



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.

FALLEN SOLDIER MEMORIAL SERVICE



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Obama Slams Religious Liberty to the Mat **By David Ripley, Executive Director of Idaho Chooses Life**

This past month, Obama and his courtiers imposed the full weight of his imperial will upon Christian employers, churches and religious organizations. They will be forced to provide “free” abortifacients and sterilizations to employees or face horrendous penalties and police action from the IRS.

A detailed review of this scandalous attack on the First Amendment was recently published by Ashley McGuire at the Weekly Standard. (“*This Won’t Turn Out Well: The IRS prepares to Enforce ObamaCare’s Contraception Mandate*”).

Ms. McGuire reports that employees who fail to submit to Obama will face fines of \$100 per employee – *per day*. In the case of a company like Hobby Lobby, those fines will mean something like \$1.3 million for non-compliance.

But it is not simply private employers who face brutal treatment. Religious organizations must also comply – unless they certified as excused by the IRS. And in order to receive that dispensation, religious organizations must already be excused from filing IRS Form 990. That means virtually all non-profits will have to provide abortifacients regardless of whether the entity is affiliated with a church or religious community.

Given the recent revelations about the religious persecution driving IRS officials, this is reason for grave concern over the future of religious liberty in America.

The situation has drawn public commentary from many church leaders, including the Catholic Archbishop of Philadelphia, Charles Chaput. He recently published a column which included this chilling call to action:

“The day when Americans could take the Founders’ understanding of religious freedom as a given is over. **We need to wake up.**”

Unfortunately, we are not presently blessed by courageous leadership from the Idaho Legislature.

During last session’s debate over Gov. Otter’s plan to partner with the Obama Administration in imposing ObamaCare upon the families and employers of Idaho, we begged the Legislature to at least take a stand in defense of the First Amendment and our rights under the Constitution to religious liberty. We offered an amendment stating that Idaho’s Insurance Exchange would not force any employer or religious organization to provide free abortion-causing drugs to employees. Idaho Chooses Life did not even insist that the amendment prohibit such benefits – only that Idaho would not cooperate with Obama in violating the religious convictions of employers.

Tragically, we were rebuffed.

We reprint below the vote of your legislator on that amendment. Given the monstrous developments of the past month or so, this vote takes on increasing importance.

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Obama Slams Religious Liberty to the Mat By David Ripley, Executive Director of Idaho Chooses Life

Here is how the House voted on our Religious Liberty Amendment (Barbieri/ Boyle), which failed on a 32-38 vote:

Voting Yes (*the pro-Life position*): Reps. Agidius, Andrus, Barbieri, Barrett, Bateman, Batt, Boyle, Collins, Crane, Dayley, DeMordaunt, Denney, Gestrin, Harris, Hartgen, Holtzclaw, Loertscher, Luker, McMillan, Mendive, Monks, Moyle, Nielsen, Palmer, Patterson, Shepherd, Sims, Stevenson, Thompson, Trujillo, Vander Woude, and Wood(35).

Voting No: Reps. Anderson(01), Anderson(31), Anderst, Bedke, Bell, Bolz, Burgoyne, Chew, Clow, Erpelding, Eskridge, Gannon, Gibbs, Hancey, Henderson, Hixon, Horman, Kauffman, King, Kloc, Malek, Meline, Miller, Morse, Packer, Pence, Perry, Raybould, Ringo, Romrell, Rusche, Smith, VanOrden, Ward-Engelking, Wills, Wood(27), Woodings, and Youngblood
(13 Democrats + 25 Republicans)

The decision by Obama to temporarily suspend the requirement on employers to provide health coverage for full-time employees may offer a few companies short respite from the moral and spiritual choice they will be forced to make: Surrender their rights under the 1st Amendment or pay stiff fines to the IRS. But our analysis suggests that employers who already providing coverage must now comply.

What a terrible dilemma – made more painful by the knowledge that our state officials are now cooperating with the Obama Regime in crushing the pro-values of Idaho employers.

NO TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNMENT “SHOW ME THE MONEY”

On September 10, 2013 Governor Otter and Lt. Governor Little were asked a very simple question during their appearance on the Kevin Miller Show 580 KIDO AM radio.

Last year the State gave out 845 million dollars in investment tax credits and sales tax exemptions to various businesses. That’s about 30% of Idaho’s budget. These are forgone tax dollars which have to be made up by the public. Why is there no disclosure (Transparency) as to who receives these tax credits and how effective they are in improving our economy? Isn’t the public entitled to know what they are paying for with their tax dollars?

We never got a straight answer from the Governor nor the Lt. Governor as to why they do not publish this information on their state’s website. Idaho is one of 13 states that do not make public this information. If we are foregoing tax revenue from certain corporations or businesses and the public has to make up for that lost revenue, then why are we as tax payers not entitled to know who gets these tax breaks, how much they get and what benefit does it bring to Idaho’s economy? Let’s face it, if you claim a corporate tax exemption on your state income tax return, it’s no different than the state writing you a check. Therefore, if they are receiving money from the state, we are entitled to know how much and what we are getting for it.

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NO TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNMENT "SHOW ME THE MONEY"

According to "State Impact" Idaho has nine different tax credits available, but in another article they cite that Idaho currently has 27 different tax credits on the books, the most popular being the three percent investment tax credit, which means a company can receive a three percent credit on equipment purchased that qualifies under the law. That could include machinery, elevators, milking machines etc: When the state gives these kinds of tax breaks, they are suppose to expect something in return which will benefit Idaho's economy, like job creation or stimulating economic growth. Problem here is that Idaho does a very poor job of finding out what we as a state gain by giving out these tax credits.

Fact is that in 2010 The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities published an article titled, "The Zero-Sum Game: States Cannot Stimulate Their Economies by Cutting Taxes." It says that states cannot effectively create jobs by offering targeted tax cuts or credits. "It is at best a zero-sum game, where the gains in one area are offset by losses in another." The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities concluded that a ten percent cut of the tax burden on businesses would potentially produce two percent job creation. They go on to say "So, it's just better for states to be focusing their economic development efforts on doing their basic job, well." "Have a good education system, have a well functioning road system so businesses have access to the services they need and the skilled workforce they need. In the long run, that's the best economic pay off for the state." Idaho is one of 26 states not meeting any of the Pew Center's criteria for scope or quality of evaluation on the impact of tax credits.

Tax credits are only \$260 million, the larger cost is the approximately \$585 million in sales tax exemptions revenue forgone in 2012 (this only includes goods and specific uses not taxed) according to "State Impact" written by Emilie Ritter Saunders in May of 2012. That is a total of \$845 million dollars that the state gives away, and there is no accountability of who gets the breaks or if they actually promote job or economic growth in our state.

I'm not saying that all tax credits and sales tax exemptions are bad but if the public is footing the bill for these exemptions, then the state should be transparent in letting the taxpayers know who is getting the credits and exemptions and by how much we as taxpayers are subsidizing them. If they can't tell us how much the state and our economy are benefiting from these exemptions, then how do we know if they actually do us any good?

