WHEREAS, the Idaho landscape was visibly altered by the 6.9 magnitude Borah Peak earthquake 28 years ago this month, which was a wakeup call for Idahoans regarding seismic risk and vulnerability; and

WHEREAS, scientific and historical evidence indicates the state of Idaho has the potential for large and significantly damaging earthquakes; and

WHEREAS, the potential for loss of life and damage to property can be greatly reduced if appropriate earthquake preparedness measures are taken before, during and after an earthquake; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Geological Survey conducts earthquake hazards research and the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security conducts mitigation actions and informs Idahoans of preparedness measures to lessen the effects of a major earthquake; and

WHEREAS, earthquake hazard and preparedness information can be obtained from the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security and the Idaho Geological Survey, and this preparedness information should be studied and observed throughout the year in order to reduce injuries, loss of life and property damage during an earthquake; and

WHEREAS, preparedness for earthquakes involves knowing what to do during an earthquake, and the Great Idaho Shakeout on October 20th, 2011 will be a statewide opportunity for all Idahoans to participate in the drop, cover and hold exercise; and

WHEREAS, Idaho first responders and emergency management agencies continue to prepare for potential earthquakes through training, exercises, mitigation and public education; and

WHEREAS, this year, as we observe Idaho Earthquake Awareness Month, I ask all Idahoans to consider preparing their homes and communities for earthquakes, and to recognize emergency management, research institution, fire department, emergency medical service, law enforcement and building code officials and the important role they play in public safety – every day and in times of disaster; and I encourage all Idahoans to participate in “The Great Idaho Shake Out;”

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. “BUTCH” OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim October 2011, to be Idaho Earthquake Awareness Month in Idaho.

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 1st day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand and eleven and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-sixth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-first.

C.L. “BUTCH” OTTER
GOVERNOR

BEN YOUNG
SECRETARY OF STATE