



THE GEM STATE PATRIOT



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Knowledge is Power as Silence is Consent. We will
bring you the knowledge so you can rise up and
restore freedom and liberty back to our country.

Welcome to The Gem State Patriot, we are a not-for-profit newsletter.

HB 2 ADD THE WORDS IS DEFEATED WITH A 13 TO 4 VOTE

After 3 arduous days of testimony by citizens from the four corners of Idaho the House State Affairs Committee decided not to bring this bill to the floor for a vote.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL READERS

THE PEOPLE OF IDAHO HAVE SPOKEN ON HB 2. IT IS NOW TIME TO BRING ALL OF OUR EFFORTS TO BEAR ON GETTING OUR STATE TO WITHDRAW FROM THE SBAC TEST AND COMMON CORE.

THERE IS A BILL IN THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FOR IDAHO TO OPT OUT OF THE SBAC TEST (BILL HB 65)

You need to call House Speaker Scott Bedke at 208-332-1111 and tell him you want House Bill 65 to pass and move to the Education Committee.

WE NEED EVERYONE TO GET INVOLVED AND CALL, WRITE OR E-MAIL EACH MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEES AND LET THEM KNOW THAT YOU WANT THEM TO PASS AND SEND HB 65 TO THE HOUSE/SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEES SO WE CAN GET THIS TO A FLOOR VOTE AND REMOVE THIS HEADACHE FROM THE PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND STUDENTS OF IDAHO'S SCHOOL SYSTEM.


PLEASE READ PAGE 3 OF THIS NEWSLETTER FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WHO AND HOW TO CONTACT LEGISLATORS ON THE COMMITTEES THAT WILL VOTE ON THIS BILL

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INSIDE OF THIS ISSUE
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PAGE 3,4	ITS TIME TO DUMP THE SBAC TEST AND COMMON CORE by Bob Neugebauer Democratic Party in Washington State Passes Resolution to withdraw from Common Core
PAGE 5	A Thank You to the House State Affairs Committee Members who voted no on HB 2
PAGE 6	Jim Chmelik Idaho County Commissioner presents his viewpoint on HB 2 Add the Words.
PAGE 7-9	"ONE BITE AT A TIME" Darr & Dorothy Moon review the Idaho Republican Central committee meeting and all of the resolutions which were past. We can't thank them enough for taking the time to record this information and allow us to publish it for our readers.
PAGE 10,11	"What do you do when you have a U.S. Supreme Court decision contradict the Idaho Constitution?" by Chris Pentico
PAGE 12	OP-ED by Ken De Vries Discussing a problem with a Political PAC called the Patriot PAC
PAGE 13,14	Derrell Poole gives his view opposing a call for a Convention of States.
PAGE 15	Obama's Vision of Economic Growth: Robbing Peter to Pay Paul? By Steve Ackerman
PAGE 16	Important message from Idahoans for Local Education
PAGE 17,18	Going Green Author Unknown - This is an interesting article comparing the Baby Boomer generation's outlook on living green as seen by the Millennial Generation
PAGE 19	A Constitutional Basis for Rejecting Common Core by Evalyn Bennett.
PAGE 21,22	President Obama's Boise Visit by Tea Party Bob / Raising fees without your consent - by Bob Neugebauer a discussion about the 54% rise in the cost of Birth & Death certificates.
PAGE 23	Tracking Important Legislation by Evalyn Bennett - Links that will guide you in tracking legislative bills.
PAGE 24,25	Open letter to Senator Jim Risch talking about the deceit encompassed in the TPP & TTIP and how they will drag the U.S. into regional governance on a host of issues.
PAGE 26-28	America Lite by Rich Loudonback - Three great pages talking about where America has been and what it is today. How uncontrolled government affects the future of our country.
PAGE 33	 <p>ADOPT A DOG - IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A PET CONSIDER THE MERIDIAN VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY. THEY'LL HELP YOU FIND A COMPANION. <MEET DANTE A BORDER COLLIE MIX 2 YEARS OLD YOU CAN READ ABOUT DANTE AND HOW YOU CAN ADOPT HIM ON PAGE 33 OF THIS NEWSLETTER.</p>
PAGE 28-44	<p style="text-align: center;">UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS, MEETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <p>Please take a moment to look through our special events announcements and meeting schedules. If you have a special event coming up or an important meeting and would like to get the word out, please feel free to e-mail us a copy of the event flyer or the information about your meeting.. bob@gemstatepatriot.com</p>

ITS TIME TO DUMP THE SBAC TEST AND COMMON CORE

By Bob Neugebauer

Defeating HB 2 was a great victory, but it is just the beginning of the battle here in Idaho to take our state back into the hands of the people and out of the hands of the politicians. It is estimated that 1,500 citizens showed up for the hearings on HB 2 “Add the Words”. People came for all four corners of Idaho to tell our legislators that they did not want the four words added to the state civil rights act. This is the way things should be when the legislators listen to both sides and make a rational decision. We need to continue to work together on other issues that are going to affect the lives of all Idahoan’s.

The House Ways and Means Committee will be taking up the Common Core issue shortly to decide on whether or not the SBAC test will be given to Idaho’s students, Bill HB 65. It is up to us as caring citizens to make our legislators aware of our feelings and to contact them about this bill and encourage them to understand that passing this bill to have Idaho opt out of the SBAC test would be the best move for our education system. Ask them to move this legislation on to the Senate and House Education Committees along with an encouragement to pass this legislation.

In the past week there was a surprise movement by the Democratic Party in Washington State which passed a critical resolution. It calls upon the Washington State legislature and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to withdraw from the CCSS (Common Core) and Keep their K-12 education student-centered and accountable to the people of Washington State.

They cite in the resolution many of the same problems that have been brought to light by opponents of Common Core in our state. Please take a minute to read this resolution and see why the progressive left is finally agreeing with us that Common Core is bad for our education system.

State Democratic Party Passes Resolution Calling for Withdrawal from Common Core

Posted on [January 26, 2015](#) by [chascherrie](#)

On Saturday, Jan. 24, 2015, the Washington State Democratic Party became the first Democratic State Party in the nation to pass a resolution against the Common Core. The resolution is titled *Resolution Opposing Common Core State Standards*. The resolution calls for the legislature and the superintendent of public instruction to withdraw from the CCSS. Read the resolution below.

Resolution Opposing Common Core State Standards

WHEREAS the copyrighted (and therefore unchangeable) Common Core State Standards (CCSS) are a set of controversial top-down K-12 academic standards that were promulgated by wealthy private interests without research-based evidence of validity and are developmentally inappropriate in the lowest grades; and

WHEREAS, as a means of avoiding the U.S. Constitution’s 10th Amendment prohibition against federal meddling in state education policy, two unaccountable private trade associations—the National Governors Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO)—have received millions of dollars in funding from the Gates Foundation and others to create the CCSS; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Department of Education improperly pressured state legislatures into adopting the Common Core State Standards and high-stakes standardized testing based on them as a condition of competing for federal Race to the Top (RTTT) stimulus funds that should have been based on need; and

WHEREAS as a result of Washington State Senate Bill 6669, which passed the State legislature on March 11, 2010, the Office of the Superintendent of Instruction (OSPI) adopted Common Core State Standards (CCSS) on July 20, 2011; and

Continued on page 4

ITS TIME TO DUMP THE SBAC TEST AND COMMON CORE

By Bob Neugebauer

WHEREAS this adoption effectively transfers control over public school standardized testing from locally elected school boards to the unaccountable corporate interests that control the CCSS and who stand to profit substantially; and

WHEREAS the Washington State Constitution also calls for public education to be controlled by the State of Washington through our elected State legislature, our elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction and our elected local school boards; and

WHEREAS implementation of CCSS will cost local school districts hundreds of millions of dollars to pay for standardized computer-based tests, new technology, new curricula and teacher training at a time when Washington is already insufficiently funding K-12 Basic Education without proven benefit to students; and
WHEREAS some states have already withdrawn from CCSS;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we call upon the Washington State legislature and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to withdraw from the CCSS and keep K-12 education student-centered and accountable to the people of Washington State.

House bill HB 65 must first pass the House Ways and means Committee Before it gets rerouted to the Education Committee. So here is your opportunity as a citizen to make an impact and help get rid of Common Core. **Below is a listing of the House Ways and Means Committee members and their e-mail addresses. We need everyone to send an e-mail or call these legislators. After you send an e-mail or make a phone call to the Ways and Means Committee you need to send e-mails and make phone calls to the House Education Committee and let them know you want them to pass HB65 to opt Idaho out of the SBAC test**

House Committee - hway@house.idaho.gov

Members, Secretary Phone 332-1159

Mike Moyle - mmoyl@house.idaho.gov
Christy Perry - cperry@house.idaho.gov (Chairman)
Brent Crane - bcrane@house.idaho.gov
J. Vander Woude - jvanderwoude@house.idaho.gov
John Rusche - jrusche@house.idaho.gov
Matt Erpelding - merpelding@house.idaho.gov
Donna Pence - dpence@house.idaho.gov

House Committee - reedd@house.idaho.gov

Members, Secretary Phone 332-1128

Reed DeMordaunt - Chairman
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Julie VanOrden - jvanorden@house.idaho.gov VC
Paul Shepherd - pshepherd@house.idaho.gov
Rich Wills - rwills@house.idaho.gov
Judy Boyle - jboyle@house.idaho.gov
Lance Clow - lclow@house.idaho.gov
Terry Gestrin - tgestrin@house.idaho.gov
Steven Harris - sharris@house.idaho.gov
Ron Mendive - rmendive@house.idaho.gov
Pat McDons - pmcdonald@house.idaho.gov
Sage Dixon - sdixon@house.idaho.gov
Ryan Kerby - rkerby@house.idaho.gov

Senate Committee - sedu@senate.idaho.gov Secretary Phone 332-1312

Dean Mortimer - dmortimer@senat.idaho.gov (Chair)
Shawn Keough - skeough@senate.idaho.gov
Jim Patrick - jpatrick@senate.idaho.gov
Lorie Den Hartog - ldenhartog@senate.idaho.gov
Cherie Buckner-Webb - Cbucknerwebb@senate.idaho.gov
Janie Ward-Engelking - jwardengelking@senate.idaho.gov
Steven Thayn - sthayn@senate.idaho.gov (VChair)
Bob Nonini - bnonini@senate.idaho.gov
Mary Souza - msouza@senate.idaho.gov

**THANK YOU REPUBLICAN HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEMBERS
IDAHO DOES NOT NEED TO ADD THE WORDS**

The readers of the Gem State Patriot would like to thank the members of the committee for spending three long days listening to citizens from the four corners of Idaho offer their opinions, facts, and stories about Adding the Words to Idaho's Civil Rights Law. We believe you had a fair and reasonable hearing for the people from both sides and made the right decision for the future of our state.

WE APPLAUD YOUR DECISION

THOMAS LOERTSCHER, CHAIRMAN R-DIST. 32

GAYLE BATT, VICE CHAIRMAN R-DIST. 11

KEN ANDRUS, R-DIST. 28

LYNN LUKER, R-DIST. 15

BRENT CRANE, DIST. 13

JOE PALMER, DIST. 20

KATHLEEN SIMS, DIST. 4

VITO BARBIERI, DIST. 2

JAMES HOLTZCLAW, DIST. 20

SHANNON McMILLAN, DIST. 7

LINDEN BATEMAN, DIST. 33

DON CHEATHAM, DIST. 3

PETE NIELSEN, DIST. 23

ADD THE WORDS BILL

MY OPINION BY JIM CHMELIK IDAHO COUNTY COMMISSONER

The “add the words campaign” would limit one’s personal choices to the pursuit of happiness, life, liberty, freedom and property; what gives one the right to impose such a limitation upon another. In attempting to advance the perceived rights of a few, we will trample the rights of many.