Senator Brent Hill (R – Rexburg) a retired CPA has stated that Idaho is transparent enough. He doesn't think it is any of the publics business knowing who gets the tax breaks or how much they get. Well Representative Hill I would beg to differ with you on your opinion. As tax payers we are entitled to know where our money is going, and if a business takes a tax credit or exemption from the state they should lose their right to confidentiality on their taxes. If you take money from the public coffers, then the public should know Who received the exemptions and how much they received

It's time that we woke our state government up. It's time to pull back the curtain and be transparent, after all we are talking about 30% or more of the total amount of the State budget, and they can't even tell us if these exemptions are doing our economy any good. The median income in Idaho from 2005 to 2012 has gone down by over \$5,700 (fn/www.departmentofnumbers.com/income/idaho) and if that's the case, we are not seeing any real economic or income growth. If they cannot prove we are benefiting, then let's cut out these credits and exemptions and put that money to better use in better education for our children, road repairs and opportunities to teach unemployed workers new skills.. The government always wants more taxes. It's time for us, the taxpaying public to take them to task, and make them stop wasting our money. and

By Tea Party Bob

Knowledge and Courage

The Keys to the Transfer of Our Public Lands by Ken Ivory

This article was originally run in Range Magazine:
Ken Ivory is President of The American Lands Council visit them at
www.AmericanLandsCouncil.org

If we fail to secure the full rights and benefits of our statehood in the transfer of the public lands to willing western states, it will not be because it is illegal, unconstitutional, or impossible. If we fail to secure our statehood promise for the transfer of our public lands, it will be because our leaders lack the knowledge or the courage to do what has already been done before.

How will we answer to our children, to future generations of our western states, and to our nation, if we fail for lack of knowledge or courage to “do battle” for the only solution big enough to (i) fund education, (ii) better care for our lands and forests, (iii) protect access, (iv) create jobs, and (v) grow local, state, and national economies and tax base?

As much as ninety percent (90%) of the lands in Illinois, Missouri and several of their neighboring states were under federal control when Thomas Hart Benton was elected to the United States Senate. In a collection of his own papers, entitled *A Thirty Years View*, Senator Benton recounts “... my election to the Senate of the United States ... found me doing battle for an ameliorated system of disposing of our public lands; and with some success. I resolved to move against the whole system ... I did so in a bill, renewed annually for a long time; and in speeches which had more effect upon the public mind than upon the federal legislation ...”

Benton relates that “The new States of the West (IL, MO, IN, AR, LA, AL, MS, FL, etc.) were the sufferers by this federal land policy” because “the federal government held the primary disposition of the soil; and the majority of Congress (being independent of the people of these States), was less heedful of their wants and wishes” that “the federal government ... became a monopolizer of vacant lands of the West: and this monopoly, like all monopolies, resulted in hardships to those upon whom it acted.”

Though “few, or none of our public men, had raised their voice against this hard policy before I came into the national councils” Benton continues, “my own [voice] was soon raised there against it: and it is certain that a great amelioration has taken place in our federal land policy during my time: and that the sentiment of Congress, and that of the public generally, has become much more liberal in land alienations...”

Thanks to the courage of one man, Thomas Hart Benton, Illinois, Missouri, and their neighboring states today have on average less than five percent (5%) federally controlled lands. So distinguished was the courage of Senator Benton that President John F. Kennedy features him as one of the handful of examples of political and moral fortitude in his best-selling book “Profiles in Courage.”

“That’s just ancient history,” you say? Well, in 1959, the state of Hawaii compelled the transfer to the state upon its admission of the title to all the public lands held by the federal government. Note the pertinent language of Hawaii’s statehood Enabling Act:

“... the United States grants to the State of Hawaii, effective upon its admission into the Union, the United States’ title to all the public lands and other public property within the boundaries of the State of Hawaii, title to which is held by the United States immediately prior to its admission into the Union.” Hawaii Enabling Act, March 18, 1959

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Knowledge and Courage

The Keys to the Transfer of Our Public Lands by Ken Ivory

How did they do this? The native Hawaiians simply refused to take “No” for an answer and demanded courage of their leaders to secure the title of all their lands directly to the State upon its admission to the Union.

Some flippantly assert that it would be illegal or unconstitutional for western states to demand and take action to compel the federal government transfer title to western public lands to the states. Well, it’s already been done before – repeatedly! I was asked to participate recently on a continuing legal education panel on the transfer of public lands with a law professor who is among those reported as claiming this effort is “clearly unconstitutional.” He began his presentation by showing a map differentiating by color the average annual precipitation of the continental United States. He pointed out how the western states in general have less average rainfall than states in the east as his first reason why the federal government retained title to the public lands in the West. Funny, I don’t recall there being an “Arid Clause” anywhere in the U.S. Constitution.

As his second reason why the federal government retains title to the public lands in the west, he said that he had read all the enabling acts of the western states and that they all “forever disclaimed all right and title to the unappropriated lands lying within their boundaries.” By the similarity of this half-sentence in all the western states’ enabling acts he claimed that the western states gave up title to their public lands. The founding fathers of the western states just didn’t want it apparently.

Interestingly, if he were to read the whole sentence he would discover that the western states only gave clean title to the federal government “for temporary purposes” as the rest of the sentence provides it is only “until title there to shall have been extinguished” (i.e. until the federal government disposed of the public lands just like it did with all states east of Colorado). In fact, if our dear law professor had read the whole enabling act he would have discovered that the federal government promised the western states at statehood that

“That five per centum of the proceeds of the sales of public lands lying within said States **which shall be sold by the United States** subsequent to the admission of said States into the Union, after deducting all the expenses incident to the same, **shall be paid to the said States**, to be used as a permanent fund, the interest of which only shall be expended **for the support of common schools** within said States, respectively.” -- Montana, Washington, North Dakota, South Dakota Enabling Act of 1889 §13

To this some lawyers and law professors claim, without support, that “shall” in the Enabling Acts really only means “may” even though throughout the enabling act the word shall is used dozens of times almost exclusively in the mandatory sense of the word.(fn)

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Knowledge and Courage

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The promise and obligation of the federal government to only (i) hold title to the public lands as in trust to create new “republican states with the same rights of sovereignty, freedom and independence as the original states” and (ii) use the proceeds of any dispositions by sale to pay the national debt, is older than the formation of our nation itself. (fn see Andrew Jackson, Thomas Maddock, Pollard v. Hagan). However, in 1976, Congress purported to alter its 200-year-old obligation, and retain the public lands in federal ownership ever after, by enacting a unilateral policy change known as the Federal Lands Policy Management Act, or FLPMA. Under FLPMA, Congress promised there would be “multiple use, sustained yield, with local planning” on the public lands. Also pursuant to FLPMA, Congress promised to pay western states and communities for not utilizing their own lands and resources to fund the education of their own children and care for their own communities. These “promises” are known as PILT, or Payment In Lieu of Taxes; SRS, or Secure Rural Schools funds; and FML, or Federal Mineral Lease payments.

PILT payments were only ever a fraction of the average taxable value of the lands (13 cents on the dollar by some estimates). SRS payments were not only a fraction of the revenues from harvesting timber, but regular harvesting kept the forest fuel loads in check. As for FML, states east of Colorado with the same promises of statehood retained 100% of their mineral lease royalties instead of the 48% “promised” by Congress to western states.

Despite the already horrible deal forced upon western states to be paid significantly reduced amounts for not utilizing their own lands and resources to care for their own communities, under the guise of “sequestration” to cut federal expenses, the federal government began cutting significant amounts from the PILT, SRS and FML revenues of the western states. So the unilateral “promise” imposed upon the western states under FLPMA was that the federal government would pay western states and communities for not utilizing their lands and resources, but that they would continue to have multiple use, sustained yield of the natural resources, with local planning. The present state of the federal government’s FLPMA “promise” is a severe restriction on multiple uses and access, a serious restrictions and lack of certainty for sustained yields of the abundant natural resources, and a blatant disregard for local input and planning in land use decisions, and the unilateral reduction of the “promised” revenues but even greater restrictions and withdrawals on use, access and disposals of the public lands.

