

Mary Souza's Newsletter

March 17, 2014

Big News x 2!

Dear Newsletter Readers,

It's time for positive change. I've filed to run for the Idaho State Senate, District 4, because I want to be part of the solution to the outrageous overreach of the Federal government into our lives. I am a Republican, always have been, and this race will be determined by the Republican Primary vote on May 20th.

I've been working on state issues for years, often behind the scenes, and am sincerely frustrated with the actions of our state legislature, as I know so many of you are as well. That is why I am offering my time and experience to this position. My background as a critical care nurse, clinical nursing instructor and my 30 years of small business ownership will combine well with my continued efforts to communicate with you. You know I will always tell you what's happening and why. You deserve to know.

Our current State Senator, John Goedde, has been in office for 14 years. Last year he voted to invite Obamacare into Idaho through the state health care exchange, even though the vast majority of citizens turning out to public meetings told him they were adamantly opposed. Did you know that Idaho is the only state in the nation with a Republican Governor and Republican legislature that voted to start a state exchange? 26 other states chose to resist the Federal government's intrusion.

Why does this matter? Because by inviting Obamacare in, Idaho cannot now refuse to enact portions of the law, like some other states are doing. Idaho also cannot join the lawsuits against Obamacare. President Obama has said that the states resisting are making it more difficult to institute Obamacare. Good. And the DailyCaller.com reports, "States that refuse to set up an exchange could therefore shield thousands of their residents and small businesses from onerous federal taxes and penalties."

But not Idaho. We opened the door and invited the Feds in.

There's so much more to tell you about the state exchange, and we'll continue this topic in the near future. Ok, just one more tidbit: The state exchange board awarded a \$375,000 no-bid contract to one of their own board members who had just stepped down so he could get the deal. When they were chastised about it in public, they apologized. But that's not the only cozy relationship. The Idaho Freedom Foundation reports "The law firm for the exchange represents Blue Cross, whose CEO sits on the (exchange) board; the firm hired to market the exchange is also the lobbyist for Regence Blue Shield, whose president is on the exchange board."

And here's one more kicker: The law makers who voted for the exchange made the Idaho health care exchange exempt from the Public Records law. They don't have to tell you what's going on!

I will work hard to help bring accountability to our state government, and I will represent you, not bend to the pressures of special interest groups. Many candidates might say this, but you know I mean it.

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(My campaign Facebook and web site will be up very soon.)

The second piece of BIG NEWS is that I am going to have a radio program! A new internet radio station, called Heads Up Radio, is starting and I will have a one hour call-in talk radio program. We've been busy getting ready. If all goes as planned, the station will start on Wednesday, March 26th. My program is called The Common Sense Express*, and will be every Wednesday from Noon to 1:00. So please plan on listening and calling in with your thoughts. I'll announce the phone number during the program, frequently, as well as email and text info. I'd love to hear from you.

The station's web site is not finished yet, but should be ready to go by our start date, and the web address is: www.HeadsUpRadio.com Get ready to communicate... there will be so much to discuss.

We all know this is an important time in our country and in our state, and we must work to keep our freedoms. As Thomas Paine wrote during the founding of our nation, **"Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must undergo the fatigues of supporting it."**

Have a great Monday! -- Mary

PS: *My radio show is a volunteer effort. Sponsorships are needed to help cover the costs. On-air acknowledgements of sponsors will be frequent, so if you'd like to help my program and get some exposure for yourself, your group or your business, please email me and I will put you in touch with the station owners. Thank you for your continued support!
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Mary Souza lives in Coeur d'Alene and is running for Idaho State Senator, District 4. The race will be determined by the Republican Primary election on May 20, 2014. Mary is a former critical care nurse and nursing instructor and has owned a local business for the past 30 years. She was a CdA Planning and Zoning Commissioner for 6 years and wrote a political column for the CdA Press for a number of years, more recently sending a free email newsletter to offer information and opinion on important issues: you can sign up at marysouzacda.com