*WHEREAS, National Library Week is observed throughout the United States to raise awareness of the importance of library workers and to promote awareness of library services; and*

*WHEREAS, National Library Week 2018 is the 60th anniversary of the first National Library Week; and*

*WHEREAS, library workers statewide, in public, school, special, and academic libraries, lead their community members to succeed in all areas of life, by building their skills in the areas of: literacy, technical, leadership, financial, entrepreneurial, passion finding, and creation of content.*

*WHEREAS, Idaho public libraries comprise 54 library districts and 49 municipal libraries, each with a unique community of customers, and governed locally by elected community citizens ensuring relevance and reflecting local community values; and*

*WHEREAS, Idaho’s public school libraries each consist of the school librarian who has contact with every student and every teacher and who is then able to support teachers in curriculum and professional development, and to help students read and learn to their potential;*

*WHEREAS, Idaho’s library system is anchored by the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL), whose staff and state librarian are dedicated to providing information, training, technical assistance, and resources for all Idaho libraries – public, school, and academic;*

*WHEREAS, Idaho’s academic and special library workers dedicate their tasks to providing access to information and instructing library users on information literacy, media literacy, and maker competencies;*

*WHEREAS, libraries and library workers are an essential part of Idaho’s educational and information systems, promoting literacy and helping children and adults develop skills needed in a global information society; and*

*WHEREAS, Idaho libraries play a large role in community building and offering opportunities for their patrons through information, events, and services; and*

*WHEREAS, National Library Week is recognized as a vehicle to improve literacy, support intellectual freedom, and increase library funding by local and state governments; and*

*WHEREAS, “Libraries Lead” is more than just a theme in 2018, it is the reality that libraries lead the way in many Idaho communities bringing people together to support local library programs such as continuing education opportunities, Read To Me, My First Books, Summer Reading, STEM, Libraries Linking Idaho, 3-D printing, sponsoring community forums, providing adult workshops on skill retraining, job searching and more; and*

*WHEREAS, Idaho library workers play a role in helping patrons develop their own leadership skills;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. “BUTCH” OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim April 8-14, 2018 to be*

***IDAHO LIBRARY WEEK***

*In Idaho.*