Fortunately, in 2009, the United States Supreme Court opened the door for a resolution of this untenable economic and environmental dilemma facing not only western states and communities, but also the economic viability of our nation. In the case of Hawaii v. Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the High Court declared that “the consequences of a State’s admission are instantaneous” such that Congress does not have the authority to unilateral alter or diminish “the uniquely sovereign character of that event” particularly “where virtually all of a state’s public lands are at stake.” This makes sense. If Congress could unilaterally alter or diminish the very terms of statehood, states would cease to be states and would become mere administrative subdivisions of an all-powerful national government.

Based partly on this recent, unanimous U.S. Supreme Court decision, along with a deeper investigation into the history and constitutional and legal basis for the federal government to hold title to the public lands in the first place, five states have now passed legislation (ID, MT, NV, UT, and WY) to begin the process of analyzing the process for the transfer of public lands to willing western states.

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Knowledge and Courage The Keys to the Transfer of Our Public Lands by Ken Ivory

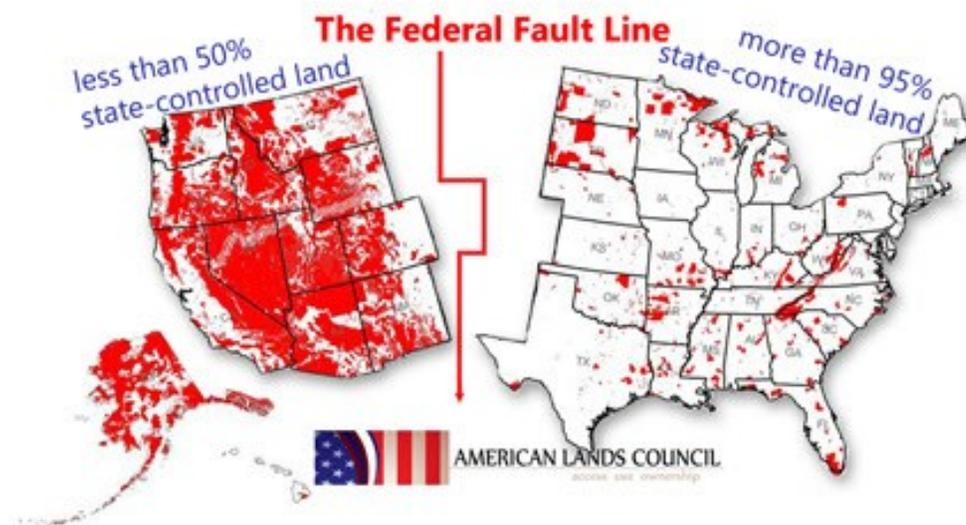
The South Carolina Assembly passed a resolution supporting the transfer of public lands to willing western states because they know it's the right thing to do and they know that eastern states are spending billions the federal government doesn't have to pay western states to not utilize their own lands and resources to fund their own schools and care for their own communities. Several other western states are contemplating running similar legislation next year and several other states east of Colorado are preparing to run resolutions of support.

Recently, the Federalist Society, a non-profit organization of more than 40,000 constitutionally focused lawyers, scholars and professors commissioned a Legal Overview of Utah's HB 148 – The Transfer of Public Lands Act. Please refer lawyers, scholars, state and national representatives, and others who may rely such arguments as the non-existent "Arid Clause" of the Constitution in opposition to this growing effort to this important Legal Overview.

In a another article we can address in greater detail the more than \$150 trillion in mineral value locked up in federally controlled lands; that there is more recoverable oil than the rest of the world combined in Colorado, Utah and Wyoming, locked up in federally controlled lands; that the FBI is now warning that as a result of failed federal no-harvest forest policies and practices, "Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula Encourages the Use of Wildfires as a form of Jihad;" that recently reported studies show that an acre of public land under state management generates on average a positive net revenue of \$6.29, while and an acre of public land under federal management produces on average a net loss of \$1.87.

The only solution big enough to (i) fund education, (ii) better care for our lands and forests, (iii) protect access, (iv) create jobs, and (v) grow local, state, and national economies and tax base is within our reach by simply banding together to compel Congress, by political persuasion and/or litigation if necessary, to honor the same statehood promise to transfer title to the public lands.

Who will be Thomas Hart Benton in your community or state today? How will you raise rise up and lend courage to your Thomas Hart Bentsons? If we don't, how will we answer to our children, future generations of our states, and to our nation as a whole that the only thing we, and our leaders, lacked was the knowledge and courage he successfully embodied?



THE DRUMS OF WAR

By Darr Moon

Patriots,

America seems hell bent on flinging another arm into the proverbial “Tar Baby”, that boiling cauldron of misplaced adventure in the Middle East. War drums beat a syncopated rhythm that seems to transcend political ideology. The first beat, the mother of all Republican beats, designed to bring “Democracy” to the most undemocratic nations of the world and today, the Democratic beat of aimless compassion, designed to keep the bad guys from killing the bad guys by killing innocent people with cruise missiles. Foreign policy is become more foreign to me as America continues to proceed into the mine field of Middle Eastern politics. Just who have we been teaching a lesson to over there to all these years anyway, the bad guys or the really bad guys? Maybe a lesson of minding your own business is due and who better than our dear old Uncle Remus.

Had President Obama been a student of his ancestral brethren he may have been tuned in to the timeless teachings written by Joel Chandler Harris in the 1880’s of the fictional character Uncle Remus whose aged wisdom gave direction to many a child. I was a great fan of Uncle Remus’s stories during my informative years and often reminisce about the keen folklore wisdom vividly explained through a host of animal characters. The simple truths about human nature showed how small issues can grow into nightmares when we stick our nose in others business; too bad our President likely missed the benefit of these adventures. He was in Indonesia during the time most youngsters hear about such reconstruction era folklore. These stories offer an important bit of Americana that helped both black and white people find roots in our common humanity.

You would think by now, especially with several American limbs already stuck in tar, a depleted treasury and climbing body count from ongoing liberation activities that the thought of throwing yet another fist into the black gooey stuff would be convincingly foolish. But alas, those of us who live in fly over country don’t apparently get the hidden workings and secret mechanisms of operating a nation whose task it seems of late is to be the world’s policeman. Apparently most in Washington have forgotten one of the more important principles of being a sovereign nation, keeping our noses out of other nation’s business.

Seeing little hope that reason will prevail in the affairs of the politically ambitious I should hope that those powerful and mighty may assume that those of us who wish to remain in peace and prosperity are banished to the outback. Oh please Mr. Obama, don’t throw me in the briar patch.

In Liberty,
Darr

Note to reader. Some have used the stories of American slaves as compiled by Joel Chandler Harris to point the finger of racism at whites. I hope you don’t read my opinion above as such. I offer the stories of the American slave era as proof that no matter our color, or disposition in life, we are all connected by a singular humanity that recognizes our short comings. I would hope that in these days of heightened racial awareness that we could all find common ground in our uniquely American heritage and find comfort that we are all indeed created equal when all the hype is washed away. I believe the stories of “Uncle Remus” as elemental as they may be shed light on the current folly of getting involved where nothing can be gained by choosing sides.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

IRAQ, WACO, and GOVERNMENT by the VIRTUOUS



Last March marked the [ten-year anniversary of the US invasion of Iraq](#), which helpfully provided fodder for countless bloggers and pundits. Of less significance for many national opinion molders was the 20-year anniversary of the [Branch Davidian standoff](#) in Waco, Texas, which came to a fiery close on April 19, 1993. An astute observer cannot help but notice the striking similarities between the two controversies. In both cases the federal government acted on concerns about the possession of “illegal” weapons. In both cases once the federal government became involved the corporate media outlets were quick to change the story to one of [liberating](#) victims of [oppression](#) (i.e., women and Kurds in Iraq and children in Waco).