In our republic, freedom of speech and the exercise of religion are fundamental principles of the natural order and our constitutions. All ideas fostered within our individual creativity flows from it. To limit these is to restrain one’s freedom to engage in the arena of ideas and place limits on life itself. From these rights flows the ability to create and the right to challenge the veracity of opposing view points and to seek the truth for what is good, right, noble and just in advancing civilization.

Those who argue to add the words, in essence wish to remove a fundamental pillar upon which our Republic was founded, that all our rights flow from a natural order as ordained by our creator. Let’s be perfectly clear this discussion from the add the words campaign is not about clarifying any civil right; it is about removing the rights of religious people to practice their faith as they desire. It is about forced acceptance of an ideology, which runs contrary to their beliefs. It is truly an infringement upon the individual right to freely exercise their thoughts and religious beliefs.

They propagandize and portray those who adhere to their religious values of a vision of dignity of the human person, the primacy of true marriage and family, and the protection of human life as backwards and out dated. Nothing could be further from the truth. These values protect their rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as much as they protect those who they disagree with. Do unto others, as you would have them do unto you.

History would suggest all these things are proper and necessary for a truly free and just civil society. Look no further than the civilizations of Greece and the Roman Empires; both now reside on the ash heap of history in the decay of their principles and their inability to stand for truth.

It is not the government’s responsibility to guarantee the equality of thought but rather to guard and protect the individual’s right to freely exercise his or her beliefs in the arena of ideas. These protections of the individual are not rights granted from government. They are inherent.

You cannot solve moral issues through legislation. Government cannot impose one version of morality over another. It is a violation of our inherent rights and a violation of our state and national constitutions. Those who would engage in such tactics are not progressing a society they are regressing society. They seek to destroy their opposition through propaganda and intimidation. They demonstrate an insecurity of their own arguments and do not wish to have a debate on the merit of their positions.

If the opportunity to infringe upon a person’s freedom of speech and religious rights is granted what is to stop them from taking the next step of demanding them to sanction homosexuality within the churches themselves, thereby removing an underlying principle of one’s faith. They seek to control the very essence of the individual, his heart and soul. If this is allowed to happen then ones faith is irrelevant, and we are reduced to relativism and to the ash heap of history.

First principles are worth advancing and protecting

These are my independent views and do not in any way speak on the behalf of my fellow commissioners

One Bite at a Time

By Darr Moon

It's been a while since I've had good news to report. Fact is I was beginning to wonder if the tide would ever change for those on the liberty side of the political equation. But just as it seems darkest before the dawn a beam of light has pierced through the lowly gloom of politics as usual. Last weekend's Winter Republican meeting was a roaring success for all who have battled for political reform. The great divide experienced during last summer's Republican convention was not what I saw during this winter's gathering. The overwhelming majority of Republicans are seeing it our way and are now in positions of leadership offering hope once again for limited and well defined government for beleaguered constitutionalists.

I spent my time at this winter's meeting with the Resolutions Committee which is charged with reviewing ideas for better government brought to the Party by members and then on up the line to the Republican elected. I hope those elected take head of these resolutions passed as we will be watching closely their every vote during this year's legislative session.

Below an overview of the resolutions presented and a short discussion of the outcomes.

2015-P1 – Resolution to Support the Freedom of School Choice. The first resolution out the shoot was looking to be a test of the rules and procedures to follow. After only moments into the resolution presentation offering freedom of school choice an all-out battle ensued as to proper procedure and voting qualifications reminiscent of the Moscow debacle. There would be no backing down by proponents of this measure as motion after motion, witness after testifying witness exchanged facts that illuminated the unfair one size fits all public school system. The exchange clearly identified those who knew the score and who held the audience's approval. This resolution passed committee by a majority vote of 9 to 7.

The win set the stage for renewed vigor as those liberty minded went on to control the meeting and outcome of every subsequent resolution debated.

2015-P2 – Resolution Supporting the Removal of IPAB (Independent Payments Advisory Board) from Obama care. This resolution went on to pass 15 to 0 clearly exposing the vast majority's disfavor of anything Obama Care in Idaho. The true test will be on display as we watch how those constitutional officers of ours in the Statehouse and Legislature react.

2015-P3 – Resolution Supporting the Defense of Idaho's Definition of Marriage. This resolution was withdrawn by the sponsor as current litigation in pending.

2015-P4 – Resolution Supporting Parental Rights. This resolution postponed until 2015 summer meeting after rewrite. The resolution needed reworking as it erroneously asked the legislature to define family rights which are unlimited under the Constitution. Best think that one out more carefully.

2015-P5 – Resolution Supporting an Independent Review of LTAC. This resolution was presented by an Idaho contractor who was run out of business by the agency without regard to law or contract agreement. The agency spent \$3.5 million in a court battle against the contractor and suffered an additional \$1.5 million in damages awarded the maligned contractor as LTAC held little regard for law. The resolution will require the agency be independently audited and reviewed so unfair and corrupt business practices and government overreach will cease. The resolution passed 8 to 5 as was a real world example of how government plays above the law when left to their own devices.

Continued on page 8

One Bite at a Time

By Darr Moon

2015-P6 – Resolution Opposing Common Core. This resolution met with initial resistance as some members on the committee had little understanding of Common Core. The ignorance of this topic at this late stage in Idaho's implementation illuminated those not up to speed on their civics. Special testimony was provided by Stephanie Zimmerman and others who in short order put the unaware to task leaving them uncomfortably squirming in their seats. The resolution passed 13 to 3 furthering the margin for those on the committee with more liberty minded foundation.

2015-P7 - Resolution Supporting the State Legislature in securing state ownership of public lands in Idaho. The passage of this resolution unanimously tells a very compelling story that all Idahoans should rejoice and continue the fight with Utah and other Western States to free themselves from their federal master. Idaho has the resources to provide economic prosperity for future generations. Those who wish to lay waste to Idaho's lands by virtue of environmental negligence best find comfort in California. Hello legislators can you hear us now! The resolution passed 16 zip.

2015-P8 – Resolution Supporting Election Law Reform. This resolution was not presented as the sponsor was not available to present due to a family emergency. I suspect the resolution will be redrafted and resubmitted this summer.

2015-P9 – Resolution Supporting a Call for Convention of the States. This resolution was not presented as the above sponsor was attending a family emergency. This annual attempt to find magic bullets to arrest our government gone astray continues to loom. I would hope closer analysis of a Convention of the States call will show that our problems with government are not a consequence of our Constitution, rather from our neglect of it. A whole host of expert witnesses stood at the ready to testify against this resolution and I suspect they will be at the ready next call. In my view the Convention Call is a strategy of the Progressive to divide the Conservative and open a Pandora's Box of opportunity to undo the virtue of free people as protected by our now neglected and mutilated United States Constitution. Solutions to our political struggle cannot be and should not be a consequence of further amendment but rather of repeal.

2015-P10- Resolution Opposing further federalization of Idaho Lands. I hope you can see there was a trend afoot at this hearing. "Don't mess with Idaho" ought to be the next bumper sticker affixed to every vehicle that traverses our State. The federal government while occupying 67% of Idaho isn't yet satisfied. They'd like to make monuments, national parks or wilderness areas of our rugged outback and desert lands so that Nebraskans have more say than Idahoans of Idaho lands. Not as far as Idaho Republicans say. This resolution passed with applause 14 to 1. Who was that 1 vote from?!?

2015-P11- Resolution Supporting the repeal of the Tax on Food. Don't talk about taxing me for food with your mouth full of my tax money Mr. Politician. Is there nowhere to escape the tax (axe) man these days? Look for further opportunity from state and federal elected representatives to find ways to skin their pound of flesh from the working class. Hopefully not in Idaho. This resolution passed 11 to 3 with those voting against saying that taxing food is a more fair way to extract tax money equally across the board. The fallacy of this argument is that the tax is redistributed back to tax payers in the form of a rebate at the end of the fiscal year. Should not the liberty of life be off limits to the taxman who can send one to prison for merely succumbing to the necessities of life? Hello Obama Care.

Continued on page 9

One Bite at a Time

By Darr Moon

2015-P12- Resolution Supporting the repeal of the Presidential Caucus in Idaho. (The Caucus will be repealed once the State of Idaho adopts a statute to provide for a Presidential Primary in March) **Passed 16 to 0**

2015-P13 –Resolution Opposing Fast-Track Authority and International Partnerships. You must know your stuff to be up on the latest audacious agreements our President is up to greasing the wheels of economic collusion with one way trade deals. These pacts are oppressive to economic prosperity and further the rise of power of the Executive Branch. Is Congress so impotent to realize the unprecedented usurpation of power? Hopefully this resolution sends a message. Thankfully there are Idahoans who know the scoop and fight back. Resolution passed 8 to 7.

2015-P14 – Resolution Supporting Proportional Allocation of Delegates to the National Convention. This resolution gives more local accounting of each Congressional District's attitude supporting the principle of government by consent of the governed as determined according to each District's representation. **Passed 10 to 5**

2015-P15 – Resolution Concerning Permanent School Levies. You would be flabbergasted at some of Idaho's statutes. This resolution exposes in particular why the statue needs to be repealed. According to State Law if a school bond levy is voted on and passed four consecutive times (many reoccurring maintenance levies do) the levy becomes permanent no longer retractable by the voters and tax payers. There was a revolution I recall provoked by such measures of taxation without representation. Again Legislators we are looking for relief. The resolution passed 12 to 4.

2015-P16 – Resolution Concerning the Definition of Marriage. Withdrawn by sponsor as issue is currently being litigated.

2015-P17 – Resolution Opposing Closed Primaries. This was a late arrival to the committee which required a 2/3rds vote to hear it. The vote was split so the resolution wasn't heard. Resolutions passed through committee to the open floor on Saturday morning and passed by the State Central Committee by an overwhelming vote of 115 to 71. This clearly demonstrates that there are more liberty minded conservatives in the Republican Party than ever before. It doesn't however mean that Republican politicians will yet be broke to lead. If they don't carry the Party's water I suspect they'll hear the wrath of their constituents and most importantly the Party. We will be watching.

The outcome of our success at this winter meeting was clearly furthered by those few people who ventured into stormy waters of uncertain outcome to validate their belief that ours is a government by consent of the governed. Those who presented and those who heard the resolutions are to be commended. I must emphasize the importance to find ones spine during such proceedings. The result could have easily gone the other way if not for the fortitude of one particular lady who would not let the auspice of power dictate the direction of the meeting. The initial spat about who could and who couldn't vote clearly showed courage of conviction, without which the well-oiled steam roller of political persuasion would likely have vetoed our great success. I must selfishly confess that the lady who held the argument together and united the audience in affirmation of conscience was my dear wife, Dorothy Moon. I am of course very proud that she is so courageous and must report that her kind of courage is characteristically charming. . I hope you too will catch a strong dose of it and pass on with conviction to those in political circles. Our struggle continues and I suspect as events unfold this year passionate applications of courage and tenacity will be necessary.

