

From: HOLLY HANCOCK <hwh72@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 3:31:16 PM
To: Senate State Affairs Committee
Subject: HB110

To the legislature,

When you have the opportunity to vote on the ballot initiative bill, SB 1110, I want to encourage you to strongly consider voting yes.

Having 6% of the registered voters of EVERY district would be a more true representation of the whole state, not just the few most populous ones. Had it been in place a few years ago, I believe the Medicaid expansion would not have passed and would have allowed the legislature time to work out the parameters.

Sincerely,
Holly Hancock
Rigby, ID

From: James Bazil <jamesdairybazil@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 3:23:15 PM

To: Senate State Affairs Committee

Subject: Support of S1110

My name is James Bazil from Jeferson county I support requiring all ballot initiatives to collect signatures from 6% of registered voters in each of the 35 legislative districts.

Dear Chairwoman Lodge and Committee

I ask for your support of S1110. I believe it is extremely important for citizen throughout Idaho to have a say when it comes to placing an initiative on the ballot. I ask for your support in moving this forward and thank you for your consideration and service.

Respectfully,

Brody Miller

District 9 Constituent.

From: Andrew Schauerhamer <schauerhamer_guy@live.com>

Subject: Re: Support of SB1110

Date: February 18, 2021 at 11:44:59 AM MST

To: Senate State Affairs Committee

To Whom it may concern:

I am in full support of SB1110. We need the process of getting initiatives put on the ballot to be more representative of all the people who will be affected by those initiatives. This bill will help accomplish that and I hope it is passed.

Andrew Schauerhamer
Ashton, Idaho

From: Felix & Sheryl Nuxoll [<mailto:fsnuxoll@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 11:23 AM
To: Senate State Affairs Committee
Subject: testify on S1110 for ballot initiative.docx

I am Sheryl Nuxoll, Cottonwood, Idaho

Please support S 1110

Right now our current ballot initiative law allows 6 % of registered voters from only 18 legislative districts, BUT WE WANT ALL 35 DISTRICTS INCLUDED. Right now we can gather enough signatures from Ada, Canyon, Kootenai, and Bonneville counties and after reapportionment, it will take only 3 counties. Don't rural voters count at all. I come from rural district and I "feel" left out. S1110 empowers voters since it follows the idea of at least getting a chance to get those voters who are close to the issue.

The current law really doesn't live with the reality of what the initiative would propose when we talk about divisive issues, such as wolves, forest management, mining, water, etc

The case in example would be Colorado which had an initiative to re-introduce wolves. For farmers and ranchers livelihood. Can you believe that passed? It happened because they covered the urban vote, ignored the rural areas, and out of state activists and money poured in. We have seen this before in our own state—we don't want it happening again. It happened all the time with the pro-life issues and causes our state a lot of money.

Is S1110 a just law? Yes

Is S1110 fair law? Yes

We need support S 1110 because it follows all the principles of subsidiarity, common good, and human solidarity.

From: Allis Chandler [<mailto:kachandler8@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 11:26 AM

To: Senate State Affairs Committee

Subject: S1110

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to the S1110 bill. I would ask you to pass this bill out of committee. The ballot initiative process goes around the constitutional process of having laws passed by elected officials. Each of the districts elect representatives to go to the capital and be there in our behalf. The ballot initiative goes around this and allows a select few to put issues on the ballot that haven't gone through the process of law. We are a country that is supposed to be based on law. The only way a ballot initiative is justified is if every district has an opportunity to have 6% of their voters a say whether something goes on the ballot. Most of the ballot initiatives are put on the ballot by special interest groups that gather the needed signatures from the populated areas. The issues are voted and passed by people that don't have to deal with the outcome. I live north of Weiser on a ranch and I would like to have 6% of the voters in our district needed to put an issue on the ballot. Please pass this out of committee with a do pass recommendation.

Thank you, Kirk Chandler

Twyla Melton

From: Allis Chandler <kachandler8@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 11:35 AM
To: Twyla Melton
Subject: Re: Senate State Affairs Committee Confirmation

Thanks for getting back to me. I sent in written testimony and I couldn't figure out whether my comments were sent. It joined me to the meeting, but I needed to just send in written testimony. It only let me write, like, two sentences. I would like to have the committee know I would encourage them to pass this. Where ballot initiative by pass the legislative process, every district needs to have an opportunity to say whether it goes on the ballot. The way it is those that live in populated areas that the initiative doesn't affect can put things on the ballot that is not good for rural areas. I live in Weiser and live and own a cattle and sheep ranch. We are economically impacted by ballot initiative without having an opportunity to say no. Most of the time they don't even come to our district for signatures. Please pass this. Thank you, Kirk Chandler

From: Senate State Affairs Committee Secretary <no-reply@zoom.us>
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 9:48 AM
To: kachandler8@hotmail.com <kachandler8@hotmail.com>
Subject: Senate State Affairs Committee Confirmation



Hi Kirk Chandler,

Thank you for registering for "Senate State Affairs Committee".