Finally, in both cases the actions of the federal government resulted in the death, impoverishment, and homelessness of the very victims our leaders were supposed to be saving.

My purpose is not to rehash the controversy over these two events. Conservatives are likely to condemn Waco and support the Iraq war; Liberals just the opposite. This coincides as expected with party politics – Democrat Clinton was president during the Waco siege and Republican Bush during the Iraq invasion. I maintain that the each is half right; both events ought to be condemned as pathetic blunders at best and deplorable acts of evil at worst. But my real concern is to help explain *why* Americans must suffer under our government’s poor choices and how we might prevent such catastrophes in the future. Part of the problem is simply that our rulers are distant and disconnected from the people they rule.

In Aristotle’s *Politics*, the great philosopher [teaches](#)

“[I]f the citizens of a state are to judge and to distribute offices according to merit, then **they must know each other’s characters**; where they do not possess this knowledge, both the election to offices and the decision of lawsuits will go wrong” (emphasis added).

Only a tiny fraction of Americans have real, personal relationships with our leaders and are therefore in a position to know their characters. Those of us who have never met Bush, Rumsfeld, Janet Reno or former FBI director William Sessions must rely on their television personas and our own personal biases to form judgments about the motives of their life-and-death decisions. Since this task amounts to empty guesswork, the presumption prevails that our distant and disconnected leaders really are good at heart. Their smiling, confident TV-faces pacify the darkest worries that every thoughtful citizen entertains. Thus, while Rumsfeld and Sessions were ultimately put out of a job, neither Bush nor Clinton, neither Cheney nor Reno, were ever made to so much as apologize for their incompetence and wrong-doing.

To understand how far we have strayed from the wisdom of Aristotle, contrast the situation above with political life in a typical small town. Gossip in these places undoubtedly strikes worldly big city dwellers as quaint, but it does fulfill an important function. Political success in a small town depends in large part on good reputation; while this qualification is not foolproof (no checks and balances ever are), it does make it far less likely that a fool like Rumsfeld or Reno will succeed – to say nothing of the true sociopaths who have ravaged the last century. By virtue of their size, small towns help make common sense more likely to prevail.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

IRAQ, WACO, and GOVERNMENT by the VIRTUOUS

With every presidential election we see a number of books about the candidates by pundits who claim to have “inside knowledge” or “first-hand experience” with the contenders. Americans buy these books – which are usually nothing more than partisan buffoonery – because they recognize the importance of understanding the kind of person who wins their vote. In reality, even a good book is a terribly poor substitute for meeting and engaging politically with one’s leaders, which is only possible at the local level. Simply put, judgments of character must be made *person to person*. Because of America’s vastness of scale, this possibility is ruled out from the start.

Controversial events on the level of the Waco siege and the Iraq invasion do not admit of clear answers for the average citizen, because the sheer size of America makes the necessary judgments about our leaders’ characters impossible. What is worse, the impossibility of forming sound judgments provides politicians with endless opportunities for obfuscation and political trickery. Thus, Rumsfeld was able to [declare with a straight face](#) that he “knew” Iraq had WMD, just as [Senator Schumer was able to assert](#), in defense of ATF and FBI, that the incendiary grenades used against the Davidians were not really grenades. The monstrous size of America serves to insulate politicians from real scrutiny and the common sense power of community.

The American nation-state and small town life represent two extremes with regard to size, but it is clear that the task of making our leaders accountable demands we move in the direction of the latter. Aristotle continues in the *Politics* to point out that “a very populous city can rarely, if ever, be well governed.” The tragedies of Waco and Iraq are perhaps the best contemporary illustrations of this ancient wisdom.

Jackson B. Archer is a Treasure Valley native and recent Boise State University graduate. He enjoys camping, fishing, and clay pigeon shooting with his family. As a lifelong lover of music, he spends his free time playing guitar and hopes to someday own and operate a small recording studio. Contact him at Admin@TheNewPolis.com

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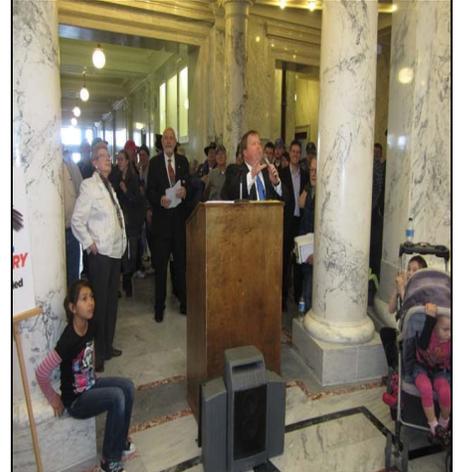
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The Dam and the Damned

By Darr Moon

Many years past as the river did what rivers do bringing floods some years and droughts others. People grew tired of the destructive spring runoffs overflowing the river's banks followed by dry periods when the river's bed barely ran yielding little crop. A call went out across the countryside to assemble the wise men of the day to find solution to this perennial problem that had affected mankind for all time. They realized that the river brought life but at times was too wild to tame and at other times too meek to provide sustenance. The wise men devised an ingenious solution by placing a dam between two deep rock outcrops that would hold back the mighty waters during flood times and continue to yield water through its impounded reservoir during times of drought.

The people were pleased by their accomplishment having all worked together to construct such a mighty structure. The dam not only protected them from the unpredictable river's flow but also offered a means to irrigate their crops through a series of canals that ran from behind its impenetrable walls. These tamed waters made the desert bloom and great harvests were assured year after year. As time went by a power plant was added at its base to bring darkness into dawn through the production of electricity while maintaining a healthy flow downstream. The people rejoiced as prosperity and security replace poverty and fear. The land became a bright spot in the darkness of a world that still fought the untamed rivers of their regions.

Prosperity brought leisure time and soon the banks of the reservoir were lined with fishing boats and recreational homes. Life was good. Then someone said, "Maybe we should make the dam higher to let the reservoir grow and offer more people more of the good life". More is always better isn't it? So it was done that the dam was raised and the country became mightier. Each generation that passed wanted more so they continued to construct their dam higher, holding back more and more water.

There came a time when the dam could go no higher without closing the gates to the irrigated fields and reducing the water through the mighty electric turbines. It was thought not a problem because the reservoir had grown so large if more power was needed an elected commission of experts could open the gates and keep the power running. So too was elected a commission to oversee that the apportioned water to the fields was carefully monitored and checked to ensure no one got more than one's claim. Flow restrictions were made for the benefit of the people and a police force was conscripted to keep anyone from taking advantage of someone else's share. Profit was seen in advancing the height of the dam once again as futures traders realized they could sell future rain events by mortgaging their children's water rights years ahead.

But the river grew tired as the reservoir expanded. No longer did it churn and bubble but rather became stagnant seeking the comfort of deep slow water the high dam ensured. Life was good except for a few farms that were lost to the expansion of the reservoir and the rationing of water. People got by using electricity only when their few hours were apportioned. The mighty reservoir had risen so high that no homes remained along its shores and the boat docks so well enjoyed were now well underwater. People got by though, the regulators of the dam saw to it by replacing the old ways of toil with relaxation and games of amusement that captivated most of the people's time. The population grew heavy and slow and forgot about their individuality rather seeking equality and fraternity for all.