In Liberty,

Darr Moon, Republican Committeeman, Stanley Precinct

**“What do you do when you have a U.S. Supreme Court decision
contradict the Idaho Constitution?”
by Chris Pentico**

Last year, I asked this specific horrible question to a friend of mine that is a former legislator. He probably suspected something was askew, but gave me what he believed proper procedure was. The matter is suppose to make it to the Idaho House of Representatives and the Idaho Senate so they can draft legislation to alter our state constitution. The U.S. Supreme Court decision is used to direct and guide legislators on permissible changes. It requires a two-thirds vote in both the House and Senate. The bill creates a ballot referendum for the next general election, where the general public votes on the changes to our state constitution.

I am going to apologize beforehand to our current crop of legislators now. Whenever you tell someone you must do something, you build up resentment regardless if you are right or wrong. Their oath of office actually would require them to take up a matter of this nature.

In February of 2008, I did bring a matter of this nature to the Senate Education Committee Chairman, John Goedde. Boise State University was using Article IX, Section 5 of the Idaho Constitution to deny funding to religious student clubs. This violated directly *Rosenberger et al. v. Rector and Visitors of University of Virginia et al.*, a 1995 U.S. Supreme Court decision. Chairman Goedde did request an Attorney General opinion and both of us did question certain aspects of that opinion, but technically the opinion was strong enough to force Boise State University to fund religious student clubs. In September 2008, I visited the BSU library only to see a religious student club protesting over a denial of funding just outside the building; I was not happy. In December 2008, six students sued BSU over this matter; their lawyer did get a copy of this Attorney General opinion. In February 2009, the BSU general counsel announced what the University was doing was unconstitutional and went for a settlement. The end result in the Legislature is state code 33-107D that allowed the religious student clubs to get funding and let the clubs put restrictions on who can be their leaders.

Nobody went back to examine the Rosenberger case, especially to see if it affected other entities under sections 5 and 6, Article IX of the Idaho Constitution. This is the problem. Section 6 of Article IX of the state constitution prevents religious testing for employment and admission into schools and prohibits teaching religious tenets in schools. Section 5 allows for the financial enforcement of section 6, but section 6 is rarely mentioned. In short, Idaho's constitution embodies a strict separation of church and state doctrine, which is more restrictive than the U.S. Constitution's 1st Amendment establishment of religion clause. To get a more appropriate interpretation of the 1st Amendment in this context, you need to read two U.S. Supreme Court cases, where the Rosenberger case is one. The other case is *Abington School District v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203 (1963).

The writers of the Idaho Constitution did discuss Bible reading for inclusion in the state constitution, but decided against it in a close vote. Despite this, in 1925 a statute was passed involving the reading of Bible passages without comment in the morning. The State Board of Education picked the passages as per state law. In 1963, this statute was challenged at the same time or shortly after the Schempp case occurred. The U.S. Supreme Court found the readings to be religious in nature and not educational in the Schempp case; this is where the 1st Amendment violation occurs with the establishment of religion clause.

In the Schempp case, the U.S. Supreme Court Justices went out of their way to extol many of the Bible's virtues in history and literature. Furthermore, they suggested a comparative religion class could be a capstone class in a good college education.

Continued on page 11

**“What do you do when you have a U.S. Supreme Court decision
contradict the Idaho Constitution?”
by Chris Pentico**

They did not ban the Bible from the classroom. In fact, the Justices believed morals came from religion and religiously inspired ideas. The Justices were concerned enough about their decision, they left a warning involving a “religion of secularism” occurring based upon their decision. This “religion of secularism” has taken root in Idaho.

In 1970, the Idaho legislature required school districts to provide transportation for both public and private schools. This was challenged in the Idaho Supreme Court in *Epeldi v. Engelking* (1971). This law was also consistent with the U.S. Supreme Court cases *Board of Education of Central School Dist. No. 1 v. Allen* (1968) and *Everson v. Board of Education* (1947); these were presented in the Epeldi case. In fact, the Everson case directly involved transportation as well. It was Superintendent of Public Instruction Engelking and the State Board of Education that argued the Idaho Constitution is more restrictive than the 1st amendment and the cases decided under it. In a 3-2 decision, the Idaho Supreme Court went with the state constitution over the U.S. Supreme Court decisions. It is disturbing to see the majority opinion in the Epeldi case was based upon the dissenting opinion from the *Everson v. Board of Education* (1947) case. It was decisions based off the *Epeldi v. Engelking* (1971) decision that banned the Bible in Idaho public schools and colleges.

The equal protection clause in the 14th Amendment can be ample grounds for a lawsuit and this was a concern in the dissenting opinion in *Epeldi v. Engelking*; the “we can give no aid” interpretation of Section 5, Article IX for religious entities involved in secular activities quickly makes the state of Idaho no longer a “neutral observer,” as is required.

The Establishment clause in the 1st amendment forces legislation to neither advance nor inhibit religion by being secular. What is strongly prohibited is the use of government entities and resources for the sake of proselytizing and performing religious activities; it does not prevent the discussion of religion and its aspects if it serves a secular purpose. But it is the censoring of history that could cause problems with freedom of speech under the 1st Amendment that bothers me. Under the Idaho Constitution, the philosophies of Spinoza, Descartes, and Plato cannot be taught. Under the Idaho Constitution, a comparative religion class cannot happen at a public college or university. Under the Idaho Constitution, an Idaho teacher cannot ask, “What differentiates Sunni from Shia muslims and what effect does this have on foreign affairs?”

Technically, that is four U.S. Supreme court cases with a consistent pattern of behavior that contradicts the Idaho constitution. Will my people, Idahoans, perish for a lack of knowledge?

Idaho's historical references originate from Dennis C. Colson's Idaho's Constitution book (ISBN 0-89301-132-0).

State code 33-107D can be found at <http://legislature.idaho.gov/idstat/Title33/T33CH1SECT33-107D.htm>.

The links at <http://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules.htm> will allow you to explore all of Idaho's laws and its constitution.

A complete copy of *Epeldi v. Engelking* (1971) can be found at <https://www.courtlistener.com/opinion/2614160/epeldi-v-engelking/> .

Everson v. Board of Education, 330 U.S. 1 (1947), *Abington School District v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203 (1963), *Board of Education of Central School Dist. No. 1 v. Allen*, 392 U.S. 236 (1968), and *Rosenberger et al. v. Rec-tor and Visitors of University of Virginia et al.*, 515 U.S. 819 (1995) are all U.S. Supreme Court cases with their legal citations.

OP-ED SUBMITTED TO THE MOSCOW DAILY NEWS

By Ken De Vries

Just prior to the 2014 election last November, a political action committee (PAC) calling itself Patriot PAC mailed an advertisement urging everyone to "elect a patriot to the Idaho Legislature." The mailer assured us that "T-Party Conservative," David Suswal, an independent candidate for District 5 Idaho House Seat B, stood against Common Core, against Obama Care and was in support of 2nd Amendment rights and reclamation of federally occupied lands. All worthy positions, to be sure.

But there was a problem. I immediately noticed a complete lack of contact information for the candidate - no web address, no email address and no phone number. No legitimate piece of campaign advertising would leave out such information. The only information present was the required disclosure that Patriot PAC and its treasurer, Liz Roberts, were responsible for the mailing.

After a little research, I discovered that Liz Roberts is a registered Democrat from Eagle Idaho. After the election, Patriot PAC filed its post-election campaign finance disclosure form, where it shows that it received an in-kind donation of \$1,266.69 from the Idaho Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee (IDLCC). The entire sum being spent on the mailing. More interesting yet is that the treasurer of the IDLCC is none other than our current District 5 State Senator, Dan J. Schmidt.

The nature of the Sunshine Campaign Disclosures seems to indicate that Senator Dan Schmidt paid for the false mailing directly. No money was sent directly to Patriot PAC. Instead, money was paid directly to those whom Patriot PAC contracted to do the fraudulent mail advertisement. Senator Schmidt must have known exactly what he was doing - participating in a false advertising scheme concocted by a fraudulent PAC designed specifically to deceive District 5 voters.

Whether or not mail fraud was committed remains to be seen. In any event, this type of campaign effort is dishonest and unethical. The mailing was a childish attempt to deceive conservative and libertarian leaning District 5 voters. The idea was to siphon conservative votes away from Republican Caroline Nilsson Troy and swing the election in favor of the Democratic candidate.

When a sitting State Senator, acting in an official capacity, knowingly writes a check on behalf of a fraudulent entity for the express purpose of deceiving Benewah and Latah County voters, it is the very definition of political corruption. There is no way that Senator Dan Schmidt or his supporters can excuse this dishonest, unethical behavior.

Recently, Benewah County Democrats passed a resolution stating, among other things, "The election of persons to public office by fraud or deception undermines public confidence in government and calls into question the legitimacy of the official's service." It further states, "[Benewah County Democrats] will not tolerate dishonest campaign tactics..." I praise Benewah County Democrats in their outspoken support for honest campaigning.

If Senator Schmidt were hustling Dollars instead of votes, he would be facing felony mail fraud charges. These are not the actions of a statesman, but the tactics of a two-bit political hustler. Senator Schmidt's arrogance adds insult to injury in that he obviously thought that District 5 voters were too dumb to catch on. Senator Schmidt is an embarrassment to District 5 and his actions are an insult to our intelligence.

Senator Schmidt should resign from the Idaho State Senate and apologize to the people of District 5.

OPPOSING call for Convention of States and Amendments Convention

By Derrell Poole

Amendments to a Constitution they don't obey now is not going to make any difference. All it will do is add more words, more confusion, more complexity, with which they can contrive even more of our freedom from us. Risking the Constitution to a convention is stupid. Apply THIS Constitution to the government; Make them obey it! That WILL fix this government!

When you go and see this guy make sure he tells you of all the liberal groups also pushing for a ConCon. Ask him what Amendments groups from the State of Hawaii are proposing. Ask him why, if this is such a "Conservative" idea that the supposed Conservative Legislators who met in Indianapolis last year included hard Core Liberals? They cannot achieve the necessary applications WITHOUT the Liberals! Ask him if he personally knows George Soros and all the PACs that man funds who are ALSO calling for a ConCon. Why so if this is such a conservative thing to do?

What they call a Convention of States is simply the second option to invoking the Congress to Amend the Constitution. Any Convention to Amend THIS Constitution will be presided over by Congress! No matter WHAT they tell you. I don't trust this Congress - do you? Read Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 where any authority given to Congress by THIS Constitution shall entitle them to make the rules - the laws. They will make all the rules necessary as they see fit for this convention!" Natelson, Levin, and other NeoCons who think the States will make the Rules for a Convention to Risking Our Constitution are fooling themselves - and We the People. The First words of Article V are "The Congress..." Not, We the people. Not the Several States; "The Congress... on the application... of the several States, shall call a convention..."! This is an authority given to them by THIS Constitution.

Our Constitution isn't Broken! The Government doesn't obey the Constitution now! Making Don't be fooled by this. Mark my words; if we allow this door to be opened we will no longer be the Republic of the United States of America! They CANNOT make you promises that our Constitution is safe in a Convention - once that door opens, they CAN NOT

AND

Folks, please listen. The Last time there was eminent threat of an actual Constitutional Convention of this magnitude Congress freaked out and pre-empted the call by passing two of the worst Amendment we have suffered; 16A and 17A. These two Amendment changed our Nation, fundamentally. The 17 Amendment changed the Senate from a body elected by State Governments to a redundant second "House of Representative" elected by the people. They stole away States representation in the Federal Government where Article V say "...and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate." This is the single Amendment that could not be added without 100% of the States ratification - their consent to give up their voice in the Government! YET THEY DID IT!!! As soon as 2/3rds of the States ratified 17A they declared it part of the Constitution. Utah outright opposed it and many of the States never ratified it.

