# ASSOCIATED TAXPAYERS OF IDAHO



## 68TH ANNUAL TAXPAYERS CONFERENCE "HOW DO WE GET THERE?"

**DECEMBER 10, 2014** 

BOISE CENTRE BOISE, ID

WWW.ATI-TAXINFO.COM

8:30 — 8:35 a.m.

### **OPENING REMARKS**

**BENJAMIN DAVENPORT** 

President
Associated Taxpayers of Idaho
Boise
bdavenport@ati-taxinfo.com



8:35 — 10:05 a.m.

## ECONOMIC GROWTH AND FORECASTING MODERATOR: JEFF SAYER

### **JEFF SAYER**

Director
Idaho Department of Commerce
Boise
jeffery.sayer@commerce.idaho.gov



### Investing in Idaho: What leads to investment? Has government helped or hindered growth? Can government help further?

**DR. TOMMY AHLQUIST** 

Chief Operating Officer
Gardner Company
Boise
tommy@gardnercompany.net



### Examining National Economy and Impact to Idaho



**DR. LAWRENCE YUN** 

Chief Economist and Senior
Vice President of Research
National Association of
Realtors
Washington D.C.

10:05 — 10:15 a.m.

**BREAK** 

10:15 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.

### STATE AND LOCAL BUDGETS/ TRANSPORTATION FUNDING MODERATOR: DAVE BUTZIER



### **DAVE BUTZIER**

Program Manager
URS/Connecting Idaho Partners
Boise
dave.butzier@urs.com

An Introduction to Local Government
Budgets: Where does the revenue come
from, and what can taxpayers expect from
their local governments?



### **SETH GRIGG**

Executive Director
Association of Idaho Cities
Boise
SGrigg@idahocities.org

# An Introduction to State Government Budgets: Where does the revenue come from, and what can taxpayers expect from their state governments?



### **Senator Dean Cameron**

Chairman
Joint Finance and Appropriation
Committee
Rupert
dcameron@senate.idaho.gov

Creative Ways to Address Transportation
Funding: How has Utah approached their
transportation funding needs



**Lane Beattie** 

President Salt Lake Chamber Salt Lake City 12:30 — 2:15 p.m.

# LUNCHEON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND FORESHADOWING

### MODERATOR LT. GOVERNOR BRAD LITTLE

### State/Local Tax Policy Issues and Legislative Priorities

LT. GOVERNOR
BRAD LITTLE

Brad.little@lgo.idaho.gov



**JOHN RUSCHE** 

House Minority Leader
Idaho State Legislature, District 6
Lewiston
jrusche@house.idaho.gov

**SCOTT BEDKE** 

Speaker of the House Idaho State Legislature, District 27 Oakley sbedke@house.idaho.gov





**MICHELLE STENNETT** 

Senate Minority Leader
Idaho State Legislature, District 26
Ketchum
mstennett@senate.idaho.gov

**BRENT HILL** 

Senate Pro-Tempore Idaho State Legislature, District 34 Rexburg bhill@senate.idaho.gov



2:15 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

### **KEY NOTE SPEAKER**



SPECIAL GUEST

GOVERNOR C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
governor@gov.idaho.gov

3:00 p.m.

**WRAP UP** 

The Associated Taxpayers of Idaho thanks you for attending today's conference.

Since 1946, we have been an independent, nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization working on behalf of Idaho's taxpayers.

We work for effective, economical and responsible government through research and public education.

Your participation today helps the Association achieve its important objectives.

#### **ED LODGE**

Conference Chairman
Public Affairs Manager
CenturyLink
Boise
edward.lodge@centurylink.com

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Let's turn the answers on.