As the people grew lazy with prosperity they sought the less fortunate to do the most menial of tasks mostly from people who lived far away in the untamed lands. The foreign workers began to rise out of poverty and it was told that the people's welfare state was ordained by their superior ethic giving opportunity to those of less fortune. Soon the less fortunate did all the work in the fields for those who only managed such effort could no longer suffer such lowly toil.

Continued on page 15

The Dam and the Damned

By Darr Moon

Then one day a leak was discovered in the face of the dam and the people became fearful that something terrible might happen. This was not to be a problem for long though, as the regulators soon patched the hole and painted over it with colorful slogans, “Conserve Your Precious Resource”, “Keep Our Nation Green” and “Take Only Your Fair Share”. But the leak did not go away. One day someone stood at the top of the very high dam and looked down to see more water running out of several new cracks in the wall. Again alarm spread through the community but this was of little concern to the Bureau of Dam Integrity. This dam was constructed according to the strictest of standards and from materials superior to any ever otherwise known.

To mitigate this trivial problem and to keep the leaks out of sight, the Bureau planted trees so thick over the top of the dam that no one would ever see the springs flowing out below. To keep the level of the reservoir up, rivers from far away were diverted through a great construction effort that fundamentally transformed the natural drainage systems. The new rivers of life from abroad kept the reservoir full, more than offsetting the water that ran unabated hidden below the forest that grew even taller.

Fires began to burn in the distance as the lands far away dried up having no rivers to wet their lands and quench their people’s thirst. Again alarm ran through the community as smoke filled the air from fires glowing in the distance. An enemy of the people from those faraway lands blasted a hole in the dam wall which released much water and further infuriated the population. Action was taken to protect their precious water and people rallied behind their charismatic leaders. Fear was soothed with massive shows of force; the mother of all forces would rain down upon their enemies and peace and prosperity would once again follow. But terror continued and the people huddled together giving more of their control of the waters in the reservoir to their elected officials believing they could do no wrong.

Then the people began to fight amongst themselves arguing about every little thing. They joined together to form special interest groups to fight for their particular rights that were trampled by their neighbors. They were divided upon their race, their religion and their political perspective. All this anger was rising as the threat of foreign invasion mounted. So the government, in order to protect their citizens, placed restrictions on their liberty further reducing the flow of the river’s life blood directly to the people. And when all were throwing spiteful rhetoric to each other and to all nations the dam broke. It was as if no one saw it coming as it happened suddenly leaving no one time to escape the wrath of the mighty power stored behind the crumbling impenetrable structure.

The destruction was unimaginable in its completeness. Nothing that once stood remained and the few who survived the epic calamity made do by scavenging the remains of the once glorious empire. The rubble from years of accumulated human debris lay scattered about the scoured landscape. Layers of the dam walls lay opened bare for all to see the construct and materials thereof. Concrete boulders of special interest, brick and mortar from regulators and twisted steel of political parties littered the fields. False promises and greedy conspirators were mingled amongst the bodies of corrupted law; there were even a few sacred cows bloated from the scorching sun floating down the now quiet river. The gorge now exposed revealed a wasteland where liberty once sprang. At the very bottom of this great chasm lay the foundation of a time long ago forgotten by the survivors of the deluge. The sun reflected a small beam of white light from the columns of the ancient, mostly mud covered structure. This curious light beckoned so a team of brave individuals ventured down the gorge through the mud and debris to investigate.

They dug and pried through centuries of human endeavors until at last the cap stone of the original dam was exposed. It was a beautiful sight amongst all that was lost. Brilliant beams of liberty supported by columns of reason were laid upon a foundation of peace and prosperity and carved into the alabaster lintel that overhung the spillway gates was carved “Live Free or Die”.

ANOTHER LANDBOARD SWAP WHO WON? WHO LOST?

BY ROBERT FORREY FORMER LEGISLATOR AND LAND BOARD EXPERT

Let's analyze the recent land exchange deal between the IW4, LLC and the Idaho Land Board. Following is a little background.

IW4, LLC built a building in Idaho Falls for around \$2 million dollars. The Bonneville Co. Assessor appraised the property for \$2.2 million.

The Idaho Land Board owned 14 acres of lake front property in McCall valued at \$6.1 million dollars. The University of Idaho wanted to own the McCall property but could not obtain it without going through the auction process required by the Idaho Constitution and they could not be assured to be the highest bidder.

The Land Board concocted a scheme to get the 14 acre parcel into private ownership so the U of I could make a simple purchase from a private owner and acquire the land.

Now the Land Board had to overcome a Constitutional problem that land exchanges must be of equal value. They could not exchange their 14 acres valued at \$6.1 million for a building appraised at \$2.2 million.

Comes now Ms. Jane Wright, Strategic Analyst for the Dept. of Lands. Ms. Wright obtained an appraisal from a Salt Lake City Appraiser Darrin W. Liddell. In order to increase the value of the \$2 million, Idaho Falls property to an equal value of \$6.1 million, Mr. Liddell used the Income Capitalization Approach with comparison properties in Ohio, Texas, Wyoming and Utah which have little or no economic relationship with Idaho Falls, Idaho.

In addition, the projected income used to increase the property value is dependent on the U.S. Dept. of Energy (D.O.E.) to make payments to support the income assumed in the appraisal. On top of this, D.O.E. is dependent on the U.S. Congress to make an appropriation before they can make their payment.

The lease of the Idaho Falls property has an escape clause in the lease contract if the D.O.E. and funding from Congress does not come forth.

In spite of the forgoing, the \$4 million increase based on income was accepted by the Idaho Land Board with no assurance that the projected income will continue.

Who wins and who loses? IW4, LLC paid \$2 million for a building. IW4, LLC exchanged the building for a \$6.1 million property in McCall. Next IW4, LLC sold the McCall property to the U of I for \$6.1 million. IW4 walked away with \$4 million profit without turning a hand. They win.

Now who loses? It's the school children in Idaho's public schools. The 14 acre lot in McCall should have been sold at auction and the \$6.1 million placed in the School Endowment Permanent Fund.

Who else loses? It's the owners of empty commercial buildings in Idaho Falls. They must compete with the State favored industries who will force private business out and our free enterprise economy will be replaced by socialism.

It's time to replace the current Land Board members with people who believe in and support open, honest government and understand their limits.

By Robert Forrey

IDAHO'S STATE HEALTH EXCHANGE NO MORE THAN A FEDERAL FRANCHISE FOR OBAMACARE

While watching C-Span the other evening, I heard the President comment at how states like Idaho are “interesting examples” where the state set up a state health exchange, but that it is really just a franchise operation for Obamacare. The President said he had had a “video conference with the state directors of [the state health exchanges]” and that each state was “just using their own name for it.” For what? For Obamacare.

Seven months ago, I wrote that state exchanges like Idaho's will become “targets of a federal takeover.” This is because the buying and selling of health insurance plans offered through the state health exchange are based on federal rules. It is because the federal Department of Health & Human Services can override the actions of the state health exchange. And, it is because HHS will be guiding the marketing and doing “satisfaction surveys” on Idahoans on how they like the insurance products they purchased.

It's very simple: The state health exchange is a franchisee of the federal government. And like all franchise operations, each individual outlet must do things one way – the corporate headquarters way. On the state health exchange, this means the way the federal Health & Human Services thinks it should be done. That's what President Obama meant when he praised Idaho for doing a state health exchange, even though he called it by the wrong name.

Back in January, when we were discussing whether to implement a state health exchange in Idaho, I asked if Idaho “was a sovereign state or a federal government franchisee?” President Obama answered how he sees Idaho, and it is not as a sovereign state.

