

## VOTE OR YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE

Why does the Idaho Republican Party want to eliminate my right to vote for Idaho's two US Senators?

The 17th Amendment to the US Constitution granted the right for voters to elect their two US Senators from each state. Before the Amendment was passed, each state legislature elected two US Senators. Currently, there is an Idaho Republican Party movement to repeal the 17th Amendment. It is located in the Idaho GOP Platform as follows: Sec. 3 Reform of Congress: C. We support restoration of the United States Constitution's checks and balances that protect the rights and sovereignty of the states **by repealing the 17th amendment.**

The Idaho GOP Platform contains a critical plank, the plank states to repeal the 17th Amendment to the US Constitution which eliminates your right to vote for your US Senators. A large percentage of Republican congressional, legislative and statewide candidates signed a Candidate Disclosure Statements & Platform Survey with the Idaho GOP that they support the Idaho GOP platform one hundred percent. The disclosure agreements can be viewed at the Idaho GOP website at <http://idgop.org/2014-platform-survey/>. Why do all these Idaho GOP candidates want to eliminate your right to vote for your US Senators?

On November 26, 2013 during the Kootenai County Republican Central Committee monthly meeting, by resolution and roll call vote, the majority of the committee including all of the leadership voted to eliminate your right to vote for your US Senators. The vote was taken by roll call which means that a written record was entered into the meeting minutes which clearly identifies each committee member that voted to eliminate your right to vote for your US Senators. The KCRCC resolution and roll call vote can be viewed at <http://northidahopac.org/>. Why do the majority and the leadership of the committee want to eliminate your right to vote?

GOP Region One Chairman John Cross voted to eliminate your right to vote for your US Senators. He is responsible for the five Northern Idaho GOP County Central Committees and has a seat on the Idaho State GOP Executive Board. In other words, he holds an extremely powerful position in the Republican Party. Why does Mr. Cross want to eliminate your right to vote for your US Senators?

Kootenai County Republican Central Committee Chairman Neil Oliver intends to eliminate your right to vote for your US Senators. Oliver stated clearly during Bjorn Handeen's Precinct 52 meeting at IHOP on January 30, 2014, he fully intends to eliminate your right to vote for your US Senators. In fact, he spent approximately 15 minutes explaining why the Idaho Legislature should have your voting right, not you the voter.

Idaho State Rep. Ron Mendive voted to eliminate your right to vote for your US Senators so that he and other members of the Idaho Legislature will select our two US Senators. Are you going to elect Ron Mendive just so that he can eliminate your voting rights?

Kootenai County Clerk Jim Brannon voted to eliminate your right to vote for your US Senators. As chief elections officer in Kootenai County who has oversight of elections in our county, why would he want to eliminate your voting rights?

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It is not a Republican principle to reduce or eliminate your voting rights. Rather, Republicans should fight to protect your voting rights. Wars were fought to protect our democracy which grants us the right to vote. Many sacrifices over our nation's history were made to protect our voting rights. So why are numerous Idaho Republicans fighting to eliminate your right, freedom and liberty to vote for your US Senators?

I can't explain why any Republican would seek to reduce or eliminate your voting rights. It is simply wrong to do so and should not be a plank in the Idaho GOP Platform. However, you the voter can change the course of this cancerous Republican movement to repeal the 17th amendment. You must identify every candidate that supports repeal of the 17th Amendment and do not vote for those candidates. Republicans elected to any office should fight to protect your voting rights, not reduce or eliminate them.

As KCRCC Precinct 18 Committeeman, it is my responsibility to fight to protect your voting rights, not take them away. Therefore, I will continue my fight to remove the 17<sup>th</sup> Amendment repeal plank from the Idaho GOP Platform as I proposed by resolution at the November 2013 Kootenai County Republican Central Committee. The motion failed since the majority and leadership of the KCRCC intends to repeal the 17th Amendment. My opponent in the Precinct 18 race also wants to repeal the 17th Amendment, supporting the Idaho GOP plank.

If you email me at [roetterhome@aol.com](mailto:roetterhome@aol.com), I will send you the KCRCC resolution and roll call vote mentioned above so that you can see firsthand who wants to reduce or eliminate your voting rights. Or, you can view the resolution and roll call vote at <http://northidahopac.org/> and also view Kootenai County Republican Central Committee Candidates that will protect your voting rights.

For those Kootenai County unaffiliated voters, I strongly urge you to affiliate in the Republican Primary and vote for candidates that will protect your right to elect our US Senators. If you don't vote, then you could lose your right to vote.