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# SPECIAL THANKS TO THE THE TAX CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Neil Colwell, Avista Corporation

John Eaton, Idaho Association of Realtors

Rich Hahn, Idaho Power Company

Russ Hendricks, Idaho Farm Bureau

Ed Lodge, CenturyLink

McKinsey Miller, Gallatin Group

Mike Reynoldson, Micron Technology

**Zach Hauge**, Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry

Bob Geddes, Monsanto Company

### Associated Taxpayers of Idaho – 68th Annual Conference

December 10, 2014 Boise Centre

### **Presenter Bios**

### **ECONOMIC GROWTH AND FORECASTING**

JEFF SAYER, MODERATOR – In October 2011, Jeffery Sayer was appointed by Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter as the director of the Idaho Department of Commerce." In Idaho, he is best known for his role as the President and Chief Financial Officer of Mountain View Hospital in Idaho Falls. Mr. Sayer is a CPA and started his career with Ernst & Young in Silicon Valley where he advised technology companies and high growth businesses. Since then, he has provided financial and executive leadership for companies ranging from start-ups to companies with over \$500 million in sales. Mr. Sayer is passionate about the capabilities of the state of Idaho and the endless possibilities that lie ahead for our great state.

(Jeff Sayer, Director of Idaho Department of Commerce, PO BOX 83720, Boise, ID 83702

Phone: (208).334-2650 Email: jeffery.sayer@commerce.idaho.gov)

Officer of Gardner Company, a commercial real estate development company with corporate offices in Boise and Salt Lake City. Gardner Company has recently completed over 1.6 million square feet in the Treasure Valley. Notable projects include: Eighth & Main in downtown Boise, ID, West Valley Medical Complex in Caldwell, ID, St. Luke's Nampa Medical Plaza in Nampa, ID, St. Luke's Meridian Ambulatory Center in Meridian, ID, Mace River Ranch in Eagle, ID, The Portico at Meridian in Meridian, ID, and Eagle Island Crossing in Eagle, ID. In early July 2014, Gardner Company broke ground on the new City Center Plaza in downtown Boise. This 372,000 SF project will include a 9-story office and retail building, an underground transit center, and a 5-story expansion building for the Boise Centre. When completed, the center will be the new home of Boise State's Computer Science dept., the headquarters for Clearwater Analytics, and bring 5 new restaurants to downtown Boise. In 2001, Ahlquist founded Stat Pads LLC, the nation's premier public access defibrillation management company. The company is headquartered in

Boise and provides service for more then 50,000 AED's around the country. In 2010, Dr. Ahlquist opened a community health clinic, Unity Health Center in Meridian. The clinic is staffed by physician's assistants to provide affordable health care to under-insured working families. Tommy is currently serving on the United Way Treasure Valley Board, the American Heart Association Board, and the State Board of March of Dimes. He is also on the YMCA's Comprehensive Campaign Cabinet, and recently co-founded the Treasure Valley Leadership Alliance. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1992 and Doctor of Medicine degree in 1996 from the University of Utah. He completed a residency in emergency medicine in 1999 at the University of Arizona. Ahlquist is a devoted husband and father. He married his high school sweetheart 25 years ago, and they are the proud parents of four amazing children. The Ahlquist family motto is: "Work hard, play hard, and give back."

(Tommy Alhlquist, Director of Commercial Operations, 101 S. Capitol Blvd., Suite 1200, Boise, ID 83702

Phone: (208).246-8909 Email: tommy@gardnercompany.net)

**DR. LAWRENCE YUN** – Dr. Lawrence Yun is Chief Economist and Senior Vice President of Research at the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS. He oversees and is responsible for a wide range of research activity for the association including NAR's Existing Home Sales statistics, Affordability Index, and Home Buyers and Sellers Profile Report. He regularly provides commentary on real estate market trends for its 1 million REALTOR members. Dr. Yun creates NAR's forecasts and participates in many economic forecasting panels, among them the Blue Chip Council and the Harvard University Industrial Economist Council. He appears regularly on financial news outlets, is a frequent speaker at real estate conferences throughout the United States, and has testified before Congress. *USA Today* in 2008 listed him among the top 10 economic forecasters in the country, and he has been named among the Most Influential Real Estate Leaders by INMAN News over the past several years. Dr. Yun received his undergraduate degree from Purdue University and earned his Ph.D. from the University of Maryland at College Park.

(Dr. Lawrence Yun, Chief Economist and Senior Vice President of Research, National Association of Realtors, 500 New Jersey Ave. NW., Washington, D.C. 20001.)

