provider to all individuals and plays a vital role in the community as well as provides services to the popular Bear Lake recreation area. The current Emergency Department lacks sufficient space for a waiting room for emergency room patrons. It also fails to meet HIPPA compliance because of a lack of privacy for patients due to a high-use public hallway dissecting the two emergency room locations. In addition, the current diagnostic imaging facilities are scattered throughout the hospital, which makes it more difficult to provide timely and efficient care. By consolidating the services into one wing, the hospital will be able to provide improved patient care and increase overall staff efficiency. Funding provided would be used for the design and construction of a new addition as well as a renovation of the existing facilities in the Emergency Department and Diagnostic Imaging Department.

**Project Name:** College of Southern Idaho's Pro-Tech Training Program

**Amount Requested:** \$200,000

**Account:** Department of Education Higher Education

**Recipient:** College of Southern Idaho

**Recipient's Address:** 315 Falls Avenue, Twin Falls, ID 83303-1238

**Description:** This program will enable the College to partner with other agencies to identify training needs and to identify potential candidates for employment. Data provided by Region IV of the State of Idaho Economic Development Agency indicate that manufacturing will be a leading employment area in the Magic Valley and the state of Idaho with over 250 new jobs expected over the next two years. Current trends in manufacturing development necessitate the need for in-depth training in the technological aspects of the design, fabrication, and manufacturing phases of production. CSI is participating in a joint educational venture with Twin Falls High School and local industry that creates a pre-engineering academy at the high school and a Computerized Numeric Controls (CNC)/Industrial Networking Program at the college campus. The Pro-Tech program involves students from grade levels 10-14, and allows the students to move from high school into a two-year program at CSI or into an engineering program at one of Idaho's four-year institutions. At the secondary school level, students learn the basics of computer-assisted design, design physics, and fabrication, with each course offering aligned to the program at CSI through

either tech prep or dual credit affiliation. At the post-secondary level students will receive industry-standard training in CNC, automated logic, and industrial networking. This program will train students to meet the educational requirements needed to enable them to enter the high demand fields of the hi-tech manufacturing and engineering sectors.

**Project Name:** Custer County Purchase of Medical Equipment

**Amount Requested:** \$400,000

**Account:** Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services account

**Recipient:** Custer County

**Recipient's Address:** 801 East Main Avenue, Challis, ID 83226

**Description:** At almost 5,000 square miles, Custer County is larger than three states yet has just over 4,000 people. Unfortunately, it is burdened with a high proportion of public lands with over 95% of the county's 3.4 million acres administered by federal agencies. The county's tax base, or more specifically the lack thereof, is inadequate to support the services required for such an expansive county. This grossly disproportionate public ownership causes a severe strain on their resources, including their ability to provide access to health services. The influx of tourism and visitors due to the nearby US Forest Service, BLM, recreation and wilderness areas leads to an increased rate of trauma and accidents, placing a large burden on the county. The EMT services and health clinics in the County are in need of renovation and modernization of equipment. This funding would be used to purchase the much needed equipment and technology for the clinics in Custer County and EMT services.

**Project Name:** Idaho Caring Foundation for Children for dental services for low-income children

**Amount Requested:** \$300,000

**Account:** Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services account

**Recipient:** Idaho Caring Foundation for Children

**Recipient's Address:** 1211 W. Myrtle, Suite 110, Boise, ID 83702

**Description:** According to the 2000 U.S. Surgeon General's Report, Oral Health in America, tooth decay is the single most common chronic childhood disease. As a dentist, I understand the importance of proper dental hygiene at a very young age. Poor oral health can affect a child's self-esteem, ability to eat, appearance and ability to communicate. School attendance can also be negatively impacted. Over 35% of Idaho children lack dental insurance, which serves as a major deterrent in accessing and receiving needed dental care. According to Idaho Department of Health and Welfare 2005 Smile Survey, 27% of Idaho children in grades K - 6 had untreated decay. Low-income, uninsured children suffer the greatest incidence of dental decay because their families lack the financial resources to receive regular dental care. The Idaho Caring Foundation will provide access to needed dental services for 600 low-income, uninsured Idaho children. These services will be provided by our network of 140 Idaho dentists from across the state. Eligible children will be identified by working in partnership with Idaho schools, Head Start programs, and other children's programs, such as the YMCA, Boys & Girls Clubs etc.

**Project Name:** Idaho Early Literacy Project administered by the Lee Pesky Learning Center in Boise

**Amount Requested:** \$350,000

**Account:** Department of Education Elementary and Secondary Education account

**Recipient:** Lee Pesky Learning Center

**Recipient's Address:** 3324 Elder Street, Boise, ID 83705.

**Description:** The aim of the Idaho Early Literacy Project is to assure that all children in Idaho are ready to read when they enter school. Stage III includes utilization of the research-based booklets, Every Child Ready to Read and Every Child Ready for Math, an integrated approach to reading and mathematical literacy, the training of child care providers statewide, both live and on-line, and a direct intervention with parents and children. The training of child care providers includes a face-to-face approach in larger population centers and an on-line approach for remote rural locations. Stage III builds on early literacy training models implemented in 2008-2010 by unifying reading and mathematical literacy and by strengthening the intervention with parents and children. As such, the project assures that pre-school

children will receive direct literacy education from child care providers and in special workshops with their parents, creating the “language rich” upbringing necessary to success in school.

