

## STATE OF IDAHO OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE BEN YSURSA

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## Secretary of State Ben Ysursa Announces the 2014 Idaho Student Mock Election

High School senior government students across the state will be voting next week in the Idaho Student Mock Election. Students vote for actual statewide candidates on computers in their classrooms. To date over 3000 students are registered to participate in this year's Idaho Student Mock Election which runs from October 26<sup>th</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Teachers can still register their students through Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup> by contacting the office of the Secretary of State or <a href="mairs@sos.idaho.gov">mairs@sos.idaho.gov</a>. Results will be available Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> on the Secretary of State's website at <a href="https://www.sos.idaho.gov">www.sos.idaho.gov</a>.

The Idaho Student Mock Election is an ongoing effort to further student involvement in the democratic process by the office of Secretary of State Ysursa with assistance from the State Department of Education. The Idaho Student Mock Election has been held in October of even numbered election years since 2004.

The Idaho Student Mock Election is a practical voting exercise with actual candidates that provides government teachers with an opportunity to develop civic education lessons based on the upcoming mid-term election November 4<sup>th</sup>.

"I commend all the students and teachers participating in this statewide voting exercise. The mock election experience will encourage our young citizens to become lifelong informed voters. It is gratifying to see students exercise their right to vote and their participation is a strong indication that the democratic process is alive and well in Idaho", Ysursa said.

For more information or if a school would like to participate in the Idaho Student Mock Election, email <u>jmairs@sos.idaho.gov</u> or contact the office of the Secretary of State, Election Division, at 208-334-2852.

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