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NEWS RELEASE

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Insurance Director Announces Reduction In Workers' Compensation Rates

(Boise, ID) Idaho Department of Insurance Director Bill Deal announced today that Idaho's overall workers' compensation premium rates will be reduced by an average of 3.7 percent for the year 2008.

"This decrease points out the stability of workers' compensation coverage in Idaho," Deal said. "It also shows that Idaho employers are doing an excellent job of providing safe workplaces for their employees."

The future also looks bright as there continues to be a stabilization of rates. However, continued diligence is needed by Idaho workers' compensation stakeholders to ensure the system remains strong and competitive.

The new rates were recommended by the National Council on Compensation Insurance, a rating and advisory organization that collects annual data on worker's compensation claims for the insurance industry. According to the NCCI, the workers' compensation system in Idaho is in strong shape and well administered. The new rates will become effective January 1, 2008.

"This is yet another indication of the quality workforce we have in Idaho," Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter said. "We are blessed with employers who understand the benefits of safety to their employees and the bottom line, as well as workers who take pride in their work and what they produce."