

195 River Vista Place, Suite 308  
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301



## BILL ANALYSIS / SUMMARY

# S1224

2026 Regular Session

2/5/2026

### IDAHO DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION POSITION: **SUPPORT**

**SHORT TITLE:** Slow Moving Vehicles

**SPONSOR(S):** Senator Van T. Burtenshaw, R-Terreton; Representative Charlie Shepherd, R-Pollock

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:** Transportation Committee

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:** "This legislation clarifies operators of slow-moving vehicles, construction equipment, and farm equipment need to turn off the road only when a safe or size appropriate exit location becomes available."

**FISCAL NOTE:** "This legislation causes no additional expenditure of funds at the state or local level of government, nor does it cause an increase or decrease in revenue for state or local government, therefore the legislation has no fiscal impact."

**BILL SUMMARY:** Senate Bill 1224 amends Idaho Code 49-619 and 49-639 regarding the requirement for slow moving vehicles to turn off the road when obstructing traffic. The amendment creates an exception for farm tractors, construction equipment, and implements of husbandry who obstruct traffic when the operator determines that there is no safe or size-appropriate location to temporarily pull off including situations where three or more cars are obstructed on a two-lane highway.

**REASONING FOR POSITION:** IDA supports the ability of farm tractor operators to travel on the highway in a safe and reasonable manner. Farm equipment operators should not be penalized for obstructing traffic when there is no safe, size appropriate location for them to temporarily exit the highway, or road conditions prevent safely exiting the highway. This bill increases safety for farm equipment operators that use the highway as a means of travel in their business.

**IMPACTS TO AGRICULTURE:** S1224 provides farm equipment operators with increased discretion in exercising reasonable judgement as to the safety of temporarily exiting the highway to allow traffic to pass. It also protects them from being ticketed for obstructing the highway when there is not an appropriate place to pull off. This bill will allow for safer, more efficient movement of farm equipment when it requires moving along a highway by changing the requirement to pull off only when safe and appropriate conditions exist. Additionally, this bill protects and affirms farmers' rights to use the road.

**CONTACTS:**

Rick Naerebout, CEO

(t) (208) 308-3383

(e) [rick.naerebout@gmail.com](mailto:rick.naerebout@gmail.com)

Jamie Neill, Govt. Affairs

(t) 206-604-5082

(e) [jamie@idahodairymens.org](mailto:jamie@idahodairymens.org)

Bob Naerebout, Govt. Affairs

(t) 208-308-3382

(e) [bnaerebout@gmail.com](mailto:bnaerebout@gmail.com)

David Claiborne, attorney

(t) 208-867-7062

(e) [david@sawtoothlaw.com](mailto:david@sawtoothlaw.com)