

Rumors rife that Little to reveal a run for governor

Campaign announcement set Wednesday morning

Meredith Metsker, Moscow-Pullman Daily News

Idaho Lt. Gov. Brad Little will announce his intentions for the 2014 elections Wednesday morning at a breakfast meeting in his hometown of Emmett, accompanied by Gov. Butch Otter and first lady Lori Otter.

A two-week statewide tour will follow the announcement by Little, who is widely thought to be considering a run for the top job.

A University of Idaho graduate and third generation Idaho rancher, Little was appointed to his current position in 2009 and elected in 2010.

State Rep. Cindy Agidius, R-Moscow, said she has heard rumors going both ways regarding Little's intentions. She said some rumors state Little will run for governor, while one person in the Idaho political community told her the rumors were crazy.

"The thing that makes people really think he's doing it is that he's been in this position for quite a while, and he's running for re-election," Agidius said.

Agidius also pointed out that Little's campaign website and signs say "Brad Little for Idaho" rather than "Brad Little for Lt. Gov."

"I'll just have to wait until Wednesday," Agidius said. "He might just shock us and say he's running for lieutenant governor."

District 6 Rep. Thyra Stevenson, R-Lewiston, said she has also heard rumors but could not confirm Little's intentions.

"Everyone's on pins and needles until Wednesday," Stevenson said. "They're doing pretty well keeping things close to the vest until then, and I'm anxious to hear what Brad is finally declaring to do."

Little's announcement in Emmett at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday will kick-start a tour of the state, beginning in Sandpoint with a reception at 5:30 p.m. at the Tango Cafe.

Little will continue his tour Thursday with stops in Coeur d'Alene, St. Maries and Lewiston. Stevenson said she is looking forward to meeting with the lieutenant governor during his visit to Lewiston.

Idaho Gov. Butch Otter has stated he intends to run for re-election in 2014. Rep. Raul Labrador, a Republican from Eagle, was considered a potential gubernatorial candidate, but in August announced his decision to seek a third term in Congress.

A call to the Brad Little for Idaho campaign was not returned by press time.

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