**Project Name:** Idaho SySTEMic Solution program at Boise State University

**Amount Requested:** \$400,000

**Account:** Department of Education Elementary and Secondary Education account

**Recipient:** Boise State University

**Recipient's Address:** 1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725-1135

**Description:** Idaho SySTEMic Solution is a nationally relevant, hands-on, project-based STEM learning system (science, technology, engineering, & math) designed to spur achievement and confidence among elementary-age learners and their teachers. Proven methods show that long-term student achievement and interest in STEM can be dramatically improved by introducing systemic, contiguous, and engaging hands-on activities at an elementary level before children develop misconceptions, gender bias, math anxiety, or become distracted by cultural influences prevalent at puberty. In 2010 the project will extend into middle school grades where the need for hands-on activities is even greater. Key project components include a comprehensive, continuing teacher training model that includes a one-week summer institute and ongoing site-based follow-up training to boost the ability and confidence of elementary and middle school teachers; implementation into demographically diverse schools of curriculum-aligned learning lab systems that have been shown to improve student scores in math, science, and technology; and research and evaluation of results in accordance with Idaho and national assessment standards.

**Project Name:** Madison County Memorial Hospital

**Amount Requested:** \$350,000

**Account:** Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services account

**Recipient:** Madison County Memorial Hospital

**Recipient's Address:** 450 East Main, Rexburg, ID 83440

**Description:** Madison Memorial Hospital will initiate the implementation of the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) System into Physician Clinics that feed into Madison Memorial Hospital. Information from the EMR helps the clinician make informed decisions. As the patient status is entered into this EMR, the information increases staff efficiencies through faster transcription times, nursing notes, lab results, radiology and other electronic sources. This system will make it easier for Physicians and Clinicians to comply with all regulations by enabling them to keep their records up to date. Patient safety will be increased by developing a paperless electronic medical record environment where clinical information can be readily shared via electronic transactions with all entities within the Madison Memorial Hospital network.

**Project Name:** Purchase of Biochemistry and Microbiology Laboratory Equipment

**Amount Requested:** \$400,000

**Account:** Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services

**Recipient:** Idaho State University

**Recipient's Address:** 921 South 8th Avenue, Stop 8007, Pocatello, ID 83209-8007

**Description:** Modern instrumentation is essential to improving both the Biochemistry and Microbiology programs at Idaho State University (ISU). This request will enable the purchase of the required instrumentation needed for courses in biochemistry courses, chemistry laboratories, and microbiology and biology courses. More than 400 students per year would gain access to state of the art instrumentation through this request, improving both the quality of their educational experience and the quality of research in these scientific fields that can be pursued.

**Project Name:** St. Luke's Regional Medical Center's Children Health Services Expansion

**Amount Requested:** \$350,000

**Account:** Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services account

**Recipient:** St. Luke's Regional Medical Center Ltd

**Recipient's Address:** 190 E. Bannock Street, Boise, ID 83712

**Description:** St. Luke's Health System is home to the only Children's Hospital in Idaho, providing unique full-service tertiary pediatric services between Salt Lake City, Utah, and Portland, Oregon, both more than 350 miles from Boise, Idaho. St. Luke's delivers over 25% of the babies born in the State. The Children's Health Services Expansion project provides an essential increase in capacity for Pediatric Medical/Surgical, Pediatric Intensive Care, Neonatal Intensive Care, Pediatric Oncology, and Pediatric Surgical Suites and support areas, to meet the needs of the rapidly growing population in the hospital's service area. Prior to the beginning of this multi-year project, each area was frequently full, requiring children to be placed in adult units or diverted to other and often very distant hospitals. The federal funding provided for the expansion project has resulted in expanding all units with state-of-the-art facilities and equipment. Funding received will assist with the purchase of equipment, including electronic medical record hardware and software programs and patient monitor technology for patient support and EMR connectivity, to be used in the Medical/Surgical Pediatrics, Pediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care, Oncology, Surgical Suites and support areas. The hospital is spending millions on the expansion and federal funds will represent only a small portion of the project's total costs.

**Project Name:** Twin Falls Library Modernization Project

**Amount Requested:** \$100,000

**Account:** Museums and Libraries in the Institute of Museums and Library Services

**Recipient:** City of Twin Falls

**Recipient's Address:** 201 Fourth Avenue East, Twin Falls, ID 83301

**Description:** The Twin Falls Public Library seeks to obtain a fully searchable database for its local historical newspapers. The Library has on 709 reels of microfilm of local newspapers from 1904 to the present. It is difficult to use the microfilm because of its deteriorating physical condition and outdated format. There is no index; if an exact date is not known, patrons must browse through the microfilm by hand, which is very inefficient. These funds will be used to digitize and index 709 reels of microfilm of the local newspaper dating from 1904 through 2008. The searchable database will replace the deteriorating microfilm with a searchable format allowing patrons to search articles, pictures, advertisements by keyword; view information in its historical context; preserve the look and feel of the original format; and print or email articles, photos, or ads of interest. The reference staff will be better able to serve the community more effectively, both on-site and remotely, by digitizing and indexing the microfilm. This newspaper database will be an historical asset to library patrons and will provide an accessible and unique service to the community.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide a list of the projects I have requested in the FY2010 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations on behalf of Idaho and provide an explanation of my support for them.