

REVIEWED



Gregory L. Collett

2016 Independent Candidate for Idaho State Senator, Legislative District 11

Contact Information

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Biographical Information

Age: 43

Occupation: Software Developer

Education: University of Idaho, Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Political Experience: Previous campaigns and various political organizations

Community Involvement: Religious and volunteer organizations, including leadership positions

Family: Married, 10 children, 2 grandchildren

Why Vote for Me?

If elected as an independent, I will be in a unique position in the legislature. I will directly challenge the status quo. There will be no more unanimous consent used to rubber stamp the whims of the bureaucracy as I am willing to stand alone, free from the influence of political parties and lobbyists. The steady, incremental reach of government into our lives needs to come to an end, and the public has a right to know what is really going on behind the scenes.

I believe in liberty, and I believe it can and eventually will be restored. As the Declaration of Independence states: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security."

As we have experienced a long train of abuses and usurpations by our government, not just at the federal level but even more so by the state, I seek to throw them off and become a "new Guard". We need a revolution in Idaho; not of war and violence, but of ideas and principles that will return us to a properly limited government.

The U.S. constitution is being ignored and misconstrued, and it is past time for the state to step up and enforce it by nullifying any non-conforming actions of the federal government. At the state level, the Idaho constitution itself is a complete mess. I advocate replacing the entire state constitution with one modeled after the U.S. constitution. Just as the federal constitution is a contract between sovereign states, the Idaho constitution should form a contract between sovereign counties, respecting the very limited role that government should have at the state level. All existing Idaho code that does not conform to the proper role of government (which, unfortunately, is almost all of it) needs to be repealed. In its place, we can enact legislation that appropriately punishes crime, properly defined as the violation of another's rights.

My proposal would eliminate most taxes and free up the economy, something that is badly needed in Idaho; however, the citizens of Idaho should know that it would come at the cost of increased individual responsibility. I would welcome everyone to read more of my ideas on my website or contact me directly.