We appreciate your interest in testifying. The time allotted by the committee allows a limited number of people to testify for up to 3 minutes each on a first-registered, first-to-testify basis. Your testimony may be audio-only, not video.

IN FAVOR OF S1110

Our country was founded on the belief that every man should have a vote

I believe Senate Bill S1110 will create a more desirable inclusive political environment as opposed to an exclusive one.

I am currently involved in a small development project near Middleton, Idaho. When we started two years ago, many Idahoans showed interest in some of this property. Now, virtually everyone who is interested is from out of state, mostly California. When visiting with them, they love Idaho: clean air, open spaces, jobs, etc.

The State is going to change. I believe the time to pass this legislation is now, before we lose our practical, limited, and common sense government attitude.

Once a political issue becomes an initiative, it becomes a matter of which side can throw the most money at the issue. At that time, it is no longer an Idaho only issue, but an outside interest issue.

If an issue is important enough to be considered on a ballot, it is important enough to include all legislative districts to put it there.



Lynn Steadman
345 N. Yale Rd. /Raft River
American Falls, ID 83211

Date: February 17, 2021

To: Idaho Senate State Affairs Committee

From: Sid Freeman, Canyon County Farmer

Committee Members,

I support S1110 whole-heartedly. We simply cannot allow laws in the state of Idaho, one of the greatest agrarian states in this nation, to be imposed by only the urban populous of this state. S1110 gives an equal voice to all demographics of Idaho. It reaches out to every crook and cranny in the state, and is as fair as it can possibly be.

Once again I am 100% in support of S1110. Thank you.

Sid Freeman
27406 Farmway Rd.
Caldwell, ID 83607
208-941-3584

To the Members of the Senate State Affairs Committee

As you all well know, one of the greatest attributes and keys to the success of this Great Nation (and in turn our Great State) is our Republican form of government. With it comes the greatest attributes of Democracy and the voice people being heard while also the refuge guaranteed by the Constitution protecting the rights and voice of all, no matter how meek or boisterous.

Upon hearing of the existence of S1110, I have been ecstatic at the mere notion that (finally) the voice of the "resigned" may be protected from the thunderous opinions of the few. I believe that the voice of Idaho is NOT in only 6% of registered voters in ONLY 18 LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS, but in and from every beautiful place in this great State. There are probably many that are actively fighting to stop such legislation, once again proving my point that our voices can be drowned out.

That doesn't mean, however, that it shouldn't be passed into law. An equal 6% of registered voters' signatures from all 35 districts across the State is not a very high bar to traverse. Will it be more difficult, absolutely, but it will also guarantee that whatever is proven worthy of being on the ballots for the people to vote on is equally desired across the state and will also prove the conviction of those wanting such initiatives on the ballot. An initiative is not something to be taken lightly. It circumvents the legislative power to govern and make law WITHIN the law and is a form of direct democracy, without the sacred protections guaranteed to said voters. In short, the majority rules.

I am all for the successful passing of S1110. I am the fourth generation on a farm and ranch here in Idaho and I ABSOLUTELY LOVE this great State! I wanted to testify in person, but could not come back on Friday due to prior commitments required by this time of year with our cattle. I would urge your wholehearted support of this Bill's continuance and passing. Along with that, I want to thank you for your service in the name of this most beautiful state and in the protection of the very things that make it so unique and desirable to its many diverse citizens.

Feel free to contact me with anything further in regards to S1110...

Tristan Winegar
Weiser, ID
(208) 550-0985
tristanwinegar@yahoo.com

From: Dean Dryden [mailto:ddryden@frontiernet.net]

Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 9:37 AM

To: Senate State Affairs Committee

Subject: Support S1110

Madam chairman and Board,

My name is Dean Dryden. I am from New Meadows Idaho and I'm a fifth-generation rancher in the state Idaho.

I support S1110, Citizens in the rural districts need to be represented as well as people from the more populated areas. Opponents to the initiative process described by S1110 say it will make it too hard to get signatures for the 6 percent required.