But they needed 17A so that the 16 Amendment could change how taxes were collected (thru the States) to a direct Taxation of the People - without census or enumeration. Prior to 16A the Federal government could only collect taxes (without special laws passed by Congress) from the States! This limited the Central Government by keeping it from unlimited sources of money! With these two Amendments they wasted no time setting up the Federal Reserve, the IRS, and opening the door to "DEMOCRACY" and outright socialism!

Continued on page 14

OPPOSING call for Convention of States and Amendments Convention

By Derrell Poole

And they did this at the onus of the States! They did this in fear of a Convention of States. The US Congress! Can you imagine the Congress fearing the States? At least they understood the dangers of a Convention and what happened in 1787 when the Convention Delegates were only suppose to revise the Articles of Confederation; where those Delegates threw out the A of C and drew up a completely new Constitution. Fortunately those Delegates were Americanists. Not so in 1913 and most assuredly NOT so in 2015! Don't count on THIS Congress to be as wise as even the Congress in 1913...

Write your State Legislature! Demand they oppose ANY application for a States Convention!

Professor Natelson is one of those "Experts" I speak of. He is a "Convention of States" proponent and will do his "subtle" best to convince you that this is the only right thing to do. The letters after his name are to convince you that he is very learned and knows better than you do what Article V says. Who taught him what it says?

And tell Natelson to take an "expert" hike!

Letter to the Editor

By Sheila Ford

The best thing that happened at the Republican Convention was that Jeff Siddoway attempted to introduce a substantially altered Platform excluding references to faith and reliance on God, traditional family, individual responsibility and liberty, State sovereignty, nullification... all the things that keep government small, even though he retained the statement that we believe in smaller government.

This attempt demonstrates that those who want to dilute the strength of Republican ideals and convictions believed that their desire to take the Republican party closer to socialist ideology would not be opposed this time. Jeff Siddoway being an associate and proponent of Otter, as was Kirk Sullivan, who first proposed these changes in 2006 reveals that the Republican Liberty Caucus IS the Republican party. Otter and his gang are what the dam-o-rats USED to be on a line graph of party ideology with regard to Conservatism vs. progressivism. The dam-o-rats occupy the position where socialism used to be.

In 2006 and again this year, thank G-d, the proposal was voted down immediately, giving us hope that the Adults in the party are still strong enough to put the spoiled brat children in their place... on Paper. But in practice...the population is full of uninformed people who have no desire to become informed, and unknowingly vote for the Otters who think the federal government is a big piggy bank with an infinite supply of money to hand to them. As long as the Otters have those people convinced they benefit from the federal "money", we Adults will be outvoted. Otter voters will wake up when their freedom (and ours) is gone, and it is too late to get it back. They, as well as we, will be very displeased with the results, but many probably won't understand how it happened.

States need to assert their sovereignty. We need Attorneys General like Chris Troupis and Governors like Russ Fulcher who won't allow the federal government to act like it's our master. There are lots of aspects to State Sovereignty; True Marriage, Local Control of Schools & Parental Choice, Public Land Management, "Real ID", Medic"aid" (and its expansion) the UN "affordable""care" c-ap... With each of these and more, the federal government. threatens to "withhold "funds" unless the State does it the way the federal government. dictates. Are we supposed to submit to dictatorship? Some States are rejecting some of these demands, but no State rejects ALL of them. It's time for us to tell the feds, " We don't want it, we don't need it. We're going to do what we can with our own, locally generated wealth." And we'll have PLENTY when we stop relying on government and rely on God. Maybe not plenty for all we WANT to do, but plenty for what we NEED to do.

Sullivan's excuse for attempting to eliminate God from the Republican Platform was, reliance on God "makes us look like idiots." Whether that is important is; to whom do we look like idiots? I think it is an honor to look like idiots to those who trust in government, while we trust in God.

Obama's Vision of Economic Growth: Robbing Peter to Pay Paul?

By Steve Ackerman

President Obama came to Idaho. And, as I predicted on Kevin Miller's show (580 KIDO) the President focused on his "middle class tax credits and programs." The problem is he plans to pay for it by taking money from people trying to start a business, trying to keep the business, and trying to save for education.

The President's initiatives include requiring small businesses to provide sick days, offering free college, and giving child care and two-income tax credits to families. These bring both benefits and costs to Idaho families. And to pay for it, he wants to increase families pay on the capital gains they earn – a top marginal rate of 28%. (It was 15% when Obama came into office.) This means less hiring, less spending on equipment, and less saving and investing for the future. Obama will blame it on the "rich," even though he's getting money from "middle class" Americans, including some of the 52% of families that own stock.

The other problem is the government won't have enough money to pay for his ideas. From 1979 to 1986, capital gains taxes dropped from 35% to 20%, and the share of revenue to the federal government from capital gains taxes jumped nearly 300%. When capital gains taxes were raised in the late 1980s and early 1990s, revenue fell. That's why both Presidents Clinton and G.W. Bush lowered the tax rate on capital gains – revenues increased both times.

If President Obama really wants to help Idaho's middle class, he should cut federal income, capital gains, and the estate tax. Idaho's average per capita income is about \$8,000 less than the national average, and Idahoans are paying 15% to 42% more for health insurance. Further, hardly any of the cheaper Bronze or Silver-metal plans on Idaho's health exchange has a deductible under \$3,000. People working 2-3 jobs don't have \$3,000 laying around. Working poor Idahoans need higher wage jobs and lower taxes; not federal gimmicks.

Thank you.

Stephen M. Ackerman was a policy advisor to the Russ Fulcher for Governor campaign. He is the former editor of the Gem State Patriot. He is currently President and CEO of Competitive Edge Research.



Idahoans for Local Education

Keep Education Decision Making Close to Home.

There is important education news from the national front. The federal origin of the infamous “No Child Left Behind” education reform program, the Early and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), has been expired since 2008. To date, it has been operating under a series of continuing resolutions. This is the federal law that brought mandatory standards and high-stakes testing to states. It is now open for reauthorization by the new Congress.

Congress will be under tremendous pressure to keep federal control of education in place. Every special interest group will be competing to influence the final content of whatever emerges as the newest version of this federal law. These include education stakeholders from under every rock... testing companies, curriculum development companies, national organizations, non-profit think tanks, for profit think tanks, unions, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and friends (Jeb Bushes ‘Foundation for Excellence in Education’, aka Common Core Central), etc.

The only “stakeholder” not fully represented in this flurry of activity are students and their families. This is where WE come in... we’re asking you to speak out on this national issue that has such a direct and profound impact on us at home. This may be the last opportunity we will have for the next decade to reduce the onerous federal footprint into state education policy. We need to ask Senator Alexander and his committee to jettison the federally mandated summative assessment (the TEST).

Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN), the new chairman of the U.S. Senate Education Committee, has prepared a draft bill for discussion that can be found [-HERE-](#). We’ve not yet read all 300+ pages of this bill but even the title, “Every Child Ready for College or Career Act of 2015”, sounds like the Common Core mantra. One only needs to read page 33 (lines 9-17) to see that it clearly sounds like CC at a federal level. **Assessments (tests) are discussed on pages 16 through 33 and either option still provides too much federal control. We must insist that states be allowed to determine their own needs.** It may not be possible to derail the whole federal program, but we should at least try to get the federal testing mandates removed. Already there are strong lobbying efforts underway to retain the federal testing requirements so it is important that Senator Alexander receive as many emails and letters as possible. The testing companies will not give up easily as it’s the tests that provide a portal to all of the interactive data mining to come, and to the money.

Please help if you can. Contact our Idaho senators [-HERE-](#) and please consider submitting your own testimony to education chairman Senator Lamar Alexander at... FixingNCLB@help.senate.gov open through February 2nd. He has promised that all committee members will receive a copy.

MORE RELATED NEWS

Senator Mike Crapo and others have proposed [-THIS BILL-](#)

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Washington Post – NY principal explains [Why she was wrong about NCLB](#)

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GOING GREEN

Author Unkown

This is about the supposed lack of environmental concern of the Boomer generation has. And some of you will read it that way.

But I want those of you who are of a certain age (ahem) to realize just how much your world has changed in the last 50 years. If you are young, yes, we really did all the stuff listed below. I personally experienced every one of the rather long list of activities mentioned by the "little old lady." Major changes in lifestyle since then? No, not really. But I'll grand you that things are a good deal more convenient and time-saving today. Now sit back and enjoy.

Checking out at the store, the young cashier suggested to the much older lady that she should bring her own grocery bags, because plastic bags are not good for the environment. The woman apologized to the young girl and explained, "We didn't have this 'green thing' back in my earlier days." The young clerk responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment for future generations." The older lady said that she was right – her generation didn't have the "green thing" in its day. The older lady went on to explain: "Back then, we returned milk bottles, soda bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled. But we didn't have the 'green thing' back in our day. Grocery stores bagged our groceries in brown paper bags that we reused for numerous things. Most memorable besides household garbage bags was the use of brown paper bags as book covers for our school books. This was to ensure that public property (the books provided for our use by the school) was not defaced by our scribbblings. Then we were able to personalize our books on the brown paper bags. But, too bad we didn't do the 'green thing' back then. We walked up stairs because we didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two blocks. But you're right, we didn't have the 'green thing' in our day. Back then we washed the baby's diapers because we didn't have the throwaway kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy-gobbling machine burning up 220volts. Wind and solar power really did dry our clothes back in the early days. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters (and cousins), not always brand-new clothing. But you're right, young lady; we didn't have the 'green thing' back in our day. Back then we had one TV, or radio, in the house – not a TV in every room. And the TV had a screen the size of a handkerchief [remember them?], not a screen the size of the state of Montana. In the kitchen we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us. When we packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, we used wadded up old newspapers to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap. Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working, so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity." But you're right; we didn't have the 'green thing' back then. We drank from a fountain when we were thirsty instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time we had a drink of water. We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blade in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull.

Continued on page 18

GOING GREEN

Author Unknown

But we didn't have the 'green thing' back then. Back then, people took the streetcar or the bus, and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi service in the family's \$45,000 SUV or van, which cost what a whole house did before the 'green thing.' We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 23,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest burger joint. But, isn't it sad, how the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were just because we didn't have the 'green thing' back then?"

I wonder what our grandchildren will be telling their grandchildren in 50 years... "I remember a time when we actually used combustion engines to drive our cars that belched out dirty gases. We actually had massive electricity-generating power plants and wires everywhere to deliver the electricity, rather than the small, efficient home units that produce free electricity for us now. We used something called glasses to help us see. People actually had to carry their communications devices around, and computers were measured in pounds not ounces. We had to do something called "typing" to write; and while we didn't have to actually go to places called libraries like our grandparents did, we could and did spend all day searching through a disorganized Internet for what we needed. You weren't connected biologically to your computer, so getting information in and out of it was a drag.

"People actually got sick and died; and though the situation was getting better, billions of people didn't have enough food at night. People went to big stores to buy what was needed rather than just ordering it or producing it on the spot. We actually threw garbage away in huge resource-consuming "dumps" rather than completely recycling it into new products at the back of the house. It took like forever to get from one point to another. People actually had to "drive" their car rather than just getting in it and telling it where to go. And people died all the time in those cars – they were so dangerous and uncomfortable. In those days you couldn't even instantly communicate with anybody by just thinking. You had to push buttons on that clumsy communication device you hauled around, and then talk into it; and if you lost it you were out of touch and out of luck. We didn't even have intelligent personal robots in those days. It was so Stone Age."

I could go on and on, but you get the drift. The changes in the last 50 years are simply a down payment on the change we'll see and live in the next 50.

AN OPEN LETTER TO IDAHO'S LEGISLATORS
A Constitutional Basis for Rejecting Common Core and the SBAC Test
By Evalyn Bennett

As the House and Senate Education Committees consider legislation regarding the Idaho Core Standards and SBAC test, I urge the committee members to reject further implementation of both the standards and the test. Neither is compatible with the direction of the Idaho Constitution, Article IX.

Article IX, Section 1 directs the legislature to "establish and maintain a general, uniform, and thorough system of public, free common schools." This "system" of public schools is simply the *infrastructure* for education. The legislature is not authorized to fill the infrastructure with teachers, administrators, textbooks, education standards, or tests. Those responsibilities are the role of school districts and the parents and other citizens who reside in those districts.

Article IX, Section 2 directs the Board of Education to provide "general supervision of the state educational institutions and public school system of the state of Idaho." "General supervision" does not extend to a compulsory set of standards and mandated testing for every school district.

Article IX, Sections 3, 4, 7, and 8 make it very clear that the primary role of state government in public education is to manage the state's lands and resources to generate revenue to fund public education. Just because the state manages revenues for schools does not give them authority to dictate what is taught in those schools or how education outcomes should be evaluated. Once again, that is the prerogative of the local districts and their citizens.

Finally, Article IX, Section 1 states that the purpose of public schools is to educate the citizenry so as to maintain the stability of a republican form of government. The Idaho Core Standards are woefully inadequate to achieve this objective. They focus only on math and language arts, not even including the Constitution as required reading. They contain no standards regarding citizenship, U.S. History and government, free enterprise economics, morality, or ethics that are requisite to maintaining a republican form of government. The uniformity of the standards also insults the intelligence of the people by assuming that it is enough for students to just conform to the same low standards, when in fact teaching to those standards overlooks the endless possibilities of innovation, creativity, brilliance, and enthusiasm present in the next generation.

Our nation was founded on an education system of small rural districts which built a school house; hired a teacher; selected a curriculum; kept the building clean, warm, and maintained; provided students with their own transportation to and from school; and were otherwise independent of state interference. The citizens of those generations were worthy Americans and probably better educated than the students of today. Abolishing state standards such as the Idaho Core Standards and mandatory testing such as the ISAT 2 (SBAC test) are a necessary step toward restoring local control of education. I urge you to vote on the side of personal liberty and an education system in alignment with the Idaho Constitution. Vote to abolish the Idaho Core Standards and SBAC test... and do not replace them with any other mandatory standards or testing.

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OBAMA'S BOISE VISIT

By Tea Party Bob

President Obama Sings the Same Off Key Song in Boise that He Sang in Washington.

Predictions aside, it is unfortunate for the conservationists there was no mention of the Boulder White Clouds in his speech, but this was a plus for those who want to take control of our land from the feds. The reason to worry is that he has 2 more years to issue an executive order and declare the Boulder White Clouds a National Monument.

President Obama could have sent us a recording of last night's speech and played golf yesterday, but then again he is out there raising money for the Democratic Party. Here is a president who graduated from Harvard, but hasn't got a clue about economics. He takes carefully selected numbers and dates to weave and craft a story about how well the country is doing when in fact no one in the middle class feels they are doing any better than they were 6 years ago. Trouble is that they are actually doing worse as median annual income for a family of four has dropped an average \$3,500 in the past 5 years. He says our unemployment rate has fallen when in actuality it's because so many workers have dropped out of the work force. We have the lowest labor participation rate in 35 years at 62.7%.

He talked about how gas prices have dropped. That is no thanks to his administration which has made drilling for oil and gas nearly impossible on federal land. The reason we have a glut of gas and oil is because entrepreneurs have gone out on private land using private funds to explore for new sources of oil and gas. It's because of new technology in extraction that they have been very successful in their efforts. These jobs have accounted for over 40% of the new jobs created in the last 5 years. The government had nothing to do with increasing jobs, and in fact they hindered new jobs with more government regulation on industry.

The President spoke of the increase in GDP because of his administration's efforts when it was the over \$500 billion spent for the exploration for oil and gas which accounted for the increase and had nothing to do with his policies. He talks about closing loop holes for the wealthy and increasing the capital gains tax. Historically this has never worked and will only decrease investment and capital gains taxes. You increase investment and productivity by cutting taxes, not raising them. All the time, he is talking about raising taxes on the rich he is figuring out how much to raise the federal gas tax for his infrastructure projects. He also plans to charge the middle class for his free (cost \$60 billion) Community College by taxing college savings accounts and higher capital gains.

Since Obama took office, our debt has just about doubled from \$9 trillion to \$18 trillion, maybe he will just have Janet Yellen order the fed to print another trillion or so for the cost of his new give away for free ideas. As we all know there are limits to our charge cards, but unfortunately the president seems to think there is no limit on his since he is using OPM (other people's money). As England's Distinguished Prime Minister Margret Thatcher once said "The trouble with socialism is eventually you run out of other people's money." If you are wondering why you feel so poor it's because the president has been picking our pockets for the last six years leaving everyone with less HOPE and more Change.

Continued on page 22

OBAMA'S BOISE VISIT

By Tea Party Bob

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the birth and death rates of American small businesses crossed the line for the first time in 2008, and new business creation in this country has been on the decline ever since. This past year 470,000 businesses closed as opposed to 400,000 new ones forming. This does not bode well for the future of free enterprise. It is not so much the failure of businesses, but the lack in the formation of new ones. In fact we are now number 12 in developed countries in the formation of new businesses. Does anyone understand that about 50% of new jobs are created from the 6 million small businesses in our country?

If we made it easier for entrepreneurs to gain access to capital, reduced government regulations which make it hard to start new businesses and give people some government stability and tax reform, it would encourage entrepreneurs to invest and take risks so we could reverse this problem and bring prosperity back to the middle class. Unfortunately this is not the Obama way, so we will continue down his slippery economic slope for the next two years he is in office.

Ladies and Gentlemen, we need leaders who can turn this country around, leaders who can stop the economic bleeding of the middle class, and President Obama is not one of those leaders. He has undoubtedly been the worst president from an economic and regulatory standpoint since Jimmy Carter. You will have an opportunity to rectify this problem in 2016. We ask you to do some homework on the candidates before you go to the polls, and when you do go to vote, VOTE WISELY! Read the resumes this time.

RAISING FEES WITHOUT YOUR CONSENT!

By Bob Neugebauer

If you need a birth certificate or death certificate get ready to pay more of your hard earned dollars for these important documents.. The raise from \$13 to \$20 is a 54% increase without any public input.

It is high time that committees such as the Health and Welfare committee start opening up hearings to these exorbitant changes in fees to a general public hearing so the citizens that are going to pay the higher costs have an opportunity to express their concerns. The Bureau states that it will use \$235,000 to remove a deficit and \$110,000 for unspecified projects.

Excuse me, but why do they think that they have the right to expend \$110,000 of our tax dollars on unspecified projects. This is the real problem with our government. They treat our tax dollars as if they were theirs to spend however they decide without any input from the people. It's \$110,000 here and \$500 thousand there, and the next thing you know they are throwing away millions on projects that are not even warranted . Many of these so called unspecified projects are at the behest of lobbyists. Where is the accountability?

It's time that the various bureaus in our government structure became accountable to the people for their spending, and it's time for our legislators to open up hearings on matters that affect unusual changes in fees such as those for birth and death certificates.

Our thanks to Sheryl Nuxoll, R-Grangeville and Marv Hagedorn R-Meridian for their sensibility in voting NO on this rule change.

[Senators approve 'big' hikes in birth and death certificate costs - IdahoReporter.com](http://www.idahoreporter.com)

TRACKING IMPORTANT LEGISLATION

By Evalyn Bennett

The state legislature web site has a very helpful tab to help you identify legislation you might want to comment on. If you click on the item under the subject index, it takes you directly to the bill. For example, the bill proposing to add gender identity and sexual orientation to the list of civil rights classifications is H0002. H003 has already passed unanimously to amend the requirements for state legislator or senator to require the person to be a registered elector of the district. This is a very good change and one that was made evident by the case I heard on the state GOP convention resolutions committee in June. The case concerned a state senator who had property in her district but did not technically "reside" there during her term or subsequent re-election. If you don't live there, you can't be a registered elector and should not be the district's representative! This change gets around the interpretation of "residence" as being a place you might come back to live eventually.

<http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/legislation/2015/topicind.htm>

There is also a link to House and Senate bills by bill number. The list gives a bill title and notes the committee it is being considered by.

<http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/legislation/2015/minidata.htm>

Finally, this tab takes you to the list of committee members. The most efficient way to contact all of the committee members at once is to send an email to the committee's web site, listed on the left column of the House/Senate committees table.

<http://legislature.idaho.gov/about/standingcommittees.htm>

Open Letter to U.S. Senator James Risch

By Rich Loudenback

It's vexing to communicate a message that will be read by you. I suspect you are all too busy as are some of your staff to really read and comprehend a stated message, because it's apparent you're not reading my faxed messages from your field office. Someone obviously scans a document for subject matter and methodically replies to it with the much vaunted subject form letter. Yet you state appreciation for my contact and actually encourage me to not hesitate to contact you in the future. Why would I want to do that when you or your office aren't really reading the material being sent?

Had you read what was sent, my 12-1-14 column from the Gem State Patriot titled "The Deceitful Free Trade Agenda's," you would not still be 'NOT GETTING IT!', on this so important an issue that threatens our sovereignty and our very existence as an independent nation.

Quoting your reply letter: *"I fully support free trade but agree it must be on a level playing field. As part of the solution to rein in the trade imbalance, our trading partners must comply fully with the stipulations of trade agreements already in place. Also, foreign companies of our trading partners must comply with similar standards for product safety and labor practices as U.S. companies."*

I do believe that, with a level playing field, we can manufacture quality products in cost-effective ways on par with any other country. As your Senator, I assure you I will work to see that the trading field is level so the United States can be a strong trading partner and competitor.

Now Senator, how do you propose that we control China which reportedly will no doubt be joining the Trans Pacific Partnership or any other sovereign country to follow new regulations? The level playing field you dream of is pure 'in your dreams' Fantasyland. A review of my 2nd page I sent you cites absolute facts you can easily verify about the damages actually incurred by our commerce, employment and sovereignty that was sold with the same hype to legislators like yourself on the travesty called NAFTA.

*Quoting William F. Jasper of The New American magazine: "The TPP and TTIP should be of special concern to Americans, since.... the authors and promoters of these agreements admit that they deal with far more than trade and have been designed to drag the United States into "regional governance" on a host of issues. The architects of the TPP and TTIP are virtually unanimous in their head-over-heels praise of, and support for, the political and economic merger taking place in the European Union (EU). **The once-sovereign nations of Europe have been tricked, bribed, and browbeaten into yielding control over almost every aspect of their lives to globalist banking and corporate elites and their bureaucratic servitors in Brussels. The national governments, legislatures, and courts in the European Union are becoming mere administrative units of the unaccountable rulers of the increasingly tyrannical EU central government.**"*

"Because the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership is an agreement with an already existing transnational superstate — the EU — and because most of the key TTIP promoters have already enthusiastically embraced the EU ideas of integration, harmonization, and convergence, it is probably the more dangerous of the two agreements, although the Trans-Pacific Partnership may be coming up earlier for a vote in the U.S. Congress."

Continued on page 25

Open Letter to U.S. Senator James Risch

By Rich Loudenback

“Former general and CIA chief David Petraeus , a key figure in the globalist [Council on Foreign Relations](#) and the shadowy [Bilderberg](#) network, boasted at a recent conference that **the [United States of America is set to be merged into the continental regime being erected](#) under the [North American Free Trade Agreement \(NAFTA\)](#)**. *Speaking at the Margaret Thatcher Conference on Liberty on June 18, 2014 in London*, the ex-commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan and Iraq **essentially celebrated the end of U.S. independence — and by extension, the demise of the Constitution.**

“After America comes North America,” Petraeus [said](#) confidently in answering the question about what comes after the United States, the theme of the panel discussion. **“Are we on the threshold of the North American decade, question mark? I threw that away — threw away the question mark — and boldly proclaimed the coming North American decade, says the title now.”** He also boasted about how **the three economies have been put “together” over the last 20 years as part of the “implementation” of the North American Free Trade Act.**

“The “highly integrated” forces of Canada, the United States, and Mexico, Petraeus continued, will become the world’s powerhouse for energy and science. **“There are four revolutions that are ongoing at various levels in each of the countries but foremost in the United States,”** said the former CIA chief, who now serves as chairman of the KKR Global Institute. **“The energy revolution is the first of those, which has created the biggest change in geopolitics since the rise of China since 1978.”** The other “revolutions” include IT, manufacturing, and life sciences, which, **“as highly integrated as they are, allow you to argue that after America comes North America,”** he added.”

Our government may be messy and recently become extremely difficult to operate but we can turn this increasingly socialistic mess around through very hard work with a design by my men like yourself if you will only get up for not following hype and start pursuing real research driven facts. Our citizens will NOT do well having known our freedoms and living under our Constitution if these very professionally skilled promoters succeed in duping our elected representatives into setting up such a blueprint as these FTA’s evolving us into a member nation led by unaccountable, unelected global power elitists in partnership with the corrupt United Nations with plans for all aspects of our lives.

Senator Risch, you need to stop following the hype of pure propaganda since what is being spewed by these deceitful Free Trade Promoters will be so injurious to our future.

As I stated in the opening of that Dec. 1st column: “One of the vilest people I’ve ever heard speak, the extreme far lefty named Alan Grayson, U.S. Congressman (D-Fla.), is one of the few members of Congress given limited access to the TPP negotiation documents, and he told the *Huffington Post*, **“Having seen what I’ve seen, I would characterize this as a gross abrogation of American sovereignty.”** If even he gets it, what is wrong with the rest of our legislators? Why do you not get it? Maybe you need to start actually reading your mail.

America Lite By Rich Loudenback

Men are not born equal but with equal rights. A wealthy son may have some capital advantage if the father chooses to help him, but a poor son might possess a driven desire to focus and accomplish, born of a hunger to succeed, giving him the advantage. If you buy into the redistribution crap being put out to the entitlement crowd of today both of these sons' chances would be diminished. Government would take away from the wealthy father and give it to the poor one. Then both fathers would back off working, the wealthy one not wanting to support the poor one and the poor one recognizing he doesn't have to work so hard. The result: the work goes downhill and so does the money. Both fathers and their sons lose in Obama's America?

This is America upside down. Immigrants from everywhere came here for the freedom to pursue the fruits of their labors un-restrained from the shackles of oppressive governments. Irrespective of their ethnicity, they learned the English language, became assimilated Americans and applied themselves working hard toward reaching their goals so they could keep the fruits of their labor.

We Americans have been a loosely knit coalition of peoples of different origins, races & religions that have shared the common desire to live freely in an open respectful society attaining varying levels of success or failure (which is a learning experience) bound by the common thread of a document stating that we are a nation of law designed after natural law.

It wasn't what Government did that made America great. It was what our Constitution prevented the Government from doing that made the difference.

WHAT THE SAM HILL HAPPENED?

What the Sam Hill (one of my favorite old expressions) has happened one might ask today? Controlling big government has happened! As if you haven't noticed. Big, zealous, all seeing, all knowing, all controlling, all too powerful government. Much like the governments from which our ancestors escaped. Unfortunately there is no open territory for us to escape to like early America was.

We are not the America we once were! The one that followed law, built much of the world's products, taught true history, and knew what we were about. **Although America has not passed into history yet, we most certainly are not the America we would like to think we are anymore. We are probably something akin to 'America Lite' close to becoming 'America Yuck' and then into oblivion as a member state of the world government scheme designed and run by unaccountable, unelected global power elitists.**

One could fill an encyclopedia with what has gone wrong with our system, our course, our decline in morality and factual historical education, the focused socialist agenda of education, trashing of our religious principles, the rise in naivety and corruption in government, and the travesty of our sorry media lackeys intentionally, politically mis-reporting and not reporting or investigating serious government abuses and scandals.

COMMERCE: OUR ROOTS & OUR FUTURE

Without the capital that profits derived from productivity and investment there is no income to tax or money for any other of our myriad of taxes. So why do we sit by quietly and watch our sorry elected government officials and unelected bureaucrats continually create legislation and thousands and thousands of regulations that absolutely kill our ability to compete with other nations and their businesses that have virtually none of the same business restraining, regulatory costs? The answer is because we have been remiss about paying attention and too trusting of what we're told by those same poker faced, arrogant, bad politicians and bureaucrats who may also be corrupt. **It matters not what they say, it's what they do and how they vote**

Continued on page 27

America Lite By Rich Loudenback

THE BIG MEDIA & HIGHER EDUCATION AGENDA

Missing is a viable investigative media police. Big media is part of the ‘fixed system.’ A truly functioning unbiased investigative press and big media should be reporting actual ramifications, the root power, real motives and money actually driving all legislation and bureaucratic regulations. We are thankful for the extremely small portion of our media that really does try to investigate and report aggressively, although much of their efforts are ignored or fall on eyes and ears that could care less. **EDUCATION – THE CAUSATION OF MUCH OF THE AFOREMENTIONED:** Much of this unattached attitude has been nurtured by a lack of motivation and learning substantive factual history in schools with an even higher socialist mentality being promoted in higher learning institutions. Millions of Americans are sickened by the easily swayed, unknowing, lazy minds who buy into absolute propagandizing by a very politically influenced unpatriotic big media and the extreme socialists concepts popularized by higher education.

THAT SICKENING FEELING

Truly there is much that is wrong today that makes us no longer the country that has been so great. Yes, ‘America Lite’ can only continue to spiral downward unless, an awakened citizenry will start educating themselves and informing others about what needs to be done to reverse our direction from marching into utter socialism. Socialist globalists need the American people to be ignorant, American patriots need them to be informed.

If all elected representatives of our governments don’t catch on quickly and buy into a methodically focused effort, akin to our successful commitment to put a man on the moon project, to roll back the nonsensical restricting laws and regulations crippling and killing our commerce we really are on a path to doom as a vibrant sovereign nation. **And that especially includes dissolving the disastrous unfair trade practices such as NAFTA and stopping its proposed huge outgrowths that very dangerously and actually fatally threatens our national sovereignty: the Transpacific Trade Partnership (TTP) and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).** See 12-1-14 column ‘The Deceitful Free Trade Agenda’ by going to *ARCHIVE* on home page.

NIX ‘BRINGING HOME THE BACON’ MENTALITY

Probably the meanest demand we can make to our elected representatives is that we need them to give up the age old ‘I’m going to bring home the money you need,’ mentality which, if not directly or indirectly, is a quid pro quo for something of value or in return for re-election support. **No matter how important the local or state need for the ‘bacon,’ it has to come from our shared local, shared state and shared national tax troughs. Nothing spends like somebody else’s money.** I can hear them now, ‘Amen, my constituents really, really need the money and if you let me up to the trough next please I will in exchange return a favor(s) or votes to you.’ - **THAT IS OUR SHARED TAX TROUGH!** We should be fed up with the bacon grabbers all over the United States willy nilly taking our money for all so many ‘really good reasons’ to help the folks back home.

Issues like necessary national security, shared regional state water distribution, interstate highway, and national airport developments etc. notwithstanding, **most local and regional issues of any substantial consequence can generally attract private investment and if not, it probably isn’t viable and certainly should not be ‘subsidized by our collective tax trough.’** Prime unnecessary subsidized examples are the ethanol, solar, windmill subsidies and GM bailout fiasco.

Continued on page 28

America Lite By Rich Loudenback

Their return on investment would not attract many investors without the subsidies from our collective tax trough. Politicians who were responsible for getting our money for their ‘projects’ were handsomely rewarded with quid pro quo contributions either directly or indirectly. Some say that is how our system works. I’m saying that is how we have been going backwards for too long. Our trough has been empty for a long time. Putting newly printed ‘play’ money in the trough is inflationary and our debt is beyond insanity.

No matter how puritanical a ‘bring home the bacon’ pitch sounds it really is a request by politicians to directly enlist political support for themselves and they love being the hero bringing our collective money home, probably with almost the same pride as Robin Hood.

AMERICA IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY

America really is supposed to be ours, we the people, remember? Not Barack Hussein (insult intended) Obama’s, not the legislative leaders and not the Supreme Court’s. Precious documents like the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights made us a nation of laws that have guided us through much tribulation to become the most successful nation in history, the envy of the world. To call our Constitution outdated is absolute tripe promoted by those who would take us down gradually.

SO WHAT DO WE DO?

We put our elected representatives on notice that we expect them to do the hard work of developing a grand plan that can work to turn things around by returning us to a functioning republic following our laws and the Constitution before we go off the cliff. There will be much gnashing of teeth, screaming and whispering threats from lobbyist and many special interests PAC’s. But that has to be expected, if we are to really get us back to a functioning republic. This has nothing to do with political parties. Both parties are full of socialist leaning members. It has everything to do with patriotism, because we as Americans are supposed to care about and run our country. Not political PAC’s, or the Council on Foreign Relations, the corrupt UN and especially not George Soros and his ilk.

John Boehner and now Mitch McConnell and their democratic counterparts need to give up listening to the drum beat of their party machine also orchestrated by the Council on Foreign Relations/UN crowd and start listening to the patriotic owners of this country. They will hate this hard work, but it has to be done and they need to ‘Patriot Up’ for it.

Americans must make certain that we continually watch voting records published quarterly on both houses of congress here in Idaho at idahofreedom.org and the U.S. congress, also published quarterly, at jbs.org while making sure our representatives know we are watching their voting record. And we must awaken others to the importance of this monitoring and how to do it.

IN SUMMATION

America became great precisely because the stifling effect of too much government had been prevented. We need to get back to ‘stifling’ and start doing the very hardest work that must be done of reversing and undoing the wrongs of the overzealous, the naïve and the corrupt politicians that have taken our life-blood commerce and our nation to a position of being truly what one must consider for now as ‘America Lite.’

Join the Idaho Second Amendment Alliance



Your membership makes a difference!

The ISAA is a member-driven organization fighting for our Second Amendment rights in Idaho. The support of our members is critical to supporting our efforts, such as:

- the Preemption Project to remove illegal "no guns" signs and illegal city and county ordinances that penalize law abiding gun owners, and
- Constitutional Carry legislation being introduced in the 2015 state legislature.

Membership levels available:

- 1 Year - \$25, Includes Window Sticker
- 2 Year - \$40 (save \$10), Includes Window Sticker & Hat
- 5 Year - \$90 (save \$35), Includes Window Sticker, Hat, & Challenge Coin
- 5 Year Founding - \$150 (Only 100 Available), Includes Window Sticker, Limited Edition Hat, Limited Edition Numbered Challenge Coin

Sign up online at idahosaa.org/membership/



Come join us to support our Constitutional Carry (permitless carry) legislation. This bill allows everyone who is not prohibited by state or federal law to carry openly or concealed without a permit.

We will meet at the Center on the Grove at 3:30pm and march to the capitol building for a short rally

UNDERSTANDING CONSTITUTIONAL CARRY

Why ISAA Supports Constitutional Carry

Idaho Second Amendment Alliance
was founded to fight for the 2nd
Amendment rights of all Idaho
citizens.

The ISAA's main goal is to align Idaho laws with the true meaning of the Second Amendment. Criminals do not obey laws or obtain permits. Law abiding citizens should not be burdened with an unnecessary permitting process which has no effect on criminal activity.

Second Amendment to the United States Constitution

*A well regulated Militia,
being necessary to the
security of a free State,
the right of the people to
keep and bear Arms, shall
not be infringed.*

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Constitutional Carry (CC)?

CC is generally defined by carrying of firearms, concealed or not, that is not restricted by law. Our intent for Idaho is to make it legal for law-abiding citizens to carry a handgun, firearm, or other weapon concealed or open without an applicable permit or license.

Do other states have CC?

Yes, several states have CC.

- Vermont, since 1791
- Alaska, since 2003
- Arizona, since 2010
- Wyoming, since 2011*
- Arkansas, since 2013

* non-residents must open carry only

Will CC cause a rise in violent crime?

No. This question comes up every time a restriction is removed from law-abiding gun owners, but facts show it is unfounded. Criminals, by definition, do not obey the law, so passing CC is unlikely to change their gun possession habits. However, criminals are deterred by armed citizens that can defend themselves.

Can anyone carry a firearm under CC?

No. Anyone currently barred from possessing a gun under state or federal law will still be prohibited.

Will CC eliminate Idaho's existing concealed carry permits?

No. The ISAA bill maintains our existing permits for reciprocity with other states.

Constitutional Carry



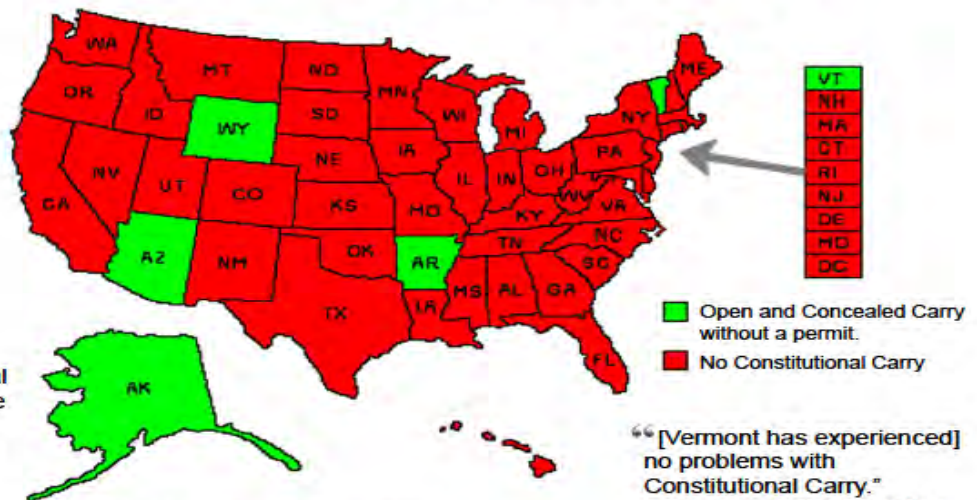
Decriminalizing the Second Amendment

Idaho Second Amendment Alliance

823 Blaine St. #329
Caldwell, Idaho 83605

www.idahosaa.org

Constitutional Carry – From The States That Have It



☒ Open and Concealed Carry without a permit.

☒ No Constitutional Carry

"I fully understand Constitutional Carry. I don't have a problem with it."

- **Governor Butch Otter, Idaho**

“I believe strongly in the individual rights and responsibilities of a free society, and as Governor I have pledged a solemn and important oath to protect and defend the Constitution. I believe this [Constitutional Carry] legislation not only protects the Second Amendment rights of Arizona citizens, but restores those rights as well.”

- **Governor Jan Brewer, Arizona**

“Wyoming’s Legislature passed constitutional carry in 2011. Prior to the passing of the legislation, I had officer safety concerns and public safety concerns. However, my concerns have been allayed over the last few years as we have not experienced increased gun crimes or assaults on deputies.”

- **Sheriff Jim Whalen,**
Teton County (Wyoming)

“[Vermont has experienced] no problems with Constitutional Carry.”

- Representative Carolyn Branagan, Vermont

“It was the intent of the sponsors of Act 746 to decriminalize the open carry of a firearm by persons not prohibited from legally possessing the firearm.

- Representative Nate Bell, Arkansas



WHAT IS THE REAL PRICE OF FREE TRADE?



Free trade agreements have been sold as the solution for increasing trade between countries and maximizing economic opportunities. However, the actual results show something entirely different.

Join Arthur R. Thompson as he discusses the real price of free trade and questions why current free trade agreement discussions are involving subjects outside of trade, including climate change, sustainable development, homeland security, the military and international courts.

Mr. Thompson is CEO of The John Birch Society, former owner of a manufacturing business, and author of "International Merger by Foreign Entanglements."

03/18/2015 – 07:00PM
Boise Hotel and Convention Center
3300 Vista Ave. Boise, ID.

Ticket Price: \$5.00
For More Information call:
Tom Munds: 208-861-6405
Or email: tmunds@jbs.org

03/19/2015 – 07:00PM
King's Little Theater
2100 Parke Ave. Burley, Idaho
Ticket Price: Free (Donations welcome)

For More Information call:
Rita Ramsey: 208-678-3729
Or email: rramsey@pmt.org



The John Birch Society

JBS.org

HELPING HAND FUND

5K RUN/WALK

WILL BE HELD AT
JULIUS C KLEINER PARK
SATURDAY MAY 2, 2015



JOIN US FOR THE HELPING HAND 5K RUN, PET WALK & PET FAIR!

The Helping Hand Fund will bring you an exciting day on May 2nd, 2015. The second annual Helping Hand event will be held at the beautiful Kleiner Park from 9:30 am - 12 pm.

The days events will feature a "Beat the Doc" 5K run, a 1 mile Pet Walk, and a Pet Fair with fun contests for people and pets, demonstrations and vendor booths.

Proceeds from the walk will benefit the Helping Hand Fund, Meridian Valley Humane Society (MVHS), and Helping Idaho Dogs. All three organizations are not-for-profit and benefit pets and people.

Please review our Sponsor Package with the many exciting benefits for your company,

If you have any questions, please contact myself, or one of the charity leaders below.

BENEFITS OF BEING A HELPING HAND RUN, WALK & PET FAIR SPONSOR

Our goal is for each sponsor to connect with the pet owning public as you help make our event successful. We will be offering a variety of marketing approaches to make your investment in the event pay off for your business.

ADVERTISEMENT & PRESS RELEASES

There will be press releases and community calendar listings of the event.

We will showcase the event with PSA and ads.

ONLINE ADVERTISING

A web page is set up at www.idahohelpinghandfund.com listing sponsors and event information. Walkers will be accessing this site for sign up as well.

POSTERS & EVENT BROCHURES

We will have brochure handouts with major sponsors listed along with their logo. These will be distributed at local stores and gathering places.

VENDOR BOOTHS AT ALL SPONSOR LEVELS

All levels of sponsorship can have a vendor booth at the event.

There will be a raffle of an iPad and participants will have to visit booths for a stamp to be eligible for the raffle.

TARGETED HOME OWNERS RELEASES

We will have mass e-mails sent to various Meridian Home Owner Associations telling of the event and featuring the sponsors.



DR. BOB BEEDE, *Co-Chair*
KIM MULVAHILL, *Co-Chair*
Helping Hand Fund
208.888.2910

DEBBY DECKER, *PRESIDENT*
Meridian Valley Humane Society
208.412.6779

CAROL JENSEN
Helping Idaho Dogs
208.850.3936



SPONSORSHIP CONFIRMATION



COMPANY NAME:
(exactly as it should appear in print)

Contact Name: _____ Title: _____

MAILING ADDRESS:

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

We/I would like to sponsor The Helping Hand Fund Fun Run and Walk at the following level:

- ☐ TOP DOG (\$5,000) Yes, we want to provide and host a vendor booth for the event approx. 10' x 10'
- ☐ HEART OF GOLD (\$2,500) Yes, we want to provide and host a vendor booth for the event approx. 10' x 10'
- ☐ BEST IN SHOW (\$1,000) Yes, we want to provide and host a vendor booth for the event approx. 10' x 10'
- ☐ CHAMPION (\$500) Yes, we want to provide and host a vendor booth for the event approx. 10' x 10'
- ☐ EVENT PATRON (\$250) Yes, we want to provide and host a vendor booth for the event approx. 10' x 10'
- ☐ VENDOR SPACE (\$125) Yes, we want to provide and host a vendor booth for the event approx. 10' x 10'
- ☐ NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS (\$75) Yes, we want to provide and host a vendor booth for the event approx. 10' x 10'
- ☐ Please contact me for Raffle Prize Donation (\$25 or more in product or gift certificates)
- ☐ Please contact me for Promotional Material for Walk Packet

If you selected a vendor rank above, please describe booth content:

VALUE OF CONTRIBUTION:

1) Cash \$ _____ 2) In-kind (fair market value) \$ _____ Please list/describe item or service in detail: _____

TOTAL CONTRIBUTION \$ _____

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Check enclosed (payable to Helping Hand Fund, a 501(c)(3) fund)

☐ Credit Card
name on card _____
card # _____ exp _____ security code _____

DESIGNATED CHARITY

(Helping Hand Fund, M/HF or
Helping Idaho Dogs)

Please remit contribution and signed contract to:
Helping Hand Fund | 800 W Overland Rd, Ste 2 | Meridian, ID 83642

Return signed form and logo/artwork by February 1, 2015 for inclusion in printed materials.

Email high resolution vector or native format logo/artwork to: Idahovet@aol.com

Questions? For more information, contact:

Dr. Bob Beede at 208.888.2910 or Idahovet@aol.com or Kim Mulvihill at 208.888.2910 or mkmulviah@yahoo.com

SPONSOR: We/I agree to the terms indicated above.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE HELPING HAND FUND FUN RUN AND WALK

THE MERIDIAN VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY



**MY NAME IS DANTE I'M LOOKING FOR A HOME
I'm a Border Collie mix and still a puppy at 2 years old.
I have a high energy level, I'm house trained know some
commands like sit and down. I like to take walks and
need a master who will take the time to train me, love
and take care of me in a good home.**

**IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN ADOPTING DANTE
CONSIDER CALLING THE MERIDIAN
VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY
191 S. LINDER RD. CALL 208-794-0944**

The Meridian Valley Humane Society is up and running again at a new location at 191 S. Linder Rd.