### STATE AND LOCAL BUDGETS/TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

**Dave Butzier** – Dave Butzier moved to Boise in 1987 to open an office for Centennial Engineering and to begin the design of the Cole/Overland Interchange on I-84. Centennial Engineering was acquired by Morrison Knudsen in 1990, became Washington Group International in 1998, and merged with URS in 2007, and now is part of the AECOM family of companies. Since 2006, Dave has been the Program Manager for Connecting Idaho Partners, a Joint Venture between URS and CH2M HILL managing ITD's GARVEE Transportation Program. Dave has over 36 years of experience working on transportation projects throughout the Western United States. He is a registered Professional Engineer in Idaho, and nine other states. Dave and his wife Suzi have two sons, one a graduate of Boise State, and the other a senior at Westminster College in Salt Lake City. Dave is President of the Idaho Transportation Coalition, and is also Chairman of the Transportation Funding Committee for ACEC of Idaho, working with many companies and organizations in Idaho to increase funding for transportation for the Idaho Transportation Department and the local highway jurisdictions.

(Dave Butzier, Program Manager, URS/Connecting Idaho Partners, 400 S. Broadway Avenue, Boise, ID 83702

Phone: (208) 386-5183; Email: dave.butzier@urs.com)

**SETH GRIGG** – Seth Grigg is the Executive Director of the Association of Idaho Cities. As executive director Seth is responsible for carrying out the strategic objectives of the AIC Board, advocating AIC's policy priorities before the Idaho Legislature and other intergovernmental stakeholders, and managing AIC's day-to-day operations. Prior to coming to work for AIC in September 2014, Seth spent five years working as a policy analyst for the Idaho Association of Counties. Seth has seven years of local government policy experience specializing in advocacy and administration. Seth has a BA in English from Brigham Young University and an MPA in State and Local Government Policy and Administration from Boise State University. Seth and his wife live in Boise and have two children.

(Seth Grigg, Executive Director, Association of Idaho Cities, 3100 S. Vista Ave.

Suite 310 Boise, ID 83705

Phone: (208) 344-8594 Email: Sgrigg@idahocities.org)

**DEAN CAMERON** – Senator Dean Cameron was born in Burley, Idaho and after serving a church mission to Portugal, he married Linda Lanovara of Boston, Massachusetts. They have 3 children. He received Political Science Degree in Arts and Science from Ricks College in Rexburg, Idaho. Senator Cameron and his father started Cameron and Cameron in 1989. The Senator served as President of the Southern Idaho Life Underwriters Association for 1990-1991 and 1991-1992 and won the Association Achievement Award both years. In 1992, Senator Cameron became Life Underwriting Training Council Fellow and received the Life Underwriter of the Year Award 1994-1995. Dean and his partner Todd Seamons formed Cameron and Seamons in 2004, a company that markets life and health insurance, annuities and mutual funds as well as group benefits and pensions to employers for their employees. Senator Cameron was recently elected to his 13<sup>th</sup> term as State Senator for District 27 (Minidoka and Cassia Counties), and he is the senior member of the Senate. He serves as the Chairman of the Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee. He also serves on the Senate Resources and Environment Committee, the Senate Commerce and Human Resource Committee, and as a Co-chair of a Task Force on Health Care.

(Senator Dean Cameron, Joint Finance and Appropriation Committee, 1101 Ruby Dr., Rupert, ID 83350

Phone: (208) 436-4424; Email: dcameron@senate.idaho.gov)