I do not agree, if their proposal is sound then the people will support the ballot initiative. Hard work to get anything is not a reason to deny representation to all citizens in or state.

If we do not have S1110 we will not have any representation in our small districts thank you.

Dear Committee members,

I would like to ask for your support on S1110. I believe it is important for citizens from each district to have a say when getting an initiative on a ballot. The thought that the Treasure Valley and a couple of other districts around the state can get something on a ballot without true representation from the rest of the state seems very wrong.

Thank you for allowing my voice to be heard.

Sincerely,

Landon Kesler

District 30

From: Greg Nedrow <mc_rules800@hotmail.com>

Subject: Support of SB 1110

Date: February 17, 2021 at 7:48:28 PM MST

To: Senate State Affairs Committee

I am writing this letter in support of SB1110.

I feel that each legislative district needs to retain its power in creating a ballot initiative.

Thank you

Greg Nedrow
Ashton Idaho Dist 35

From: V Hammond [mailto:4valhammond@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 9:17 AM
To: Senate State Affairs Committee
Subject: Support of SB1110

I am writing in support of SB1110 for true representation of all the voters in the State of Idaho.

Self-serving initiatives that by-pass the legislative process of scrutiny to get on the November ballot should have some checks and balances which 6% of registered voters from each district can provide.

This is a good legislation and I support it fully.

Thank you,
Val Hammond
St. Anthony, ID

From: Ralph & Joyce Dalley <rjidal@q.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 9:20 AM
To: Senate State Affairs Committee
Subject: S1110 support

I support S1110. As a partner with my son in ranching I feel that my voice has not been heard. With S1110 this is an opportunity for my voice to be heard and my opinions to be recognized.

Ralph Dalley

Ralph & Joyce Dalley
525 Gardner Drive
Blackfoot, ID 83221
208-604-4096 - 604-4097

"People may not remember what you said, they may not remember what you did, but they will never forget how you made them feel." Maya Angelou

From: Ralph & Joyce Dalley <ridal@g.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 9:09 AM
To: Senate State Affairs Committee
Subject: S1110 support

I support S1110. As a farmer and rancher I have an opportunity for my voice to be heard and my opinions to be recognized.

Thank you,
Joyce Dalley

Ralph & Joyce Dalley
525 Gardner Drive
Blackfoot, ID 83221
208-604-4096 - 604-4097

"People may not remember what you said, they may not remember what you did, but they will never forget how you made them feel." Maya Angelou

Subject: FW: testimony on 1110

From: Lori Anne Lau [<mailto:LauFamilyFarm@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 11:16 AM

To: Senate State Affairs Committee

Subject: testimony on 1110

Thank you madam chairwoman and committee members for this opportunity to testify remotely.

I am Lori Anne Lau of Soda Springs, Caribou County, which is part of LD 32. I am in support of SB 1110.

I'm excited to see the proposed change to the initiative process become law.

It is critical that ideas, which will become law via the initiative process, have broad spectrum, and broad based support. All parts of the state should be involved in this very important process. As several others who have testified in favor have said, Citizens from all areas of the state want to "count" and to be "heard" equally in our law making processes. I believe they deserve this equal input in the process.

Many others have testified about the small number of initiatives that have qualified and that only one initiative has become law. They seemed to be saying that this indicates there is a flaw in the initiative system. I would counter, that the majority of the ideas with merit, practical implementation methods, and broad based support are already working their way thru our representative legislature. Our state constitution gives the citizens the right to by-pass the legislature, if the legislature is failing to act. We need to demand that this is a rare circumstance. In those rare situations when good ideas, with practical application methods, and broad support are not being addressed by our legislature, we the people can turn to the initiative process. In these circumstances it will be relatively easy to gain the support of 6% of the voters in every portion of the state and qualify an initiative for the ballot.

Our founding fathers chose not to make us a direct democracy so as to protect the rights of minority opinion holders. They gave us a representative government, and we added the initiative process to our constitution for the rare times when the system doesn't work. The changes proposed by SB 1110 will help ensure ideas have broad based support, thus helping to ensure the rights of those with minority view-points.

Thank you for this opportunity to participate in the process. I'm unsure I will be able to rejoin the committee on Friday so I'm sending these comments in writing. I hope you will vote in favor of 1110 and urge your fellow legislators to do the same.

Lori Anne Lau

Lau Family Farm, LLC

Grass-fed Beef and Lamb...a natural choice

208-709-4981 cell