June 24, 2013

Sheila Waller, Secretary

Kootenai County Central Committee

RE: Insurance exchange censure vote

Dear Sheila:

Prior to the scheduled censure vote Tuesday, please read this letter into your minutes and provide a copy of this letter to each Central Committee member. The resolution passed Jan. 2, 2013 by the Central Committee asked for legislators to *defy* the Obamacare law upheld by the Supreme Court in NFIB v. Sebelius. I took an oath as a legislator to uphold the law, even ones I disagree with. The resolution passed by the Central committee preceded the final state bill, so it could not consider the actual House bill provisions. We agree on our opposition to Obamacare, but we disagree on how best to achieve that. I request the Central Committee oppose the censure resolution because:

An Idaho exchange preserves more local controls and states' rights than a federal exchange

An Idaho-managed exchange keeps jobs in Idaho and an open insurance product market

A State based exchange can better manage costs, and assure in-state access to navigators

An Idaho exchange can be collapsed quickly if Obamacare is declared unconstitutional

The non-profit exchange spends no Idaho tax funds, and does not use state credit

The exchange keeps Idaho insurance regulatory controls, and insurance market competition

The Idaho exchange law allows other insurance product sales; bolstering competition and access

Defaulting to a federal exchange risks poor service, higher costs, and is worse for constituents

A state-managed exchange prevents the exchange from being a federal portal for everything from voter registration to food stamp entitlements. Your resolution cedes total content control to the federal government.

Sincerely Yours

State Representative Ed Morse, Dist 2-B