**LANE BEATTIE** – Lane Beattie is the president and chief executive officer of the Salt Lake Chamber, a position he has held since 2003. He can rightly be called "Utah's business leader." Under his direction the Chamber has embraced a new era of business leadership that blends the best of a traditional chamber with top-notch and powerful business advocacy. During his tenure at the helm of Utah's largest and longest-standing statewide business association, the Chamber has strengthened Utah's economy by investing in transportation, reforming our health system, improving education and expanding international

business. The Chamber was also the driving force behind Downtown Rising, a movement to enhance Utah's Capital City that supported unprecedented investment in Salt Lake City's central business district. Today under Lane's leadership, the Chamber continues to support pro-business policies that will provide enduring benefits for the state economy. A long-term effort to promote prosperity through education and the development of a first-class workforce was launched in 2009. The Chamber has convened the Energy Resources Task Force to conserve energy, develop new sources of energy and preserve lowcost energy that attracts business to our state and benefit all Utahns. A real estate professional for over 25 years, Lane was elected to the Utah State Senate in 1988. He became majority whip in 1991, majority leader in 1992 and in 1994 was elected senate president, a position he held until he left the Legislature in 2000. During his senate career, Lane proposed and implemented some of the most sweeping changes in the legislative process in several decades, including utilization of the Internet to increase citizen involvement and to make the legislative process significantly more efficient and transparent. Lane played a crucial role in the success of the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, the largest international event in Utah's history. In June 2000, he was named chief state Olympic officer by Gov. Mike Leavitt and played a prominent role in what was called by NBC President Dick Ebersol, "Far and away the most successful Olympics, summer or winter, in history." Along with the many honors and accolades he's received over the years, including an Honorary Doctorate from Utah Valley University in 2008, Lane is a member of the National Advisory Council of the Marriott Business School at Brigham Young University and a recipient of the 2007 Local Distinguished Service award from the American Public Transportation Association. Lane plays an active role on a number of boards. He is the chair of the Rio Tinto Kennecott Land Advisory Board, is a member of the American Chamber of Commerce Executives Board and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Committee of 100. He was named to the U.S. Chamber board of directors in June, 2011. Lane enjoys golf and skiing, and raises quarter horses. He is a Utah State Quarter Horse Team-Penning Champion. He and his wife, Joy, have three children and nine grandchildren; seven boys and two princesses.

(Lane Beattie, President, Salt Lake Chamber, 175 E. University Blvd., (400 South), Ste. 600, Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Phone: (801) 328-5073)

### LUNCHEON – LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND

### **FORESHADOWING**

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR BRAD LITTLE - Brad Little is Idaho's 37th Lieutenant Governor. A native of Emmett in Gem County, Little is a thirdgeneration Idahoan. He has dedicated his life and career to continuing both his family's ranching interests and its history of service to the people of Idaho. A graduate of the University of Idaho, Little has strived to be a good steward of the land as well as a responsible citizen. He has succeeded in both areas by encouraging sustainable agriculture, and by getting involved in public policy. Little served in the Idaho Senate from 2001 to 2009. Little rose quickly into leadership, being elected by his peers as Majority Caucus Chairman in 2003, Little's personal philosophy has been consistent throughout his career: to ensure the lightest possible hand of government in the lives of citizens and businesses alike. A rancher, farmer and industry leader, Little is a former chairman of the Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry (IACI), the Idaho Wool Growers Association, American Land and Resources Foundation, Idaho business Week Foundation, and vice- chairman of the Idaho Community Foundation. He is currently a member of the board of directors of a small Boise-based manufacturing company. He also serves on the State Capitol Commission, the Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission 2.0 and the Idaho Credit Rating Enhancement Committee. In his personal life, Little married Weiser native Teresa Soulen in May 1978. They have two sons and daughters-in-law, Adam and Angela, David and Kelsey and four grandchildren.

(Brad Little, Lieutenant Governor, Office of the Lieutenant Governor, PO Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720

Phone: (208) 334-2200; Email: brad.little@lgo.idaho.gov)

**JOHN RUSCHE** – Dr Rusche started Pediatrics practice at Valley Medical Center in Lewiston, Idaho in 1980. In 1995, Dr. John moved to BlueShield of Idaho (now Regence) as Medical Director. After working there 11 years, he

retired as the Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer for Regence BlueShield of Idaho and Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Utah. He has served as the Chief of Staff at St Joseph Regional Medical Center and secretary-treasurer of the Idaho Pediatrics society. In 1991, he was awarded the Pediatric Society "Shaker and Mover" award for child advocacy and governmental activities and was named Child Advocate of the Year in 2008 and 2013. He received the 2012 Elected Official award from the State Planning Council on Mental Health and the 2012 Qualis Health Quality award for improving healthcare quality in Idaho. First elected in 2004, Dr. Rusche serves on the Idaho House Health and Welfare, Environment, Energy and Technology, and Business Committees, the Health Care Taskforce, and as the House Minority Leader since 2008.