News talk programs like Kevin Miller of 580 KIDO recently pointed out how President Obama sees Idaho as nothing more than a “regional franchise.” Kevin asked the right question. Idaho made a mistake supporting the state health exchange. We are seeing one problem after another come from its setup. As well intentioned as our governor, state legislature, and those on the exchange board are, this exchange is not a “made in Idaho” solution. Instead, it is a federal program.

But, we can do something about it. We must stop the state health exchange by cutting off its funding. To do that, we must stop going after federal grants. Stop the federal grants and you stop the state health exchange.

Finally, and for the record, I am disappointed at what I consider to be a disrespectful tone by the President toward Governor Otter, our people, and the State of Idaho. I call on the President to apologize to our governor, our people, and our state.

To hear Kevin's discussion of the issue, click on the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/kwvkyxg>

To read my latest letter to the editor that discusses how the state health exchange is a federal program, click on the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/kvdamwo>

Thank you,
Steve Ackerman

MEDICAID EXPANSION

by Steve Ackerman

The Federal Government's Promise Remains Uncertain; Could Harm Recipients and Take from Others

Medicaid expansion is a growing topic in the Gem State. Discussions at the end of the last legislative session, a task force appointed by the governor, and presentations and discussions by members of the Department of Health & Welfare and various medical and business groups attest to this claim. Proponents make different arguments; including that expansion will come with no costs. While this argument is premised on several factors, one of those premises is particularly shaky; that is, the promise of future federal funding.

Under the requirements of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) the federal government promises to pay for 100% of the cost for newly eligible Medicaid patients from 2014 thru 2016. It will then lessen support to 95% in 2017, working that down to 90% in 2020 and “each year thereafter.”

In and of itself, this is an extensive commitment by a federal government to any federal program. Its veracity becomes problematic when one considers that the United States has a public debt-to-GDP ratio of more than 102% (2011). That means we owe more than we're making. With commitments to Medicare, defense, other essential services, larger interest payments, and other parts of the Affordable Care Act, it is highly questionable whether the federal government can keep this promise. Across Europe, countries that have seen such rising debt-to-GDP ratios have also seen an increase in their interest rates. Despite the actions of the Federal Reserve, the United States is not immune to such pressures to pay people more in interest to lend the U.S. money.

This could mean a cut in what the federal government pays for Medicaid to the states. Already, due to budgetary pressures, the federal government has suspended COLA (cost of living adjustment) raises in Social Security. Additionally, it is continuing to cut what it covers for Medicare Advantage, requiring people to pick up more of the cost of various drug and other benefits. Finally, the federal government is in its fourth year of not having a budget. When a budget is finally hammered out – if it will be – in the next month, what will be the fate of Medicaid? Not one proponent who I have read has ventured a guess.

Other questions come to mind, none of which appears to have been contemplated by proponents of Medicaid expansion. They include the following: How much would Medicaid costs increase if Congress decided that all Medicaid plans must meet “federal minimum coverage” rules to be a “qualified health plan” under the ACA? Will Congress be under pressure to increase what they pay doctors for treating Medicaid patients? Doctors currently get 56% of the fee they get for private insurance patients. With the loss of doctors, the federal government (and Idaho) could face new pressure to increase the payment doctors receive to treat Medicaid patients? That takes money.

If the “supply” side to cover Medicaid will be limited, what about the “demand” side of the issue? According to analysts like Parrish Miller of the Idaho Freedom Foundation, Idaho saw a 50% increase in Medicaid enrollees from 2003 to 2013. (The original data can be found from the Department of Health & Welfare, along with the US Census Bureau.) This is in the face of a population increase of only 17% over that same time period.

With respect to the Medicaid portion of Idaho's state budget, Senators like Steven Thayne note it has gone from 5.9% in 1992 to 17.3% in 2012. If the federal government fails to meet its funding commitments, what will happen? I see three possible options: 1) Take a much larger portion of the state budget and devote it to Medicaid. Funds would likely come from places like education.

Continued on page 19.

MEDICAID EXPANSION

by Steve Ackerman

2) Put through some kind of tax or fee to cover the new costs, while trying to negotiate a better deal with the federal government. 3) Cut back services or drop people from the program. This opens up problems with the federal government due to Idaho not meeting the Medicaid service requirements mandated by federal law. Any of the three options will hurt Idahoans.

Exacerbating this entire debate is the fact that the ACA is expanding who will be eligible for Medicaid. Traditionally, one had to be earning a low income and have some other issue to qualify for the program. This could include things like a disability, being elderly, or having a child. Those other issues will no longer be required to be eligible for Medicaid in the future. Instead, anyone who earns 138% (133% plus a 5% benefit) or below of the Federal Poverty Level will qualify. For an individual that works out to \$15,415 and for a family of four, it is roughly \$31,500.

This means, for example that many people on or near the minimum wage level would automatically qualify for Medicaid. This is one reason I believe groups like the Idaho Association of Commerce & Industry (IACI) support Medicaid expansion. Idaho has the highest proportion of workers earning minimum wage of any state, and taking this cost from employers and placing it onto taxpayers will save these employers money in the short-term. If that is indeed these groups' objective, it is a concern. Another reason for their support to expand Medicaid, I contend, is a worry over future health insurance costs that will hit employers. This could come through changes to the federal Essential Health Benefits (EHBs) rule that is in the Affordable Care Act. In other words, the federal government could wake up tomorrow and decide some category of care must now be offered by health insurance providers. It is hard to blame a business group from worrying about that uncertainty. (For the record, we have submitted a petition to eliminate this rule from the Affordable Care Act.)

So what could Medicaid expansion mean, in terms of numbers? While my estimate is a bit dated, data I have seen show anywhere from 106,000 to 123,000 who would be newly eligible and not currently on Medicaid. This is anywhere from 6.6% to 7.7% of Idaho's population, assuming a population of 1.6 million. If the number was small, then promises of increased future funding from the federal government would not be as critical. But that is nearing 10% of our state's population. It is a big promise from a federal government under financial stress and operating in a slow-growth economy.

Finally, the federal promises are not necessarily counting the 24-30,000 people who will "come out of the woodwork" and sign up for Medicaid. In other words, with the rollout of Medicaid expansion, some people who never knew they qualified for the program will now sign up. While they won't be under the 100% to 90% federal payment promise, it will be under the current ~70% federal payment promise. That will still mean more costs for the federal government, as well as Idaho.

What to Do?

There are several things that can be done. First, Idaho and the federal government could work out an arrangement whereby some Medicaid recipients obtain a catastrophic care health plan, and then commit to pay for some routine care – based on ability to pay. With the administrative costs and payment delays coming from health insurers, my guess is doctors would welcome being paid at the time of service. This also has the effect of making people be more responsible over their own healthcare, gaining a stake in the process. Continued on page 20.

MEDICAID EXPANSION

by Steve Ackerman

Second, the Idaho Freedom Foundation has sponsored several programs around localizing Medicaid at the hospital to expand choice and responsibility for the patient. To this, we could expand on Senator Thayne's work with HSAs (Health Savings Accounts) to help Medicaid patients gain more control over their own health plans.

Third, Idaho could open up its insurance market. Three insurance companies control 80% of Idaho's insurance market, and these players have a near lock on the provider networks – Idaho's doctors. If Idaho would open up its insurance market, allowing competition, the price of healthcare products and services would go down. That would allow people of lower incomes to be able to pay cash for various products and services.

Fourth, there are all sorts of preventive and chronic disease management technologies people can use to monitor and manage their particular health issues. Many of these are offered through mobile devices (like cellphones). They do everything from increase efficiencies in the delivery of information and products to cutting emergency room care costs through advice nurses and online physician services.

