

LEGISLATIVE REPORT
AUGUST 10, 2022

CONGRESS

VOTING RIGHTS are essential to our democratic way of life in the US. If we do not have the right to vote for our candidates and issues of choice, then we have nothing. We have two bills our elected Congressmen can cast their votes to pass. The John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act which would "restore and update the full protections of the landmark Voting Rights Act of 1965". The Freedom To Vote Act asks for easier ways for citizens to vote. Both of these bills deserve your attention. Call your congressmen.

ABORTION RIGHTS are threatened by States and the Supreme Court. If the Supreme Court upholds the States decisions then Idaho will fall also. Idaho has passed a law lessening the ability of a woman to have an abortion that will go into effect based on the Supreme Court decision.

This is a woman's rights issue.

COVID MANDATES are or are not here to stay. How do you feel about this issue? We have ways to curb this pandemic. Our scientists and health care workers tell us we need to be vaccinated, wear a mask, and social distance. Let your elected representatives know how you feel.

The Chicago teachers are doing just that. They appear to be the adults in the room by taking a stand about their health and the health of their students. Are we as retired educators that strong individually and collectively?

LEGISLATURE

IDAHO'S legislature began its 2022 session on January 10th with 1.6 billion dollars available to improve life in Idaho. This is not a surplus. A surplus happens after you pay all of your obligations. Idaho has not done that.

EDUCATION is funded in Idaho at a level so low we are listed as number 50 in state funding for education. In the 1.6 billion dollars are millions of dollars taken away from K-12 schools and universities last year. This was based on the lie about critical race theory. If you live in a district where your elected representatives and senator voted to take money away from education, call them and write to them letting them know what you think.

FUNDING ISSUES are many: education, property taxes, affordable housing, child care, medicaid, taxes, covid money, minimum wage, and MONEY USED FOR FRIVOLOUS LAW SUITS AND UNNEEDED LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS.

Sen. Jeff Agenbroad, R-Nampa, Senate co-chair of the joint budget committee wants to hear from constituents as to whether they want income tax cuts or property tax cuts. Cuts are not the immediate issue. Funding our living infrastructure is the issue.

UNIT LEGISLATIVE CHAIRS will be asked to be ready during this legislative session to engage their members to contact legislators when needed.

Statement to live by: "THE TRUTH IS NOT NEUTRAL".

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