

Kathy Kahn

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For a Better Idaho

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KATHY KAHN CAN INSPIRE CONTRIBUTIONS

(Medimont)--“Turns out Kathy Kahn’s good name coupled with a plan to increase state funding for education while reducing most homeowner’s property taxes is resonating already with voters in the 2nd Idaho Legislative District,” said Kahn campaign manager Mike Blackbird as he prepared to mail off the first required “Sunshine Report.”

A former State Senator born and raised in Kellogg, Blackbird and his late brother, Jerry, held the Silver Valley Senate seat a combined seven years.

“I’ve seen a number of campaigns in my time,” Blackbird said, adding, “and for an “Andrus Democrat” like Kathy who will be challenging a veteran incumbent in a heavily Republican district to raise in a relatively short time an initial seed fund in excess of \$5000 is impressive.”

Blackbird reported that when he first met with Kahn, who will retire from her English teaching position at St. Maries High School in mid-June and begin campaigning full time, she told him her goal for the exploratory political action committee to raise \$5000 would go far towards convincing her to go forward with plans to defeat incumbent Republican Representative Vito Barbieri.

Blackbird characterized Barbieri as a nice man who does nothing for the voters of the 2nd district except vote no on everything. “Kathy Kahn can and will do better,” Blackbird said, adding it was now a foregone conclusion she would formally announce her candidacy in March.

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The Kahn campaign manager said the report would show that as of January 1st they had raised approximately \$4,000 from 50 donors and had been given a pledge of \$1000 from the local of the Painter's union. The average contribution was \$81.37.

Blackbird said the contributions represented Idahoans from all walks of life and included such notables as former Idaho Governor Cecil D. Andrus, former State Senator and Andrus chief of staff Mike Mitchell, former Andrus press secretary Chris Carlson, former State Representative Wendy Jaquet from Ketchum, and current State Representatives Matt Erpelding from Boise and Representative Mark Nye from Pocatello.

Mrs. Kahn has taught 27 years and been named outstanding teacher of the year at St. Maries High School multiple times. She said she was both humbled and overwhelmed by this initial outpouring of support. "It indicates to me that people in the Second legislative district know they are entitled to have better representation and they know I'm a problem-solver who gets things accomplished," she stated.

Blackbird said Mrs. Kahn was fully committed to transparency and wherever possible would fully disclose all sources of funding and all contributions. He concluded by saying the single largest personal contribution came from Kathy and Ralph Kahn's neighbors, Chris and Marcia Carlson, who have contributed \$300.

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