Fifth, we can use the tax code to help individuals, organizations, and private companies who want to support "charity care" clinics. According to the Idaho Freedom Foundation, Idaho has some 13 charity care clinics that provide healthcare services for free. Staffed with volunteers, these clinics are a testament to the compassion that emerges when you let people keep more of their own money. The Canyon County Community Clinic, for example, saved Canyon County's hospitals \$630,000 last year through preventive care of Diabetes patients.

Proponents of Medicaid expansion are spending an inordinate amount of time trying to convince people that it will arrive "cost free." Yet, their arguments are based on promises from a federal government that is under financial duress or that often changes the terms of the agreements into which it enters. Just look at the now famous "doc fix" payment arrangements over Medicaid and Medicare? Or, again, consider what it has done with COLAs on programs like Social Security?

Besides, I question how much proponents of Medicaid expansion really worry about costs. When Idaho was debating a state health exchange, nearly all of whose implementation costs are based on federal grants, I don't recall state exchange proponents expressing concern over the \$20 to \$77 million it is estimated to take to get the state health exchange up and running at any of the committee hearings or meetings I attended. I also note how no one mentioned that any of the \$20 to \$77 million implementation costs could have gone for healthcare to people in need or tax credits to those who could give, instead of administrative overhead for the state health exchange.

Thank you,

Stephen M. Ackerman (Editor, Gem State Patriot; Member, Board of Scholars, Idaho Freedom Foundation; Citizen, State of Idaho)

(Editor's Note: My thanks to Parrish Miller and the folks at the Idaho Freedom Foundation for their outstanding work.)

WHO SHOULD MANAGE IDAHO'S LANDS? by Jim Chmelik

Recently the Magic Valley Times reported on a speech given by Governor Otter to the SIEDO annual Summit in Twin Falls regarding his plan for Idaho land. He has pitched a plan to Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack for a 10 year agreement for Idaho to manage 2.5 million acres of federal lands. You can read the article for yourself by following the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/kf4vg2w>

We have received a rebuttal to this plan sent in from Jim Chmelik Idaho County Commissioner. Read it below.

I agree with Governor Otter and his proposal to manage a swath of federal lands within the state of Idaho, however, this is where the agreement ends. The Governor has missed a historic opportunity to integrate a strategy of supporting state management of public lands and also the constitutional duty of the federal government to dispose of public lands within each state; to join Utah in its struggle to lead this charge and bring us to an equal footing with the rest of our 39 sister states; and the opportunity to provide adequate funding for our children's education and leave a legacy for future generations.

A recent article in Forbes Magazine clearly points out how a state like North Dakota stands in stark contrast to Utah and our other 10 western states.

"In North Dakota, the federal government gave up almost all of its land holdings. North Dakota can innovate and utilize the state's natural resources while Utah is prevented from doing so."

"Freeing once-federal land sparked North Dakota's economic growth. North Dakota was the fastest-growing state in 2012 with a GDP growth rate of 13.4 percent. No other state in 2012 saw double-digit GDP growth. North Dakota enjoyed an oil and energy boom from the lands given back to the state. During a time where jobs are a key issue in any political debate, access to the land previously owned by the feds provided the state with 18,000 new jobs."

"Economic growth allowed North Dakota to collect more revenue from its oil and energy industry and use it for the betterment of its residents and communities. North Dakota saw an improvement of \$1.4 billion to its infrastructure and school buildings and spending on education in the classroom exceeds the national average by \$3,700 per pupil."

Those who would argue we couldn't manage these lands are foregoing the opportunity cost as realized by North Dakota.

Rather than having a meaningful discussion, they use language like "meaningless showboating" and say "Millions of acres of now freely accessible public hunting, fishing and hiking grounds would be sold off or lent to the highest bidder."

We all understand the need to preserve nature and the recreation that goes with it, and also our need to balance this with our need to have places to work and live. No one involved with the discussion concerning the Transfer of Public Lands has said they wish to stop the access we have come to enjoy concerning the opportunities our public lands provide.

Under federal ownership we will always be subject to the fancies of Washington D.C., and the whims of the other 39 states. Under state management we might run the program; however, the feds will call the shots, (i.e. Idaho DEQ Vs. EPA). We in Idaho cannot intervene into Maryland's affairs, why are they allowed to interfere in Idaho's?

Governor, this is a question of Federalism Vs. Socialism, the idea of returning the government to a more local and accountable representation, not a central bureaucracy 2700 miles away. Have you lost the passion for the fight; you caved into Obama Care, and we are seeing the results. Governor, your new campaign is to thin the threat; I agree,; thin the threat of the federal government from the state of Idaho.

[We get the government we deserve.](#)

2014 IS OUR YEAR!

2014 is going to be a big year for Idaho gun owners. The 2014 legislative session is fast approaching and in just 14 months from now our Idaho legislators will be facing re-election. There is so much to do and very little time to get it accomplished in. You must ask yourself what are you doing to further the cause of freedom in our state and more specifically, the protection of our God given right to defend ourselves?

There are many 2nd Amendment battles to fight and we need the help of as many Idaho citizens as possible to battle against the progressives creeping into our state and taking positions of power. What skills and resources can you bring to the battlefield in order to prepare for this fight? I hear many Idaho citizens who say that there isn't much we can do in our gun friendly state. But I assure you my friends there is plenty of work to do.

We are working tirelessly on defending your 2nd Amendment rights but we need more volunteers to step up to the foxhole and take lead on some of our big projects. This is the year for you to take a stand and become involved like you have never become involved before. Our elected officials across the state need to know that we will no longer stand for their phony pro-2nd Amendment stances and that we want them to take a stand with us.

Let's roll!!!

Greg Pruett-President of the Idaho Second Amendment Alliance — idaho2aa@gmail.com

PROBLEMS CONTINUE WITH STATE HEALTH EXCHANGE

Having to enroll on federal government software and not Idaho software for the first year

Insurance companies backing out from offering products on the exchange

Continued questions and concerns by brokers over the role of federally mandated “navigators”

Cost estimates that have ranged from \$20 to \$77 million

Uncertainty over the amount of claims information you and your family will have to divulge

Limits on you and your employer from being able to use FSA, HRA, and HAS money to cover premium and deductible costs

Confusion among employers about what is an “affordable health plan” that meets the federal government’s “minimum coverage” requirements

SEE PAGE 23 FOR A LIST OF LEGISLATORS WHO VOTED YES FOR A STATE HEALTH CARE EXCHANGE.

