

FREEDOM FOUNDATION PRESIDENT: MORE LAWMAKERS SUPPORTED FREEDOM IN 2017

Idaho Freedom Foundation news release

BOISE -- On Monday, Idaho Freedom Foundation President Wayne Hoffman applauded the growing number of state legislators who voted most often to help Idaho families and small businesses, [as evidenced by their 2017 Idaho Freedom Index scores.](#)

“Idahoans should feel proud of the growing contingent of conservatives willing to vote for legislation that enhances life for families, removes burdensome regulations for small businesses and protects taxpayers,” Hoffman said.

This year, 16 Idaho House members earned A- grades or above for consistently voting for less government during the 2017 session. Of those, eight representatives earned A+ grades.

The House members [who earned A- grades or above on the Freedom Index are:](#)

Ron Nate of Rexburg (100%), Heather Scott of Blanchard (99%), Bryan Zollinger of Idaho Falls (98%), Karey Hanks of St. Anthony (98%), Steve Harris of Meridian (97%), Thyra Stevenson of Lewiston (96%), Dorothy Moon of Stanley (96%), Priscilla Giddings of White Bird (96%), Christy Zito of Mountain Home (95%), Ron Mendive of Coeur d'Alene (94%), Don Cheatham of Post Falls (91%), Greg Chaney of Caldwell (91%), Mike Kingsley of Lewiston (91%), Jason Monks of Meridian (90%), Sage Dixon of Ponderay (90%) and Brent Crane of Nampa (88%).

Other House members who deserve recognition for their Freedom Index voting records are:

Jeff Thompson of Idaho Falls (84%), Terry Gestrin of Donnelly (83%), Judy Boyle of Midvale (82%), Mike Moyle of Star (81%), Lynn Luker of Boise (80%), Ryan Kerby of New Plymouth (73%) and Vito Barbieri of Dalton Gardens (72%).

Three Idaho senators earned A- grades or above this year: Bob Nonini of Post Falls (93%), Dan Foreman of Moscow (92%) and Steve Vick of Dalton Gardens (91%).

Four more senators deserve applause for their votes: Carl Crabtree of Grangeville (81%), Lori Den Hartog of Meridian (77%), Cliff Bayer of Meridian (76%) and Jim Rice of Caldwell (76%).

Hoffman lauded the lawmakers, many serving their first or second terms in the Capitol.

“Not falling prey to the soft whispers of special interests while in Boise takes guts, and these lawmakers stood tall for taxpayers, property owners, small businesses and entrepreneurs,” Hoffman said.

The Idaho Freedom Foundation, the state's only conservative think tank, has compiled the Idaho Freedom Index since 2012 to give residents a clear picture of how lawmakers vote each year. During the 2017 session, IFF analysts examined nearly 160 bills.

Note: [Download the 2017 Freedom Index printable chart, plus other materials that explain the Index, here.](#)