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Twin Falls, Idaho

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Gretel Kaufman

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Governor signs bill inspired by Twin Falls clinic into law

BOISE — A bill inspired by a Twin Falls clinic has been signed into law by the governor.

HB 513, brought by Rep. Clark Kauffman of Filer, will exempt free and charitable medical clinics from paying sales tax. The bill was inspired by the Wellness Tree Community Clinic in Twin Falls.

Clinics such as Wellness Tree, which offer health services to poor and often-uninsured patients, must pay the state's six percent sales tax under current law, although other medical institutions, such as hospitals, are exempt. Ten clinics across Idaho will qualify for the tax exemption.

Representatives from three of those clinics were present for the signing Monday morning, including Arne Walker, executive director of the Wellness Tree Clinic and president of the Idaho Association of Free and Charitable Clinics.

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