“IDAHO’S HALL OF SHAME”
LEGISLATORS WHO VOTED FOR A STATE HEALTH EXCHANGE
CALL THEM, TELL THEM YOU WILL REMEMBER IN 2014
LET THEM KNOW ABOUT THE HIGHER COST AND LESS ACCESS TO MEDICAL CARE

REPRESENTATIVES

Brandon A. Hixon R Dist 10	Carolyn Meline D Dist 29	Christy Perry R Dist 11
Clark Kauffman R Dist 25	Darrell Bolz R Dist 10	Dell Raybould R Dist 34
Donna Pence D Dist 26	Douglas A. Hancey R Dist 34	Ed Morse R Dist 2
Elaine Smith D Dist 29	Eric R. Anderson R Dist 1	Frank N. Henderson R Dist 3
Gary E. Collins R Dist 13	Fred Wood R Dist 27	George E. Eskridge R Dist 1
Grant Burgoyne D Dist 16	Holli Woodings D Dist 19	Hy Kloc D Dist 16
Janie Ward-Englking D Dist 18	Jeff Thompson R Dist 30	John Rusche D Dist 16
John Gannon D Dist 17	Julie VanOrden R Dist 31	Kelley Packer R Dist 28
Lance Clow R Dist 24	Luke Malek R Dist 4	Marc Gibbs R Dist 32
Mat Erpeiding D Dist 19	Maxine T. Bell R Dist 25	Neil A. Anderson R Dist 31
Neil A. Anderson R Dist 31	Paul Romrell R Dist 35	Phylis K. King D Dist 18
Richard Wills R Dist 23	Rick D. Youngblood R Dist 12	Robert Anderst R Dist 12
Scott Bedke R Dist 27	Shirley G Ringo D Dist 5	Stephen Hartgen R Dist 24
Steven Miller R Dist 26	Susan B Chew D Dist 17	Wendy Horman R Dist 30

SENATORS

Bart M. Davis R Dist 33	Bert Bracket R Dist 23	Brent Hill R Dist 34
Cherie Buckner/Webb D Dist 19	Dan J Schmidt D Dist 5	Dan G. Johnson R Dist 6
Dean L. Cameron R Dist 27	Elliot Werk D Dist 17	Fred S. Martin R Dist 15
Jeff C. Siddoway R Dist 35	Jim Rice R Dist 10	Jim Patrick R Dist 25
Jim Guthrie R Dist 28	John W. Goedde R Dist 4	John H. Tippetts R Dist 32
Lee Heider R Dist 24	Les Bock D Dist 16	Marv Hagedorn R Dist 14
Michelle Stennett D Dist 26	Patti Ann Lodge R Dist 11	Roy Lacey D Dist 29
Shawn A Keough R Dist 1	Steven R. Bair R Dist 31	Todd M Lakey R Dist 32

ANNUAL VETERANS DAY PARADE



The annual Veterans Day Parade will be held on Saturday November 9th 2013 in downtown Boise. The parade route is on Jefferson and Bannock between 4th and 11th streets.

Starting time will be 9:30 AM to allow time for KTVB-TV channel 7 to broadcast the parade. This is a “first” in the history of the parade and a great way to let people know we actually have a parade to honor our veterans.

The theme of the parade is “Honoring All Who Served” with a sub theme of “Recognizing the Severely Wounded.” Grand Marshall for 2013 is The Wyakin Warriors Foundation. You can check them out at <http://www.wyakin.org> This group is located in Boise and is a worthwhile national organization that works with the severely wounded, injured veterans, or post 9/11 veterans.

For the first time ever, the committee has set up both a Facebook page, “Boise Veterans Day Parade,” and a website. <http://www.boiseveteransdayparade.org>. Everyone is encouraged to visit these two social media sites to stay abreast of the latest announcements

This parade is conducted each year by the Veterans Day Parade Committee, a 501c4 non profit group of concerned citizens. It costs approximately \$4,000 to fund the parade each year, which covers the cost of public toilets, barricades, parade clean up, insurance and administrative costs. If you would like to assist us in meeting our funding needs, you can find out about sponsorship on our website. We will also be selling a set of three commemorative ceramic coins each year to assist in this effort. This years coins, which are also shown on our website, honor the Wyakin Warriors, the 60th anniversary of the Korean War, and all Services. These coins sell for \$4.00 each or \$10.00 for a set of three.

Please bring family and friends to join us in honoring our Veterans.

Washington Freedom Summit

Spokane, Washington Oct 4 & 5

Washington Freedom Summit, Friday, Oct. 4th

5:00 — Dinner with a Panel of Legislative Representatives
Introduction with a message from Citizens for Self Governance

Washington Freedom Summit, Saturday, Oct. 5th

8:30 — Welcome

9:00 — Presentation: True the Vote, Houston, TX
Matt Armstrong, Expectations on the Vote

9:50 — Break

10:00 — Presentation: Leadership Institute, Washington DC
Chris Doss, Grassroots organization

10:50 — Break

11:00 — Presentation: Center for Self Governance, Tennessee
Kurt Potter & Mark Herr

11:45 — Break

12:00 — Lunch with Texas State Congressman Louie Gohmert:
Restoring the Republic

12:45 — Break - to workshops

1:00 — Workshop: Citizens for self Governance
Shared Values – Engaged Citizens with Laura Fenning

1:30 — Break

1:45 — Workshop: True the Vote.

Matt Armstrong & Ruth Ryan/ tools

2:30 — Break

2:45 — Workshop: Leadership Institute, Chris Doss
Power vs. Access

Organization to work with State Government

3:30 — Workshop: Center for Self Governance Kurt Potter
How to influence Legislature and Policy

4:00 — Closing Remarks

**THE COST IS \$55.00 BEFORE THE DEADLINE OCTOBER 1.
MAIL TO P.O. BOX 2604, WALLA WALLA, WA. 99562
OR REGISTER ONLINE at**

<http://tinyurl.com/ouqgpwv>

SCHEDULE OF ORGANIZATIONAL EVENTS

OCT. 1st 2013 Challis at 7:00 PM Tea Party will hold a Candidates Forum for Mayor and Council Positions at Liberty Hall

OCT. 2nd 2013 Gem County Tea Party will meet at 7:00 PM @ the Emmett Middle School Library 301 E. 4th Street. Valarie Candelaria will be speaking on Common Core.

OCT. 3rd. 2013 MP2 meeting 7:00 PM at Meridian City Hall 33 East Broadway Meridian Id. Russ Fulcher will be presenting.

OCT. 4-5 2013 Washington Freedom Summit to be held in Spokane Washington. Please see the Special Events Section on page 23 for details on how to sign up.

OCT. 6th. 2013 From 2 to 4 PM Idaho Chooses Life will hold an event "Treasure Valley Life Chain. They will gather at Milwaukee and West Park across from the Boise Mall. Signs will be provided.

OCT. 9th. 2013 7:00 PM Project 9/12 committee meetings at the American Legion Hall 22 West Broadway Meridian upstairs.

OCT. 14th. 2013 7:00 Canyon County Tea Party will be holding their monthly meeting at a place yet to be announced. For further information please e-mail canyontea@gmail.com

OCT. 19th. 2013 The Ada County 1st. Battalion Light Foot Militia will sponsor a Field Training Exercise. For more information go to their web site and register. IDCCG1A@cablone.net

OCT. 21st. & 22nd. 2013 Sandpoint Id. 9:30 to 1:30 Self Governance training by the Tennessee Center for Self Governance at the Panhandle Health Building. For info call Heather Scott @ 208-920-3120

OCT. 23rd. 2013 7:00 PM Project 9/12 Member meeting American Legion Hall Meridian.

OCT. 23rd. 2013 Canyon County Militia Co. 27/43 will meet at RK Gunsmithing 201 North Kings Rd. # 101 Nampa, Idaho.

OCT. 24th. 2013 Idaho Carry Open & Concealed presents Paul Panther, Deputy AG and Chief of the Criminal Law Div. 6:30 at Fuddruckers on Eagle Rd. Meridian ID.

NOV. 9TH 2013 Saturday at 9:30 AM Annual Veterans Day Parade. The parade route will be on Jefferson and Bannock between 4th and 11th streets downtown Boise. See Page 21 advertisement for

HERE ARE LINKS TO CONTRIBUTORS OF THIS NEWSLETTER

<http://idahobusinessalliance.com>

<http://912projectidaho.com>

<http://freenterprise.com>

<http://idahocarry.org>

Please take some time and visit our new web site and Tea Party Bob's Blog

<http://gemstatepatriot.com>

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

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