

Idaho State Exchange!

By Scott Leavitt

IAHU Leg. Chair

The 2013 Idaho Legislature has now convened and is in full swing. We are working hard to get the Idaho Legislature to pass legislation to formally set up the non-profit State Based Exchange. The Governor's office has submitted legislation S1042, The Health Insurance Exchange Act, in the Senate Commerce Committee. The bill was heard during two days of public testimony on Feb. 5th & 7th, auditorium was packed. On the second day of testimony Tom Shores, David Watton and I were able to testify in favor of S1042. The Commerce Committee voted and passed the bill on a 8-1 vote to send the bill to the Senate floor for a full vote. We feel confident that the Senate will vote to pass the bill and then send it off to the House for their approval. Here is a link to the bill for you to read-

<http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/legislation/2013/S1042.htm> .

The real battle to pass this bill will be in the House. The Idaho House has over 25 new State Representatives that are still undecided on how they will vote regarding the Exchange bill. We need all of your help to get our message out to the members of the House. We will be sending out another Operation Shout soon and we need you to take action, we will also be calling upon our Key Contacts to make phone calls. The Gem State Tea Party and the Freedom Foundation are working hard to get the Idaho legislature to not pass the Exchange bill and are going to be visible in the coming weeks.

We need to be more effective than they are. That means that we need to have every member of the Idaho legislature know who IAHU members are and what our message is. If you have not signed up as a "Key Contact" yet, the time to do so is now. Please complete the "Key Contact" form and fax it back to me, so we can be ready to contact you when needed.

The 2013 Idaho Day on the Hill will be on Feb. 20th and we already have over 100 people registered. We have Dir. Deal, Speaker Bedke, Rep. Rushe, Sen. Cameron, John Mackay- NAIFA- Idaho Lobbyist & Colby Cameron- IAHU Lobbyist speaking during the afternoon and will be holding a dinner with Legislators afterwards. If you have not registered yet, I would encourage you to do so.

I hope to see you on the 20th at the Idaho Capitol!