

For Immediate Release

Lawmakers; Allred Is Wrong to Take Credit for Work He Didn't Do

Boise, Idaho -- September 2, 2010 - After hearing him tout his role in the expansion of the homeowner's tax exemption in the first Gubernatorial debate and again last week in a Northern Idaho Political blog, lawmakers are now calling out Governor Butch Otter's opponent.

Allred claimed that for years, nothing could get done regarding expanding the homeowners exemption. He went on to say, "when I brought everyday citizens in to the mix, we got a different outcome," said Allred.

On his own website he states, "Working with The Common Interest, Keith cut property taxes on Idaho homeowners and protected private property rights."

"Keith taking credit for passing the Homeowner's Exemption in 2006 is like Al Gore taking credit for inventing the Internet," said Representative Dennis Lake (R-Blackfoot), Chair, Idaho House Revenue & Tax Committee. "It's just nonsense."

How can any lobbyist take credit for cutting property taxes on Idaho homeowners and protecting property rights," asks Senator Bob Geddes (R-Soda Springs), President Pro-Tempore of the Idaho Senate? "I am very sure the 2006 tax reduction Mr. Allred speaks of was a legislative action that Governor Otter signed into law. Special interest lobbying may work to promote change, but they (Keith) did not do it and it is disingenuous for him to take total credit for that happening."

Lawmakers say that House Bill 421 that expands the homeowner's exemption came about because of the hard work of the interim committee on property taxes and the 12 public meetings held around the state.

In fact, there isn't even any record of Allred speaking during any public hearings, committee meetings, or open debate.

"He was involved on a very minimal basis," said House Speaker Lawrence Denny (R-Midvale). "There is absolutely no way he can carry the banner on this one and take credit."

Full text of the bill:

<http://legislature.idaho.gov/legislation/2006/H0421.html>