

Idaho Democratic Party

For Immediate Release

Date: December 13, 2013

Contact: Dean A. Ferguson (208) 790-4530 or John Goettsche 208-345-1189

Choices To Fill Vacated District 18 Senate Seat Given to Governor

Boise, Idaho—Today, Legislative District 18 Democratic leaders submitted three names to Gov. Butch Otter to fill the state senate seat that was vacated Dec. 1 by former State Sen. Branden Durst.

“We are pleased to report that there is very high interest in serving in Idaho’s Legislature as an Idaho Democrat,” said LD18 Chair John Goettsche of Boise. “We were excited to have a very competent and competitive slate of applicants from which to choose.”

The names submitted to the governor’s office are as follows:

1. Rep. Janie Ward-Engelking, a retired educator elected in 2012, and member of House education and resources and conservation committees.
2. Lawrence Crowley, President and Director of The Energy Strategies Group, which consults on utility rate, regulatory, financial analysis and business development.
3. Elizabeth (Beth) Oppenheimer, Executive Director of Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children.

Recommendations were made by a candidate selection committee and voted on by members of LD 18 central committee. The central committee consists of elected precinct captains.

Governor Otter is tasked with selecting one of the three options.

###