

THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF IDAHO
BOISE**

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2024-04

OPERATION ESTO PERPETUA

WHEREAS, in my 2022 State of the State Address, I announced Operation Esto Perpetua to bring together law enforcement, lawmakers, local government, tribes, families, and the public in new ways with the goal to reduce the flow of fentanyl and methamphetamine into the State of Idaho; and

WHEREAS, from the early work of Operation Esto Perpetua came the highly successful Fentanyl Takes All campaign, which metrics show had a demonstrable impact on how young people and parents view and respond to the threat of fentanyl; and

WHEREAS, from the missions to the Texas border, troopers honed their skills at drug interdiction, which they have returned and implemented in Idaho; and

WHEREAS, the crisis at the border has only worsened since 2022. The surge in overdose deaths in Idaho is directly related to the proliferation of illegal fentanyl which in nearly every circumstance originates outside of this country and comes to Idaho through the open border or through another weak point in this nation's defenses; and

WHEREAS, a parallel problem to drug smuggling is human trafficking where vulnerable people are exploited or smuggled by bad actors to gain illegal entry into the United States or otherwise appropriated/or illegal or immoral ends; and

WHEREAS, I announced in my State of the State Address this year that Operation Esto Perpetua would continue with an expanded mission to address both drugs and human trafficking.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Brad Little, Governor of the State of Idaho, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this state do hereby order that:

- 1. Operation Esto Perpetua is authorized to continue as outlined in this order.*
- 2. The objective of Operation Esto Perpetua will be two-fold: to combat the flow of illegal drugs into Idaho and to combat the scourge of human trafficking in all its forms, including sex trafficking, labor trafficking, human smuggling, and all other appropriation of vulnerable children and adults.*
- 3. A Citizens Action Group is hereby created and will be comprised as follows:*
 - a. Appointed by the Governor:*
 - i. A representative from an Idaho Indian tribe;*
 - ii. A mayor of a city;*
 - iii. A county commissioner;*
 - iv. A member of the Idaho House of Representatives;*
 - v. A member of the Idaho Senate; and*
 - vi. Any additional public members that the Governor sees fit to appoint.*
 - b. Ex-officio members:*
 - i. The Lieutenant Governor;*
 - ii. The Director of the Idaho State Police; and*
 - iii. The Administrator of the Office of Drug Policy.*
- 4. The Citizens Action Group will gather information about the severity of the threat of drug proliferation and human trafficking in Idaho, as well as ideas to combat it and the needed tools to respond. The*

Citizens Action Group will hear from Idahoans about their personal experiences with the effects of drugs on Idahoans and Idaho communities, where human trafficking issues exist in Idaho, and how to treat victims of human trafficking and connect them with services to break the cycle of exploitation.

5. *The Citizens Action Group will report to the Governor its findings. That report will be delivered to the Governor and reviewed with advisors drawn from Idaho law enforcement and service providers to make policy recommendations.*



PHIL MCGRANE
SECRETARY OF STATE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 14th day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty-eighth, and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred thirty-fourth.

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR