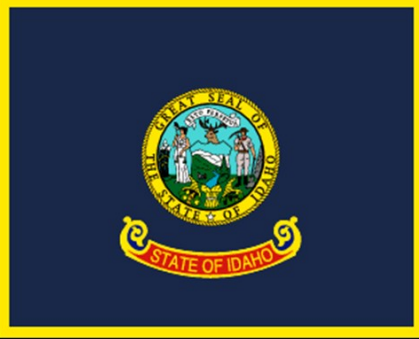


THE GEM STATE PATRIOT



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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.

10 days before Rodeo event the BLM announces it will not fund Island Bar or Shorts Bar campgrounds.

The camp grounds will be open thanks to efforts by Jim, Salmon River Cowboy Assn. and Idaho Cty. Sheriff Here is [Jim Chmelik Idaho County Commissioner's Reply to BLM press release on Riggins Rodeo May 4th.](#) I am deeply troubled by the press release from the BLM offices. This e-mail is an attempt to cover-up a blatant abuse of power and their attempt undermined the traditions and culture of Idaho County. In my conversations with BLM officials, I found their arrogance only exceeded by the belligerent attitudes towards myself and everyone else who had contacted them. Idaho county officials along with many private interests in the Riggins area all proposed cooperative solutions to this situation and all were met with stiff opposition. If the BLM would like to repair the damage they have done within this community, they could begin with an apology.

Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did, and it never will. Find out just what people will submit to, and you have found out the exact amount of injustice and wrong, which will be imposed upon them; and these will continue until they are resisted with either words or blows, or with both. [The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress.](#) -- Frederick Douglass, August 4, 1857.

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MY VIEW OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

By Senator Russ Fulcher

As the 2013 legislature started, most members knew there would be four primary issues that would dominate the session: Balancing the budget, personal property tax relief, education reform, and a state-based health exchange. This turned out to be true. Here is a brief summary:

Balancing the budget

Unlike our federal counterparts in Washington DC, Idaho once again leaves the legislative session with a balanced budget. In approximate figures, the state budget totaled \$2.8 billion, a 3% increase over the same appropriations a year ago but at a rate of growth lower than the projected growth in the economy of 5.3%. K-12 education was the largest line item, accounting for more than 50% of the state general fund (2.2% higher than last year), and was hotly contested to the end. Legislators debated how these monies would be spent, and ultimately decided on a mix of teacher pay increases, operations, and discretionary dollars to school district officials. Also, for the first time, a modest provision for charter school facilities was accommodated.

Personal property tax relief

The ongoing debate on personal property tax resulted with the passage of HB315, which triggers a \$100,000 personal property tax exemption and excludes any new equipment that costs \$3,000 or less. Since personal property tax revenue is levied and collected by counties, legislators agreed to backfill county coffers with \$20 million. The result is 100% personal property tax relief for 90% of Idaho businesses with no tax shift to other taxpayers.

Education reform

In November, 2012 voters overturned sweeping education reform passed by the legislature in 2011. This put in place a series of discussions and new legislation designed to more accurately reflect the will of the people. The result was more modest reform: Teachers received an increase in pay but school administrators were given the ability to reduce salaries should financial circumstances dictate. Also, the focus on technology in the classroom was reduced.

State-based, federally controlled health exchange

In my view this issue is the most important of my legislative lifetime. It signifies Idaho's willingness (or lack thereof) to voluntarily implement Obamacare. "Pro" debate generally took the argument that Obamacare is coming to Idaho regardless, and the state needed a federal exchange that was state-based, to control as much as possible. "Con" debate (of which I was a major part) argued that voluntary compliance placed the state in the role of subcontractor to the federal government, and that the state was better off to resist any cooperation in the hopes that Obamacare's far-reaching effects could be slowed or stopped via implementation difficulties and/or legal challenges. The majority of legislators disagreed with me, and Idaho will now embark on a federally controlled, state-based exchange.

Regardless of your opinion of the decisions of the Idaho legislature, one thing is clear: In Idaho, unlike Washington DC, the system is still functional. In Idaho we make decisions – right or wrong – and partisanship is overridden by adherence to political philosophy. Then we move on.

Sen. Russ Fulcher

Legislative Session Thoughts **By Representative Lawrence Denney**

This 2013 Legislative Session reminds me of Clint Eastwood - not only his talking to an empty chair at the Republican Convention, but also the movie, "The Good, The Bad and the Ugly."

The Good: Idaho has always been a good place to live and raise our families and has some of the strongest laws in America to protect citizens' rights under the Second Amendment. We actively worked to promote Idaho as a very firearm friendly state in the hope to attract gun, ammo, and accessory manufacturers to move their businesses here; we attempted to strengthen Idaho's citizens right to bear arms legally and responsibly. We passed legislation to enhance carry conceal permits (H192) which should allow Idahoans to carry in at least 39 states. This does not replace the current carry conceal permit and will require additional training. This bill passed both the House and Senate.

We also passed H 183. This bill amends existing law relating to municipal corporations to remove language granting cities the power to regulate, prevent and punish for the carrying of concealed weapon. H183 declares that only the state can regulate firearms.

HRC 22 a resolution demanding the Federal Government turn over title to federally controlled land within the State of Idaho, because of the promises made at Statehood, as well as the mismanagement of the lands to the detriment of the people of the State of Idaho.

The Bad: With the new National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) which allows the federal government to imprison U.S. citizens without due process, a trial or hearing, violates our right of habeas corpus, our First, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments rights. We proposed S 1184 (the Liberty Preservation Act) declaring the NDAA unconstitutional and prohibiting state employees from assisting in any enforcement of the NDAA.

H 280 Builds on the 2010 Idaho Firearms Freedom Act, declaring firearms and ammo "Made in Idaho" are beyond the reach of the commerce clause in another attempt to assert state sovereignty over matters inside our state borders.

H 219 - Protects Idaho law enforcement officers who refuse to participate in a federal confiscation effort of firearms and to protect Idaho citizens' rights under the Idaho Constitution.
House bills 280 and 219 both passed the House on strong votes, but were held in the Senate State Affair Committee along with the Liberty Preservation Act (SB 1184).

The worst of the bad in my opinion was the passing of H 248 the Health Insurance Exchange bill. Some would have us believe that this bill allows Idaho to be in charge of the Federally mandated Health Insurance Exchange, but every portion of the exchange must meet the Federal Government's guidelines. In my opinion this bill is the largest infringement on individual and States rights and is a huge expansion of Government.

The Ugly: Medicaid Expansion is a huge part of ObamaCare, (the Affordable Care Act) and if one is to believe the rhetoric around this, the Federal Government will pay for Idaho to expand Medicaid Services, but the truth of the matter is, the Federal Government is out of money, this seems more like smoke and mirrors to me or a bait and switch scam. Bills were brought at the end of the session to expand Medicaid in Idaho (H309) . The efforts of those seeking to expand this service were not successful during this legislative session, but the ugly part of this is, it will be back. You can count on this being a major push during the 2014 Session of the Idaho Legislature. If we continue down this road, we will be doing a disservice to the all Citizens of Idaho.

Idaho Land Board and Socialism

Few Idaho citizens would argue with the Idaho Supreme Courts opinion in the Village of Moyie Springs v Aurora Mfg. Co (1960) case that, "... if the state-favored industries were successfully managed, private enterprise would of necessity be forced out ... and our free enterprise economy would be replaced by socialism."

In spite of this warning by our supreme court, the Idaho Land Board policy, as stated in their Dec. 20, 2011 Asset Management Plan (page 24), is to "Add properties to the commercial portfolio to achieve economies of scale in contract property management."

The goal of this plan is to add, "Commercial real estate properties which include, but are not limited to, office, retail and light industrial business designations, public facilities, hospitality, energy resources (wind, hydro, geothermal) communication sites, ski resorts, etc."

If the Idaho State Land Board is allowed to continue buying up commercial properties, they may become the largest real estate business in Idaho.

The Idaho State Land Board consists of the Governor, Sec. of State, Controller, Attorney General, and Supt. of Public Instruction. Five members of Idaho's Executive Branch of Government.

In order to advance their goal toward Socialism, the Land Board members voted to approve the "State Trust Asset Management Plan" and on page 26 make this statement, "Changing social and political attitudes and values, markets, and products."

It is hard to believe that most Idahoans will look to our State Executives to determine what our "attitudes," "markets" and "products" should be.

However, the Land Board members find this necessary so they can accomplish another of their written goals: "operating a profit oriented business within a government agency." (pg.26, & 28 Asset Management Plan)

On page 35 of the this plan, Appendix A, the State Land Board has developed an "Asset Business Plan Template." In this "Business Plan," the State Government finds a need to "Identify and Describe our (State) Competition."

Every Idaho voter should obtain, a copy of this "Asset Management Plan" and read it carefully. Then ask their legislators and anyone running for office what they are willing to do to stop this creeping socialism.

This is where you can find the plan on line.

<http://www.idl.idaho.gov/am/amfiles/122011-AMP-final.pdf>

By Robert M. Forrey
Former Idaho Legislator

Why the State Health Exchange Board Should Have Included Opponents

There are several well qualified people on the board of the new state health exchange. This includes both legislators and those whom I got to know in my fight against the implementation of the state health exchange.

However, as one who fought against the creation of a state health exchange, I am concerned over the fact that it appears only supporters of the state exchange were appointed to the board. I believe the composition of the board should have included members who were against its implementation. This would ensure the high level of scrutiny that needs to occur, given the many problems the federal government will impose upon Idaho. These include the following:

- ◆ Uncertainty over implementation and operational costs of the state exchange, how much federal grant money Idaho will get, and requirements the federal government will place on Idaho for the money
- ◆ Uncertainty over enrollment and user fee estimates Idaho's families will have to pay to buy insurance
- ◆ Open-ended scope of Essential Health Benefits the federal government requires of every insurance product sold in the country
- ◆ Extensive intrusiveness of federal government demands when it comes to Idaho's families having to give out personal financial and health information
- ◆ Sharing of specific competitive information around sales, marketing, and product roadmap intelligence Idaho's insurance companies will have to do with the federal government

Exchange Costs: Despite KPMG's estimated cost of \$77 million to implement the state exchange, the governor's staff came up with a figure of \$20 million. I don't know why the change. I do know it is nearly identical to the initial federal grant of \$20.3 million. The cost estimate has since shifted to \$30-\$50 million. When questioned where they would get the additional money if the cost ends up being higher than \$20 million, the governor's staff said only that they would seek additional funds. ***Given the state exchange's board members support creation of the state exchange, why would they delay implementation until they are satisfied Idaho will get enough federal money to cover the costs of setting it up?***

Exchange Enrollment: The governor's staff never explained why they believe 177,000 people will enroll; they simply said that's what they thought. That number affects the user fee people will pay: Fewer enrollees, higher user fees. The user fee pays for the operational costs of the exchange. H248 expressly forbids the exchange from getting money out of the state general fund. And, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) does not allow the state exchange to get money from the federal government to pay for "operational" costs. None of the legislators on the state exchange board were willing to put a cap on the user fees people will have to pay to buy health insurance. If the number of people who sign up is low, then that user fee goes up. ***Does anyone believe the exchange board would put a cap on those user fees now or in the future?***

Scope of Essential Health Benefits: What if the federal government requires a broader scope of benefits for health plans than is needed or fits the market here in Idaho? What if that broader scope of benefits results in higher premiums? ***Why would the exchange board's insurance company members try to stop higher premiums that could result from the federal government's broader scope of benefits, given they believe they can recoup costs if they under-price the products?***

Continued on page 6

Why the State Health Exchange Board Should Have Included Opponents

Federal Government Intrudes Upon Idaho's Families: If the premiums go up, then Idahoans can get tax subsidies to deal with it. But, to get the tax subsidy, Idaho's families must give up personal financial and health information. What if a family doesn't want to give up such information? This was a problem supporters of the state health exchange failed to answer when I asked. H248 only requires the information remain "secure." It does not put a limit on the sharing of this personal information with the federal government. This means we must rely on the state exchange board to push back against HHS if it becomes too intrusive. *Will the board protect the privacy of Idaho's families, given Section 1311 of the ACA allows Health & Human Services to ask for any "other information" HHS alone deems "appropriate?"*

Section 1311 of the ACA also says a state exchange cannot take actions that "conflict" or "prevent the application" of rules HHS creates. *Will the board's "consumer-focused" members be willing to stop the operations of the state exchange if HHS applies their information gathering mandates too broadly, or threatens to sue Idaho's state exchange if it fails to give up certain information?*

Federal Government Intrusiveness on Idaho's Insurance Companies: Another issue is how strongly will the exchange board support Idaho's insurance companies. HHS is asking for competitive information about the sales, marketing information, and product roadmap intelligence from Idaho's insurance carriers. Part 1300 of the Affordable Care Act is littered with vaguely written rules, mandating insurance carriers give up sensitive competitive information around the product design, marketing strategies, and sales performance of their products. Yet, the federal government offers no controls over what they will do with the information once they obtain it.

I have more than 20 years of work in competitive research. I am concerned with HHS's intrusions into private companies operating in Idaho. Idaho's insurance companies should not be compelled to give out this type of information. *Will HHS put the exchange board in the position of having to force Idaho's insurance companies give up this information in order to get federal grant money? Or, will the board's "non-insurance members" say no to the federal money to protect Idaho companies, even if it means the state exchange doesn't get off the ground?*

Navigators Will Face Scrutiny, but Only Due to "anti-Navigator" Board Members

I'm comfortable the board will fight hard on the inclusion and use of navigators. But that's only because at least five members are "pro-insurance agent" and "anti-navigator." They don't understand the need for navigators and they don't trust Health & Human Services' motives for including navigators. I don't blame them.

But that makes my point. Because these board members don't trust the use of navigators, they'll scrutinize the entire navigator process thoroughly. That means cost savings, reduction of misinformation about insurance plans, and so on will be the result.

"Will the state exchange board protect the privacy of Idaho's families, given Section 1311 of the Affordable Care Act allows HHS to ask for any "other information" it alone deems "appropriate?" — Steve Ackerman

Continued on page 7

Why the State Health Exchange Board Should Have Included Opponents

To go back to an example from the past, one of the reasons why former President Reagan got a good deal with the Soviet Union over nuclear weapons was Reagan's willingness to walk away from the table without a deal. In the case of Reagan, he ended up getting a better deal than any of his predecessors.

With the exception of the navigator issue, what evidence do we have that this board, governor, or lieutenant governor will either shut down the state health exchange or deny the implementation of HHS rules that are too broad, intrusive, or tied to federal grants? It appears we failed to learn the lessons of presidents like Reagan.

Gang of 16: A Slight Exception

While supporters of the state exchange – from the governor on down – failed to address many of the questions I listed above, the “Gang of 16” was a partial exception. They put limits on the sharing of information around firearms and ammunition, included legislators on the board as voting members, and gave the state exchange the power to ignore a provision of the Affordable Care Act if a federal court rules it “invalid.”

While the “Gang” did improve the final bill, many of the improvements are only as good as the state health exchange board is willing to fight the federal government. Given these improvements were not part of the governor’s original bill and given all of the state exchange’s board members supported the original bill, will the “Gang’s” improvements be utilized as aggressively as they should by the board, our governor, or our lieutenant governor? The fundamental problem remains: The state health exchange is a federal program that will be administered and enforced by the state. It is nothing less than the State of Idaho doing the federal government’s bidding — at our own expense.

Conclusion: Houston, We Still Have a Problem

The governor, lieutenant governor, the executive branch departments, and the staffs have followed every federal deadline imposed upon Idaho. They have met every Health & Human Services requirement right down the line. Moreover, key provisions of the Healthcare Freedom Act, along with federal laws have not been used by the Attorney General to stop the state health exchange.

From the beginning, I said I respected the difficulty of this decision for the governor. I repeated how all of us – together – were handed this issue by the federal government. I noted how many of the actions of the insurance and insurance brokerage industries must be understood in the context of how the ACA mistreats them.

Like the state exchange’s supporters, many of us in opposition believed we were doing what was best for Idaho. I have great respect and cordial relations with some of the members of the board. I believe they’re all good people. But, by only including supporters of the state exchange, the board will be fighting between asking tough questions and wanting to see the exchange succeed. *Some voices against the exchange should have been included. The willingness to let a bad idea die is the only way to ensure a good idea can succeed.*

Thank you.

Steve Ackerman:
sackerman@cableone.net

The fundamental problem remains: The state health exchange is a federal program that will be administered and enforced by the state. It is nothing less than the State of Idaho doing the federal government’s bidding — at our expense.
— Steve Ackerman

A Moth to a Flame

Dear Patriots,

Below some historical perspective on the plight of civilization and the role we play. I would hope that an understanding of the past will resolve our purpose to free the human spirit and provide a more perfect union. Please share your thoughts.

It is incalculable the many times humanity has risen to incredible accomplishment only to succeed in burning the construct of civilization down in a self-directed funeral pyre. I bring this up as I see the same circular orbit of our own civilization crumbling from the same basic human fallibilities that have infected humanity from the beginning. I so lament the condition of my country but fully realize the cycle goes on unabated and unrestrained even with intimate knowledge of those failures of human endeavor before us.

I have given great thought to this affliction of mankind. I have believed that our great accomplishment in bringing the human spirit to its fullest potential might be realized and restored as so fundamentally understood by our forefather's. But I must admit that the more I pursue the answer, the more I realize our fate is beyond grasp. The natural order of the universe is against the notion that we as an advanced civilization can turn back. The invisible hand that subtly guides will no doubt convene in our utopian construct to serve a lesson only learned through trial and tribulation.

From a distance, I look at where we are and how we came to be. The stages of decay are most similar to all civilizations headlong capitulation to their ultimate dust bin of history. From difficult accomplishment through collective virtuous effort comes a satisfaction of prestige and opulence that soon becomes the norm for which successive generations take as birthright. The boon of wealth created is lavished upon the youth who experienced little of the hardship by which it was won. The good life provided affords pleasure without conscience and invites a notion of entitlement which begets a generation without character. Unearned entitlements lead those of wealth and power to extract more from those who can be conquered. Necessary constraints of social status require more to be done to maintain the many needs of the upwardly mobile and so political force is brought to bear. Taxes are levied, liberties are denied and property confiscated. Commerce then becomes the industry of the elite filling their accounts from the labors of whom they have dominion.

Power never concedes defeat at the hands of those who wield its might hammer. People are divided, rights are given only to those of particular groups and tokens are given to keep the "elected" in power. People now dependent on scraps from the table are isolated and put in fear at every opportunity. Regulations spread across the land to protect the people from themselves but only make suspicious neighbors of all.

A villain of the people must be exposed to keep the true malevolent power from being exposed. Those foreigners, those unwashed in faith and those pitiful are feared as mongrels who would take the people's dwindling possessions. Sons are set to battle; wars are raised as false flag events to keep the heat away from the truly unscrupulous. Ultimately, the price is too high to pay in blood and treasury and civilization falls into darkness. The fat of the land gone, political powers broken and the fortunes of once great institutions smolder in ruins, the monster that grew out of compassion finally dies.

Can someone please tell me I'm wrong? My wife says I am. She keeps a candle alight that the virtue of humanity can overcome the darkness that holds the spirit captive. Can this great nation find its way home back to the ideals of individual liberty held in place by personal responsibility? That is the question of our generation; the answer waits only for you.

In Liberty,
Darr Moon

Expert, on Common Core Education

Donations Welcome: LCTP 601 3rd St. #411 Clarkston, WA 99403 thelcteparty.com face-
book: lewis clark tea party



*Guardians of the Republic
...Honor your Oath.
Join Us.*



Treasure Valley Oath Keepers Idaho Region 3

The Treasure Valley Oath Keepers are currently directing efforts on a two-fold path. First, our main mission is to continue to RTI (Reach, Teach and Inspire) which is in line with the national agenda. We encourage all former and current military, police, firefighters and concerned citizens to join us in affirming our dedication to America's founding principles of our US Constitution and Bill of Rights. We work toward this in a variety of ways and continue to try new ideas in getting the message across.

Second, we are working to improve our individual and corporate skills as citizens in this great state; this includes preparedness and communications. We are currently broadening those skills based on member input and interests. One aspect of the communications plan is utilizing several members who are licensed ham radio operators, plus more members who have recently tested and passed the entry level (Technician) operators class and have received their FCC licenses. This has enabled us to have a "Net" meeting over the radio weekly to practice our amateur radio technique. We currently have 19 members listed for the "ham net."

We network via the national forum which is - <http://www.oathkeepers.net/forum/>

The national forum also has a state page.

Locally we use - <http://www.meetup.com/http-oathkeepers-org-oath/>

On the "Meetup" site you will see three current activities pending.

The next "Net" meeting for the ham operators on Thursday evenings

The next monthly meeting; which is the third Tuesday of every month in Meridian

You can leave messages for members and ask questions via the "Meetup Site".

"It does not take a majority to prevail... but rather an irate, tireless minority, keen on setting brushfires of freedom in the minds of men." - Samuel Adams

Written by Lynn House

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH IDAHO'S STATE AND FEDERAL
DELEGATIONS DEFENSE OF THE 2ND AMENDMENT?**

**FIND OUT WHAT YOU CAN DO TO STRENGTHEN YOUR RIGHT TO
KEEP AND BEAR ARMS IN IDAHO**

**MONDAY MAY 6TH JOIN KEVIN MILLER AT THE COURTYARD
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**FIND OUT WHAT YOU CAN DO TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION
IN PRESERVING AND PROTECTING OUR FREEDOMS IN IDAHO**

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Just click on the link below and listen to the show.**

<http://www.kidoam.com/pages/listenliveplayer580am>

Medicaid Expansion, Reform, and Idaho's Budget: Senator Thayn Offers a Perspective

Editor's Note: The question of Medicaid expansion looms on the legislative horizon. In a rather convoluted argument, the governor's task force recommended to proceed with expansion. Their work was partly due to pursuits by the Obama Administration to expand the number of people on Medicaid.

While the U.S. Supreme Court shot down the Obama Administration's effort to get states to expand the program – telling states it would cut them off from existing federal funding if they failed to accept the Administration's accepted expansion – states remain concerned over the fact that Medicaid continues to grow. As Senator Thayn notes, this continued growth “threatens” to “crowd out” other programs and commitments – like education.

Given concerns over future federal support, continued growth in Medicaid spending, limits on state budgets, and efforts by the Obama Administration to expand Medicaid, it is reasonable to ask whether the program is in danger of failing to provide all the promised benefits in the future? If this indeed becomes the case, then government will have broken its contractual obligation and put in jeopardy those recipients it promised to support. Far from being compassionate, government would have shown itself to be cruel. We would submit that leading a person down the road of security, only to put that security in potential peril, is not only immoral, but negligent.

While concern over Medicaid taking away scarce dollars from other state needs, Senator Thayn takes the issue further. He does so by highlighting some of the problems with what he calls government charity. This includes the inability to know or determine the limits of such “charity.” He then contrasts government mandated tax collection and medical spending with “private charity,” the voluntary desire to help another in need by giving up one's property. Unlike government mandates, the inclination is something natural to the human soul. It is worth asking, in light of the Senator's argument; whether programs like Medicaid undermine the obligations and responsibilities each individual has to help their fellow individual?

We invite you to read and consider the thoughtful comments of Senator Steven Thayn. Thank you.

Dear Friends;

I would like to share some concerns I have with Medicaid. I would like to lay the foundation for issues that need to be addressed next session. First, is the continued growth of Medicaid, which is crowding out other budget issues, including education. If Medicaid spending is not brought under control, then it threatens the public school budget.

Continued on page 12

Medicaid Expansion, Reform, and Idaho's Budget: Senator Thayn Offers a Perspective

The chart below shows the growth in Medicaid as a percent of the general fund since 1992:

Year	Medicaid Funding	All Other State Funding	Total State Budget	Medicaid as Percent of Total State Budget
<i>1992</i>	\$58,214,400	\$929,193,300	\$987,407,700	5.90%
<i>1993</i>	\$70,757,900	\$936,391,400	\$1,007,149,300	7.03%
<i>1994</i>	\$92,503,100	\$992,058,300	\$1,084,561,400	8.53%
<i>1995</i>	\$107,503,800	\$1,156,696,600	\$1,264,200,400	8.50%
<i>1996</i>	\$112,247,600	\$1,236,520,200	\$1,348,767,800	8.32%
<i>1997</i>	\$128,140,100	\$1,284,512,600	\$1,412,652,700	9.07%
<i>1998</i>	\$122,568,800	\$1,316,335,800	\$1,438,904,600	8.52%
<i>1999</i>	\$137,846,200	\$1,472,969,300	\$1,610,815,500	8.56%
<i>2000</i>	\$156,563,500	\$1,518,149,600	\$1,674,713,100	9.35%
<i>2001</i>	\$171,888,300	\$1,632,149,800	\$1,804,038,100	9.53%
<i>2002</i>	\$229,311,300	\$1,814,983,800	\$2,044,295,100	11.22%
<i>2003</i>	\$240,299,400	\$1,727,596,000	\$1,967,895,400	12.21%
<i>2004</i>	\$256,307,300	\$1,747,745,700	\$2,004,053,000	12.79%
<i>2005</i>	\$288,171,600	\$1,793,966,700	\$2,082,138,300	13.84%
<i>2006</i>	\$331,274,200	\$1,849,654,100	\$2,180,928,300	15.19%
<i>2007</i>	\$357,268,900	\$2,236,454,600	\$2,593,723,500	13.77%
<i>2008</i>	\$376,384,400	\$2,444,290,000	\$2,820,674,400	13.34%
<i>2009</i>	\$402,493,800	\$2,556,789,600	\$2,959,283,400	13.60%
<i>2010</i>	\$309,178,200	\$2,197,401,900	\$2,506,580,100	12.33%
<i>2011</i>	\$298,236,300	\$2,085,599,700	\$2,383,836,000	12.51%
<i>2012</i>	\$436,139,000	\$2,092,821,600	\$2,528,960,600	17.25%
<i>2013</i>	\$474,177,200	\$2,227,928,500	\$2,702,105,700	17.55%

“Government Charity”

Medicaid is based upon the principle that the government can and should dispense charity. I would like to point out a couple of practical problems with government charity.

There is no natural stopping point. These programs grow without limits. Do we pay for the young and not the elderly? Do we pay for Appendicitis, but not for Cancer? Do we pay for broken bones, but not heart attacks? We end up paying for everyone in need. Private charity, on the other hand, has its limits. When a private person runs out of funds, then the charity stops.

Control: When a government dispenses charity care, it determines who will receive care, how much care they will receive, what type of procedures are allowed, and even the payment levels to providers. Medicaid, being funded through taxes, means that the government has to have access to the funds of workers; unlimited access to workers' funds.

Medicaid Expansion, Reform, and Idaho's Budget: Senator Thayn Offers a Perspective

Property

Property is the extension of life itself. “Another interesting point made by [John] Locke is the fact that all property is an extension of a person’s life, energy, and ingenuity. Therefore, to destroy or confiscate such property is, in reality, an attack on the essence of life itself. (“The 5,000 Year Leap;” Cleon Skousen; pg. 171)”

I am afraid that we are blinded by the charitable acts we are trying to perform that we are not fully seeing the harm being done to those that receive charitable care in creating dependency and the damage done to the tax-payers by removing their funds and choices. This creates frustration.

“Real Charity”

Real charity is a voluntary act. Medicaid is not voluntary. You don’t have to take it; but you have to pay for it. It thus separates the worker from the fruits of his labors. The federal government provides about 70% of the funds for Medicaid. 42% of these funds have their origin in borrowed money. We are actually funding current medical needs in the Medicaid program through encumbering the future labor of our young children and children not yet born. To me, this is a form of involuntary servitude, violating the spirit of the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Medicaid Reform

Medicaid needs reform to move away from the current open-ended, dependency-creating consumption system. It needs to move to a system that encourages and expects independence, as well as, when possible, self-sufficiency.

One of the reasons I am interested in reducing the cost of medical care is this budget. The Medicaid budget is 100% medical cost related. If medical costs were reduced by 50%, then this budget could be reduced by 50%, returning it to 2000 levels.

I believe Medicaid can be reformed by implementing the following concepts. In fact, I do not believe Medicaid can be reformed without implementing these concepts. They are as follows:

- ◆ Have a goal to limit Medicaid to a percent of the general fund, in order to protect public school funding
- ◆ Place lifetime limits on the benefits for some classes of individuals
- ◆ Continue to implement the capitated managed care system
- ◆ Introduce enforceable co-pays with funded medical savings accounts
- ◆ Provide personal improvement plans; people generally do not want to be on Medicaid or any other social program health coaches or mentors
- ◆ Introduce Off Ramps
- ◆ Reform emergency room care
- ◆ Bring in self-directed care
- ◆ Provide and incentivize overall healthcare reform outside the Affordable Care Act (ACA)

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I believe it would be better, in the long run, to end the program today and rely upon private charity, rather than to continue another 10 years without reform. I believe that if Medicaid continues to grow – taking people out of the labor force, taking funds away from education and other state programs, reducing the tax base, and increasing the culture of dependency – that in as little as 10 years, the number of people receiving benefits will outnumber and overwhelm those still producing and working. This will bankrupt the system, leaving those dependent upon Medicaid without resources, without the ability to provide for them, and left with nothing. This would create massive suffering.

Commitment to Reform

We don't need to end the program today, nor do we need to see this program go bankrupt in the future. What we need to do is have a commitment to make necessary reforms next year. This is especially important, in light of possible Medicaid expansion. I do not see this is a Republican or Democrat issue. I see it simply as needed.

Please consider the points I have made and join me in voting "No" to signal your willingness to reform Medicaid. Thank you.

Senator Steven Thayn
(R-District)

A MESSAGE FROM THE AMERICAN LANDS COUNCIL

Just this last month, Ecuador was forced to auction off 700,000 acres of land and natural resources to pay debts to China. Who is our largest creditor? China. How will we ever pay them off? With over \$16 Trillion of debt, which is climbing daily, we won't. Not with money. Not unless something changes...drastically. This is why we are continually pointing out that this is the Only Solution Big Enough!

The federal government is broke, yet it is:

· **Closing tens of thousands of roads on public lands**, denying access for hunting, fishing, recreation, ranching, grazing, mining, fire breaks, access to school lands;

· **Burning up our forests**, killing millions of animals, polluting the air, and destroying watershed, property and life, instead of managing for healthier forests that used to fund schools, provide jobs, and a taxbase. The FBI warns that Al Qaeda is targeting our mismanaged forests as jihad weapons;

· **Begging, borrowing and burning resources, instead of using the more than \$150 Trillion in minerals** locked up in federally controlled lands to create jobs, fund education, reduce deficits, and pay debts, and provide energy independence;

· **Driving businesses and jobs out of state** with burdensome regulations on public lands subject to change with little warning;

· **Destroying state and local government budgets** thru sequestration cuts, renegeing on mineral lease royalties, demanding counties payback Secure Rural School (SRS) funds, dishonoring Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) promises, and printing billions of dollars monthly to overspend with no budget.

COMING EVENTS ON COMMON CORE EDUCATION



SHARON HANEK IS COMING TO LEWISTON ON JUNE 8TH TO SPEAK ON “COMMON CORE EDUCATION” AT THE RED LION.

If you are interested in what your children are being taught in school this is a must meeting for you to attend. Please check the Lewiston Clarkston Tea Party website for further information on any changes in schedule. For more information on Sharon Hanek please click on the link below for her biography.

<http://www.sharonhanek.com/biography.html>

IDAHO PATRIOT ACADEMY

Thanks to Elizabeth Allen Hodge we have a new Idaho Patriot Academy. The first class in Boise, Idaho area will be this August. Idaho will soon have a new generation of advocates and citizens that have good conservative values. Please contact Elizabeth with any questions about the academy and find out the requirements for youth interested in joining the academy or to make donations to this great cause. Please take time to watch the video on this academy by clicking on the link below. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eu4deD7PMFo>

elizabethallenhodge@gmail.com

Submitted by Tamara Sullivan-Watson

THIRD ANNUAL IDAHO LIBERTY SUMMIT

THE 3RD ANNUAL IDAHO LIBERTY SUMMIT WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 16TH AND 17TH IN BURLEY ID AT THE BEST WESTERN CONVENTION CENTER

**Friday evening the 16th will be a meet and greet followed by speakers at 7:00 PM
Saturday Aug. 17th the conference will start at 9:00 AM and end at 5:00 PM
Sheriff Mack has been booked to speak on the duties of a Constitutional Sheriff
Ken Ivory of the American Lands Council will be speaking on the Idaho Lands Initiative**

**Other potential speakers which have been contacted but not yet confirmed are
Larry Pratt with Gun Owners of America**

&

**Duke Pesta Education Coordinator for Freedom Project Education
about Common Core Education and our failing public school system**

SCHEDULE OF ORGANIZATIONAL EVENTS

May 3, 2013 at 6:30 pm Sandpoint Community Hall Friends of Idaho Meeting. Wayne Hoffman will be speaking on Common Core Education for more info. Please contact Pam Stout at pamwbst@aol.com

May 9, 2013 @ 7pm Gem County Tea Party Meeting Presentation on Common Core by Valerie Candelaria from Project 912 at JD's Café on South Washington, Emmett

June 1, 2013 @ 7pm Tea Party Boise will hold their annual member meeting and election of Board of Directors. Meeting will be held at the Maple Grove Grange Hall 11692 W. President Drive. Please submit resumes for Director to teapartytammy@hotmail.com

June 8, 2013 in Lewiston at the Red Lion Inn . The Lewiston Clarkston Tea Party is Sponsoring a lecture by Sharon Hanek speaking on Common Core Education. Please check the Lewiston Clarkston Tea Party website for more information

June 10, 2013 Evening Meeting in Core d' Alene A talk on Common Core Education by Sharon Hanek For further information please contact Pam Stout at 208-610-4222 or e-mail pamwbst@aol.com

August 16, 17 2013 Annual Idaho Liberty Summit to be held in Burley Idaho at the Best Western Convention Center. Please reserve the date as there will be many interesting speakers including Sheriff Mack a Constitutional Sheriff and Ken Ivory from The American Lands Council

Anyone interested in contributing an article to this newsletter or a Letter to the Editor please send your article or letter to - Bob Neugebauer at nugie@cableone.net or Steve Ackerman at sackerman@cableone.net We look forward to hearing from you.

HERE ARE LINKS TO CONTRIBUTORS OF THIS NEWSLETTER

<http://idahobusinessalliance.com/>

<http://www.912projectidaho.com/>

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

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

Tea Party Bob has his blog up and running and will be adding new items as they come in. You can read and comment on our blog by going to:

http://bob.techlogs.com/?page_id=2

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