

K.W. v. Armstrong — Idaho's Secretive Medicaid Budget Formula and a 14-Year Fight Over Disability-Care Cuts

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 20/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Idaho's Dept. of Health and Welfare used a secretive spreadsheet formula, later tied to the Supports Intensity Scale, to set Medicaid budgets for thousands of people with developmental disabilities. A federal court found it unconstitutional; the fight over replacing it continues

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	1/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	0/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability beyond pilot	1/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	0/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-07

[Idaho Department of Health and Welfare](#) — accessed 2026-09-07

[ACLU of Idaho case summary](#) — accessed 2026-09-07

[Benefits Tech Advocacy Hub case study](#) — accessed 2026-09-07

[Idaho Dept. of Health & Welfare on the K.W. lawsuit](#) — accessed 2026-09-07

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