



February 8, 2019

Dear Idaho Legislatures,

As the representative of the 519 members of the Panhandle Trail Riders Association (PANTRA), I am writing in regards to [HOUSE BILL 75 \(H75\)](#) which will require non-residents to purchase a \$12 sticker for each OHV they intend to use for off-road travel in Idaho.

We are OPPOSED to this legislation and can NOT support it because it will lead to the loss of reciprocity with our Washington and Montana neighbors who share our OHV recreational region. The loss of reciprocity with our neighbors will put an unfair cost on all OHV users that live in North Idaho and still want to continue to recreate in the region that we historically have.

The Idaho Recreation Council (IRC) has put out a [flyer](#) with bullet points of “why is this needed”. The majority of IRC’s arguments in their flyer are not accurate or complete.

The arguments that IRC makes is “Equity, Cost, Loss of Opportunity, and Non-reciprocity”. They state that non-residents are not currently sharing the burden of trail maintenance, education, and enforcement. That statement is 100% incorrect in North Idaho. 40% of PANTRA members are Washington residents and they put thousands of volunteer hours clearing and maintaining Idaho trails and we have the [data](#) to prove it. Also, the majority of our non-resident members already purchase the \$12 Idaho off-road sticker. Our neighbors are not freeloaders.

Because the majority of non-residents in our region already buy Idaho’s \$12 off-road sticker, there will be very little increased revenue for Idaho’s trails. However, when Idaho’s residents have to pay the ~\$30 Washington/Montana OHV fee because of the loss of reciprocity, Idaho’s OHV dollars will be leaving the state which will be a net loss to Idaho.

The IRC, or anybody else, do not have any idea how much, or how little, revenue H75 will generate (just ask them!). A better solution would be to simply double our sticker fee from \$12 to \$24 (which is still a bargain). Doing that will generate 1.9 million additional dollars annually for Idaho’s ‘critically needed’ trail/tread maintenance plus add more dollars to enforcement (education is already funded with the current \$12 sticker fee).

PANTRA and its members are asking you to vote **NO** on H75.

Regards,

Steve Hart
Vice President – Panhandle Trail Riders Association (PANTRA)