Many of you may remember that in 2013, the city of Meridian made a decision to contract with the Idaho Humane Society to provide animal control and sheltering for the City of Meridian. The old Meridian shelter closed on September 30, 2013 and the remaining dogs were transferred to the Idaho Humane Society. The volunteers of the Meridian Valley Shelter still had a dream to continue to help homeless dogs find their new homes/families. A dedicated group of these volunteers formed a new Board of Directors and became an independent canine rescue focusing on dogs whose owners are no longer able to care for them.

Debby Decker, President of Board, is in the forefront of this new shelter and seems to have matters well in hand at the new Meridian Valley Humane Society. The new shelter has been up and running for about a year, and they are handling between fifteen and twenty dogs at a time.

Currently the dogs come from owner relinquishments, and outlying communities that have no shelter where police departments keep animals for only five days and then euthanize them. They are now serving all of the Treasure Valley, including people from Oregon.

Their expertise is getting to know the animals likes and dislikes and then matching them with families looking for dogs. They have had great success with finding a "forever home" for the dogs. They feel the "dog chooses his family".

They are run totally on donations with no government support. They have no volunteer vets on staff, but they do get group discounts from the vets they use. They have been running some offsite events to help fund the shelter. The next one will be on Oct. 24. Debby Decker said it has been a "blessed year" for them with people being very good about donating. They are a 501c3 so all donations are tax deductible.

COMPASSIONATE CARE AND PASSIONATE VOLUNTEERS. Their paycheck is hearing updates from people who adopted one of their dogs. They are in need of more volunteers. Their website shows various opportunities for volunteering with an application on the website.

<http://www.meridianvalleyhumanesociety.org/>

ANNOUNCING THE NORTHWEST LIBERTY ACADEMY!

...teaching the principles of a Free Society and Free Enterprise

Our Mission

To teach the principles of a Free Society and Free Enterprise beginning with the Founders acknowledgement that men are by nature free and derive their natural rights from God, not government, that the proper role of good government is to protect the "inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness", and that Free Enterprise is the right of the people to engage in a free and moral exchange of ideas, goods and services.

Idaho State Capitol



2015 Liberty Symposium
June 17th, 18th, 19th & 20th
State Capitol- Boise, Idaho

Classes offered for Students ages

- 12-14 yrs.
- 15-18 yrs.
- Adults, no age restriction

- Meet elected state officials and get a *personal tour* of all three branches of government from the Idaho Statehouse to the Supreme Court!
- Meet top business leaders and learn about our mentorship program!
- Learn what it takes to develop and start *your own* business enterprise!
- Learn about ethics, leadership, communication skills and so much more. . .

Also offering Adult Classes ages 19-119, no age restriction!

We have heard from many adults who believe their educational experiences were far from complete. This is *your* chance to "fill in the holes" with some **Austrian Economics and Free Market Principles** from the brilliant likes of Hayek, Von Mises, Rothbard and others. Learn historical perspectives from Frederick Bastiat, Alexis de Tocqueville and some other historical figures you might not have learned about.

For more details on program, costs, and scholarships contact us at:

info@nwlibertyacademy.org

Hosted by White Pine Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit, nonpartisan, non-denominational Idaho Corporation.



RTHWEST LIBERTY ACADEMY!

...teaching the principles of a free society and free enterprise

2015 Essay Contest

"Eternal Vigilance" and the Oath of Office

Write an essay on what you think Thomas Jefferson meant by "eternal vigilance", and why the Oath* of Office is considered a sacred trust.

The **winners will receive a scholarship** to the Northwest Liberty Academy to be held at the Idaho Statehouse in Boise, June 17,18,19 & 20th.

Deadline for essay submission is May 15, 2015.

Winning Essays will be announced and read at the 2015 NW Liberty Academy.

- Rules -

1. There are three age categories: 12-14 yrs., 15-18 yrs., & 19 and older (no age restriction)
2. Essays are limited to no more than 500 words
3. Submit essays by email to: elizabethhallanhodge@gmail.com
4. The scholarship includes student tuition, materials, bus transportation during academy, hotel and meals. It does not include transportation to and from Boise.
5. Deadline for essay submission is May 15, 2015.

The essays will be collected and an independent panel will pick the "best of the best".

*as originally defined by Noah Webster 1828

Check us out at: <http://nwlibertyacademy.org/>

Questions? Contact us at: info@nwlibertyacademy.org

if the citizens neglect their duty and place unprincipled men in office, the government will soon be corrupted; laws will be made, not for the public good, so much as for selfish or local purposes; corrupt or incompetent men will be appointed to execute; the public revenues will be squandered on unworthy men; and the rights of the citizens will be violated or disregarded."

-Noah Webster, 1832, History of the United States

Hosted by White Pine Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit, nonpartisan, non-denominational Idaho Corporation.

It is with great enthusiasm that Alan and I invite you to join us on a quest to further our understanding and knowledge of Liberty and Free Enterprise. For over 25 years we have been involved in various efforts to further the case for both of these ideas.



Our mentor, the late Ralph Smeed opened a door back in the mid 70's by introducing me to such great works as *The LAW* by Frederick Bastiat, and *Mainspring of Human Progress* by Henry Grady Weaver, while offering a scholarship to seminars sponsored by FEE (Foundation for Economic Education) where I would first read "I, Pencil" by Leonard Read. At the time I was serving as a young Christian Education Director for a local church in Caldwell, Idaho.

My parents had grounded me in certain principles regarding liberty and enterprise, but I would not come to appreciate their efforts and wisdom for years to come. I remain grateful to them and to God for placing me under their instruction.

For the past two years, Alan and I have been traveling throughout the northwest meeting with individuals and speaking at public and private schools, churches, service organizations and business conferences. We have addressed over 10,000 fellow Americans. We were constantly struck by the number of people who were kind enough to come up to us and thank us for talking about our "Republic" and the opportunities afforded to us as citizens. We were equally taken by their request that we include classes for Adults along with younger and older youth. To that end the Northwest Liberty Academy was founded. Based on moral and economic principles of a free society with emphasis placed on the *proper role of government* and the preservation of our inalienable rights to life and liberty including the right to *peacefully engage in a free and moral exchange of ideas, goods and services*.

With blessings from God, we look forward to the work set before us and invite you to join us in this great adventure!

Elizabeth



ALAN HODGE, NWLA CO-FOUNDER

For the past two years, Elizabeth and I have traveled throughout the northwest speaking on topics related to our Republic and the moral and economic implications of a free society. It has been during that time that I began to hear from others who, like me, believed there were gaping holes in their education.

While touting the virtues of Keynes and Galbraith, never once in my time at the university did I hear the names, Hayek, (recipient of a Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences) or Von Mises (noted Austrian Economist), and Milton Friedman (recipient of the 1976 Nobel Prize in Economic Services) was given passing mention as a mere "eccentric." The entire Austrian School of Economics was totally ignored.

Over the years I have grown wary of conventional wisdom regarding the whole "left, right paradigm". I had a front row seat in the political grand stand during Elizabeth's tenure in the Idaho House of Representatives. I personally witnessed her frustration that, while politicians uttered empty platitudes of free enterprise and limited government, many members of both parties voted for more government intervention in our lives and less economic and personal freedom. That was all brought home when a former colleague told Elizabeth "You can do anything you want here, your constituents will never know." Elizabeth's incredulous response of "But I'll know", held no sway.

It is with much excitement and pleasure that we decided to step out in faith with the Northwest Liberty Academy. We look forward to the journey.

Yours for liberty,
Alan

N rthwest Liberty Academy!

2015 Symposium SPEAKERS



Connor Boyack, Author
President Libertas Institute



Kris Anne Hall
Kris Anne Show, "Liberty First"



Scott Hodge
President Tax Foundation



Jason Riddle
FEE, Foundation for
Economic Education



Lawrence Denny
Idaho Secretary of State



Ron Crane
Idaho State Treasurer



Justice Daniel Eismann
Idaho Supreme Court



Bill Sali
Former U.S. Congressman



Sen. Sheryl Nuxoll
Idaho Senate



Sen. Chuck Winder
Idaho Senate



Rep. Vito Barbieri
Idaho House



Rep. Judy Boyle
Idaho House



Christ Troupis, Troupis Law Office



Alan Hodge, Co-founder NWLA

The Gem State Patriot would like to introduce our readers to a new web site we are partnering with.

“TVOI NEWS THE VOICE OF IDAHO”

Their mission is to bring common-sense back to our government and elected officials.

TVOI News is a brand new online alternative news and entertainment site whose mission is to shine a light of journalistic truth through unbiased well documented news as well as local entertainment including talk shows, mini series programs and music/talent shows.

Visit the TVOI website click the link below

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CONTACT TOM MUNDS JBS COORDINATOR
tmunds@jbs.org

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HOW TO CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS

WANT TO KNOW WHO THE LEGISLATORS ARE IN YOUR DISTRICT

IF YOU CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW IT WILL TAKE YOU TO THE GUIDE

http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2015/Directory/Legislative_Directory.pdf

STATE CAPITAL GENERAL CONTACT INFORMATION

<http://legislature.idaho.gov/about/capitoladdress.htm>

FIND WHO YOUR REPRESENTATIVE AND SENATOR ARE BY DISTRICT

<http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/about/district.cfm#d14>

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE AND SENATOR

<http://legislature.idaho.gov/about/contactbyname.cfm>

STANDING COMMITTEES IN THE SENATE

<http://legislature.idaho.gov/senate/committees.cfm>

STANDING COMMITTEES IN THE HOUSE

<http://legislature.idaho.gov/house/committees.cfm>

JOINT COMMITTEES

<http://legislature.idaho.gov/about/jointcommittees.htm>

INTERM COMMITTEES, TASK FORCES & SPECIAL COMMITTEES

<http://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2014/interim/interimcommittees.htm>

WANTED NEWSLETTER WRITERS

THE GEM STATE PATRIOT IS LOOKING FOR WRITERS/REPORTERS.

**WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU ABOUT IMPORTANT
NEWS ON ISSUES AFFECTING YOUR COMMUNITY.**

<http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/about/district.cfm#d14>

SEND YOUR STORIES & LETTERS TO bob@gemstatepatriot.com

HERE ARE LINKS TO CONTRIBUTORS OF THIS NEWSLETTER

The Idaho Business alliance <http://idahobusinessalliance.com>

The 9-12 Project <http://912projectidaho.com>

The Free Enterprise Pac <http://freeenterprisepac.com>

Idaho Carry Open & Concealed <http://idahocarry.org>

Idaho Freedom Foundation <http://idahofreedom.net>

Idahoans for Local Education <http://idahoansforlocaleducation.com/>

Idaho Chooses Life <http://idahochooseslife.org/>

Act for America https://www.facebook.com/pages/Idaho-ACT-for-America/288121108039664?ref=br_tf

The Voice of Idaho <http://www.tvoinews.com/>

Oath Keepers <http://oathkeepers.org/oath/>

Idaho Second Amendment Alliance <http://www.idahosaa.org/about/>

Please take some time to visit the Gem State Patriot website TV section.
<http://gemstatepatriot.com/blog/category/gem-state-patriot-tv/>

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