(John Rusche, House Minority Leader, Idaho State Legislature, 1405 27th Ave., Lewiston 83501

Phone: (208) 743-1339; Email: jrusche@house.idaho.gov)

SCOTT BEDKE – Representative Scott Bedke was recently elected to serve an eighth term representing District 27 in the Idaho House of Representatives. He was elected Speaker of the House in December 2012 and begins his second term as Speaker this January. His previous committee assignments included Revenue & Taxation, Appropriations, Transportation, and Natural Resources Committees. In 2004, Speaker Bedke was named a Toll Fellow by the Council of State Governments. The highly competitive Toll Fellowship Program selects 48 state government officials each year to participate in an intensive one-week program designed to stimulate personal assessment and growth. Speaker Bedke graduated from Oakley High School and earned a bachelor's degree in finance from BYU. Former president of Idaho Cattle Association and former director of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, he also has served as an Oakley City Council member. Speaker Bedke is a fourth generation rancher in Oakley, Idaho; he and his wife Sarah have four children and six grandchildren.

(Scott Bedke, House Minority Leader, Idaho State Legislature, PO Box 89, Oakley 83346

Phone: (208) 862-3619; Email: sbedke@house.idaho.gov)

**MICHELLE STENNETT** – An Idaho resident for 30 years, Michelle spent her childhood in California and in a dairy farming community in Wisconsin. Michelle's rural roots brought her to central Idaho where she met and married Clint Stennett, who was raised in southern Idaho. Michelle has a B.A. in International Relations – Environmental Studies, a B.A. in Latin languages, and a minor in Business from the University of Oregon. She holds a Certificat d'Etudes from the Universite de Poitiers and a Legislative Energy Horizon Institute certificate from the University of Idaho. Michelle worked in developing countries and for a hunting/fishing lodge in Alaska before moving to Idaho. She has a diverse professional background: Advertising sales for the family's television company operating two channels in south central Idaho, working at a veterinary hospital, the Sun Valley Animal Center, and in flight operations with Horizon Air and the fixed-base operator, Sun Valley Aviation, servicing private aircraft. She has a pilot's license. Michelle worked several years both in Idaho and abroad for aid and philanthropic organizations implementing community-based solutions on projects such as clean water, grazing, sanitation, and famine relief. Living in the Wood River Valley, Michelle enjoys being surrounded by beautiful places to fish, hunt, bike, horseback ride, ski, camp, and romp with her Golden Retriever, Teagan. She deeply values Idaho's unparalleled quality of life. Senator Stennett represents District 26 in the Idaho State Senate which encompasses Blaine, Camas, Gooding, and Lincoln Counties. She is the Minority Leader in the Idaho Senate and was the Minority Caucus Chair before. She serves on two committees: State Affairs and Resources & Environment which gives her the opportunity to push for the right to clean air and water, protect an individual's personal life choices like directives and living wills from governmental intrusion, and facilitate partnerships that provide the best services for Idahoans. She is appointed to several interim committees focusing on natural resources, fisheries, and water issues. Women in leadership bring different strengths to the conversation. Michelle is committed to bringing respectful, collaborative, smart governing to the Idaho Legislature. (Michelle Stennett, House Minority Leader, Idaho State Legislature, PO Box 470, Ketchum, ID 83340

Phone: (208) 726-8106; Email: mstennett@senate.idaho.gov)

**BRENT HILL** - Now in his thirteenth year in the Idaho Legislature, Senator

Hill presides over the State Senate as the President Pro Tem. He also sits on the State Affairs and Local Government and Taxation Committees. As a key member of the Joint Legislative Economic Outlook Committee, he helps determine the state's budget each year. Hill is a retired Certified Public Accountant and Certified Financial Planner with over 35 years experience working with business and agriculture. Born and raised in Idaho, he graduated valedictorian from Madison High School. He earned his accounting degree from Utah State University where he has been honored as the university's Outstanding Accounting Graduate and Alumnus of the Year. Hill also writes articles for newspapers around the state and has authored a book entitled *A Matter of Principle* that explores the fundamental ideals that guided America's Founders. He and his wife Julie are the parents of four sons and enjoy eighteen grandchildren.

