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Minnick endorsed by Fraternal Order of Police

Boise, ID - Idaho's largest association of law-enforcement officers are formally endorsing Congressman Walt Minnick in his bid for re-election.

The Fraternal Order of Police endorsed Minnick today. They praised his work, along with his diligent effort to understand the policies that mean the most to the Idaho FOP and its members.

"We are pleased to endorse Walt, who has shown that he is someone Idaho can trust on issues important to anyone who cares about enforcing the rule of law," said Bryan Lovell, president of the Idaho Fraternal Order of Police. "We also appreciate his work and willingness to understand issues unique to our members."

Minnick said he was pleased to have the endorsement.

"I am honored by the decision of the Idaho FOP to support my campaign and endorse my candidacy," he said. "I look forward to working with them in the next session of Congress to help keep Idaho safe and secure."

Minnick's campaign today also highlighted his opponent's troubling record on law-enforcement issues.

"Raul Labrador's votes in the Idaho Legislature should be of great concern to anyone who cares about law and order," Minnick campaign manager John Foster said.

Consider:

- Labrador voted to force the removal of criminal allegations from police records if defendants met the terms of their probations. He was the deciding vote to force police to expunge records. (Source: 2009 Idaho Legislature, House Bill 71)
- He voted against hiding the addresses of domestic violence victims, saying that "some prosecutors do not like the legislation." He was criticized in the Lewiston Morning Tribune for his vote. (Source: 3/8/2007 Lewiston Morning Tribune, "Legislature botches a chance to protect women")
- He fought against increasing penalties for repeated violation of orders designed to protect victims of violence, saying existing penalties are "severe enough." Labrador successfully killed one bill in committee and used his position to substantially weaken the other. (Source: 2/25/2008 Idaho House Judiciary, Rules, and Administration Committee)
- He killed the texting-while-driving bill in the Idaho Legislature using a rare procedural motion, despite widespread police support for the legislation. (Source: 3/29/2010 Idaho Reporter, " Texting-while-driving ban killed in House through procedural maneuver")

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Raul Labrador also has a pattern of missing votes on issues critical to those who care about law enforcement:

- He missed a vote to coordinate reports of stolen vehicles nationwide.
- He missed a vote allowing the Crime Victims' Compensation account to be reimbursed by offenders for costs of medical and forensic sexual assault exams.
- He missed a vote providing Domestic Violence Court Coordinators better ability to address the needs of families and children.
- He missed a vote increasing support to be paid when vehicular manslaughter causes the death of a parent or child.
- He missed a vote extending the time limitation for filing notice to seek the death penalty.
- He missed a vote on crime victims compensation to provide for payments to medical providers.
- He missed a vote to increase the period of driver's license suspensions after failures of evidentiary testing.

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