* Please support HB653.This bill is crucial for ensuring that Idaho farmers have continued access to crop protection products like pesticides.
* Idaho farmers use pesticides to grow crops reliably, maintain high yields, and stay competitive in the global market.
* One pesticide in particular - glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup® - has been safely used by farmers for nearly half a century and is pivotal to many farmers’ weed control programs and a cornerstone of modern agriculture. For 50 years, leading health regulators around the world have repeatedly concluded that glyphosate-based pesticides can be used safely, and that glyphosate is not carcinogenic. However, trial lawyers, those out-of-touch with modern agricultural practices, and regulatory actions by the state of California are all threatening Idaho farmers’ best defense against weeds.
* Without access to critical crop protection tools like glyphosate, Idaho farmers’ production costs could soar, and crop losses could skyrocket, leading to higher food prices for consumers.
* The U.S. is one of only two countries that produce glyphosate – the other is China. Domestic glyphosate production is essential to ensure American farmers can grow food affordably without relying on China for key agricultural inputs.
* Soda Springs, Idaho is home to the only source and production facility of elemental phosphorus in the Western Hemisphere – the key element within glyphosate.
* Fortunately, HB653 would provide the legislative certainty needed to protect farmers' access to these safe and approved tools. With your help, we can protect Idaho farmers’ access to the tools they need to grow their crops, keep yields high, and ensure we have enough to eat. Please side with farmers, not trial lawyers, and support HB653.