(Brent Hill, Senate Pro Tempore, Idaho State Legislature, 1010 S. 2nd E., Rexburg, ID 83440

Phone: (208) 365-7495; Email: bhill@senate.idaho.gov)

### **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

GOVERNOR C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER - Governor Otter was recently elected to his third consecutive term as Idaho's Governor. He previously served three terms in Congress representing Idaho's 1st District from 2001 through 2006. Governor Otter is the father of four children and a grandfather of six. He and his wife, Lori, live on their ranch near Star. He was born in Caldwell and graduated from St. Teresa's Academy (now Bishop Kelly High School) in Boise and attended Boise Junior College (now Boise State University) and received a bachelor of arts degree in political science from the College of Idaho in 1967. He served honorably in the Idaho Army National Guard's 116<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry from 1968 to 1973, and later was awarded honorary doctorates from the University of the Philippines and the College of Idaho in Caldwell. Governor Otter's 30-year career in business included membership on the Board of Directors of the J.R. Simplot Company. He also served as Director of the Food Products Division, President of Simplot Livestock and President of Simplot International where he retired in 1993. When he was elected to Congress, Governor Otter was serving his fourth term as Idaho's Lieutenant Governor. He served in that office longer than anyone in Idaho history. He previously represented the people of Canyon County in the Idaho House of

Representatives for two terms from 1973 to 1976 and, was on the Idaho Republican Party Central Committee. Governor Otter is a member of the Roman Catholic Church, the National Rifle Association, the Maple Grove State Grange, the Idaho Cowboys Association, and the Idaho 4-H Million Dollar Club. He is a Grand Slam member of Ducks Unlimited, a lifetime member of Safari Club International, was elected to the National Cowboy Hall of Fame Board of Directors in Oklahoma City in 1991, and is a lifetime member of American Legion Post 113 in Meridian.

(C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor, Office of the Governor, State Capitol, Boise, ID 83720

Phone: (208) 334-2100; Email: Gov.idaho.gov)

### ASSOCIATED TAXPAYERS OF IDAHO OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014

\* Jim Smith, Monsanto Company, Soda Springs

Cameron Arial Zions Bank Boise

Pat Armstrong Idaho Sand & Gravel Co. Nampa

Brian Berrett Idaho Central Credit Union Pocatello

**Neil Colwell**Avista Corporation
Boise

Brian Cook Wells Fargo Bank Boise

Jason Coronado Deloitte Tax, LLP Boise

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Lloyd Fillis Clearwater Paper Corporation Spokane

Jon Goode Agrium Soda Springs

Tori Gray
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**Layne Hadlock**Boise, Inc.
Boise

Lisa Walker Key Bank Boise

\* Dan Harbeke Union Pacific Railroad Salt Lake City

Jeremiah Healy United Water Idaho Boise

Charley Jones Stinker Stations Boise

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Jack Lyman Idaho Mining Association Boise

Mark Chiles Intermountain Gas Co. Boise

H. James Magnuson H.F. Magnuson Co. Coeur d'Alene

\* Val Nielsen J.R. Simplot Company Boise

\* Christine Nims AgriBeef Company Boise Glen Pond

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\* Chris Salove SuperValu Boise

\* Gene Marchioro Idaho Power Company Boise

Rick Smith Hawley Troxell Boise

\* Stephen Thomas Moffatt Thomas Barrett Rock & Fields Boise

**Shane Hamby**Potlatch Corporation
Spokane

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### **Associated Taxpayers of Idaho**

802 W. Bannock, Suite 307 Boise, Idaho 83702

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<sup>\*</sup> Benjamin Davenport, Associated Taxpayers of Idaho, Boise

<sup>\*</sup> Officer/Executive Committee