

IDAHO DEMOCRATS OPPOSE VOTER INTIMIDATION: A MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN BERT MARLEY

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Boise – Earlier this year, former State Rep. George Saylor of Coeur d'Alene offered a prayer before the Kootenai County Democracy Dinner. His words captured much of what unites and drives Idaho Democrats to work so hard to carry our message of hope, prosperity, and opportunity to our neighbors. In particular, Rep. Saylor spoke of freedom:

"We are thankful also for our freedom. Thankful for the freedom to live as we choose, to believe as we choose, to move and live where we choose. And we are thankful for all those who serve, in whatever way, to defend these freedoms. Keep us ever vigilant against all attempts to limit those freedoms and watch over those who protect them."

Right now, some Idahoans are denied the freedom that Rep. Saylor spoke of. In Bonner and Boundary counties, a group of people are trampling the rights of voters. They are working to intimidate Idaho Democrats, Independents and Republicans alike (the targets of an enemies list).

You may have noticed that the Idaho Democratic Party has mentioned Rep. Heather Scott quite a bit over the past couple of weeks. That's because she is at the center of this voter intimidation. Scott's request to supporters to help identify Republicans who are "Democrats in disguise" is overt intimidation. That her supporters enforce her directives while at the same time enjoying their rights to pack pistols on their hips is more intimidation. Idaho's forebears would be mortified at this level of incivility and corruption. They worked hard to make our beautiful communities safe and friendly. Scott's supporters are bold, wearing her campaign gear, and confronting—and even stalking and threatening—whoever might disagree with them (including an IDP worker).

Most of us in Idaho will go to the polls in November without any fear lurking about this basic act of participating and growing our democracy. But not all. Idaho Democrats are committed to making sure no one in Idaho has to be fearful as they exercise their basic right to vote.