Joyce Brewer

From: Garshak Michael [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 9:40 AM
To: Joyce Brewer
Cc: Hougaard Louis
Subject: Message for Chairman Guthrie

Good Morning Joyce – This message is for Senator Guthrie as a follow up to our phone conversation yesterday afternoon:

According to our testimony from last year's HB 475, the 2 areas of State Law which exist, that already address the intent of Title 46 Ch 802 are:

Title 18 Ch 8103
Title 18 Ch 33

As a reminder – The Idaho Military Division neither supports or opposes the current Senate Bill No. 1056.

Thank you,

Michael J. Garshak

2/27 agenda

Attachment 1

Joyce Brewer

From: Jennifer Beazer [redacted]
nt: Monday, February 27, 2023 8:54 AM
: Joyce Brewer
Subject: Please share with members S1056

CAUTION: This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.

Good morning,
I stand against this bill. Much of my comments were made by another speaker -- I think Amaya was her name.

Sen Foreman presented that "none" of the members of the militias have criminal history -- I challenge him to represent that on paper.

I appreciate your service,
Jenn Beazer
D17

Joyce Brewer

From: Robin Campbell [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2023 11:38 PM
To: Senator Jim Guthrie; Joyce Brewer; Senator Treg Bernt; Senator Chuck Winder; Senator Kelly Anthon; Senator Abby Lee; Senator Ben Toews; Senator Melissa Wintrow; Senator James Ruchti; Senator Mark Harris; Senator Scott Herndon
Subject: SB1056

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The second amendment was written at a time when the United States did not have a standing army, or officially recognized military organizations. Now we do, the best in the world. Our men and women in uniform are trained to defend our country, our people and our democracy.
Unorganized, armed militias have no such civic loyalty. They can be convened for any purpose, to promote any agenda or follow any creed - even one that is counter to our values and democracy. Their presence in public places is provocative and intimidating.

There is no absolute right to carry firearms. The US Supreme Court's language in District of Colombia v. Heller states "the right secured by the Second Amendment is not unlimited" and is "not a right to keep and carry any weapon whatsoever in any manner whatsoever and for whatever purpose."

Please stop SB1056.

Sincerely,
Robin Campbell
[redacted]

Joseph Crupper

[redacted]

Regarding: SB1056

To Senate – State Affairs Committee,

My name is Joseph Crupper. I am writing in opposition of SB1056.

It occurs to me that this bill is being considered after this June (2022), when a militia was apprehended in Coeur d'Alene before having the opportunity to disrupt a LGBTQ Pride event at a local park. Armed with riot gear, the intentions of this mostly out-of-state group was clear: to threaten the safety of Idaho citizens.

https://www.npr.org/2022/06/11/1104405804/patriot-front-white-supremacist-arrested-near-idaho-pride

Senator Foreman introduced a version of this bill claiming the law that it repeals is barely being enforced as it is. I say it should be enforced harder. What militias in Idaho are "helpful to local law enforcement" that would be given more freedom should the bill this law repeals be passed? Are they the militias that hate gay and trans people, Black people, Jewish people, etc? You bet they are!

Idaho has a militia problem. This bill seeks to make it easier for them to move freely, harassing minority communities without impunity under the guise of "Second Amendment Rights." I think that there are some in our great panhandle that are big mad that queer people are just now getting to live without fear, and they want to take that away from them.

That militia from last year? If someone had called law enforcement after seeing them piling up into the back of a Uhaul, but this time they had guns, and this law was repealed, would the police have simply said: too bad, nothing we can do? Does that make Idaho *safer*? I don't think so!

Passing this bill will embolden people with extreme ill-intent to harass and threaten minority communities within the law. **Please vote NO on this bill.**

Thank you for your time,

Joseph Crupper

Joyce Brewer

From: Christie Dahlin[redacted]
nt: Thursday, February 23, 2023 7:46 PM
: Joyce Brewer
Cc: Senator Jim Guthrie; Senator Treg Bernt; Senator Chuck Winder; Senator Kelly Anthon; Senator Abby Lee; Senator Ben Toews; Senator Melissa Wintrow; Senator James Ruchti; Senator Mark Harris
Subject: No to S1056

CAUTION: This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.

Dear State Affairs committee,

I urge you to vote no on bill S1056. I appreciate that I live in a country where free speech is allowed and I believe it is important that people in Idaho can participate in politics and community functions without increased intimidation and risks from these groups. I am both a faith leader and a mother of toddler. I am concerned at the impact of gun violence in our country and our community. There is no absolute right to carry firearms. The US Supreme Court's language in District of Colombia v. Heller states "the right secured by the Second Amendment is not unlimited" and is "not a right to keep and carry any weapon whatsoever in any manner whatsoever and for whatever purpose".

Thank you for listening,
ristie

Christie Dahlin

Pastor

1

February 24, 2023

Chairman Guthrie and members of the Senate State Affairs Committee. I am Kathy Dawes, from [redacted] speaking in opposition to bill S 1056.

You recently received a letter from Mary McCord, Executive Director for the Institute for Constitutional Advocacy & Protection at the Georgetown University Law Center. In it, she thoroughly explains that Idaho's prohibition against unauthorized paramilitary organizations in code 46-802 is fully consistent with the First and Second Amendments to the U.S. Constitution and with the Idaho Constitution. This prohibition in no way forbids traditional Second Amendment-protected activity, like hunting or self-defense. Instead, it focuses on military style operations by private groups who are not accountable to law enforcement.

The Supreme Court has already upheld a law forbidding paramilitary activity by "any body of men whatever . . . to associate themselves together as a military company or organization, or to drill or parade with arms in any city or town."

In fact, prohibitions on unauthorized paramilitary activity are an essential part of state laws that ensure that military power is subordinate to civilian authority, which fully conforms with the Second Amendment and is necessary to secure public safety.

The section of Idaho code this bill proposes to remove, is a protection for everyone. I do not want private militias to appear armed in public. Such unregulated militias might show up anywhere, anytime, at peaceful protest marches or polling places. Armed militias present a form of intimidation and often hinder or complicate actions by police. The current code empowers law enforcement to keep public order within the bounds of Idaho law and ensure the safety of individuals to exercise their rights to free speech and assembly without intimidation.

Please vote NO on S 1056.

Joyce Brewer

From: Orrin or Jo Everhart [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2023 4:39 PM
To: Joyce Brewer
Subject: SB 1056

CAUTION: **This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.**

Please provide this email to all members of the State Affairs Committee:

We have been informed that SB 1056 allows privately organized militia to openly carry firearms, and this bill gets a hearing tomorrow, Monday, Feb 27th at 8 am.

Recently there has been an increase in privately organized militias carrying guns in public. Unfortunately, most of these groups have their own agendas, based on extremist beliefs, rather than the common good of Idaho's citizens. Their implied threat of violence chills legitimate democratic speech.

Legislators in Idaho should reject any attempt to authorize privately organized militia to operate in the state.

Orrin Everhart
Jo Len Everhart

1

Joyce Brewer

From: [redacted]
nt: Monday, February 27, 2023 9:48 AM
: Senator Jim Guthrie; Joyce Brewer; Senator Treg Bernt; Senator Chuck Winder; Senator Kelly Anthon; Senator Abby Lee; Senator Ben Toews; Senator Melissa Wintrow; Senator James Ruchti; Senator Mark Harris
Subject: Changes to gun laws

CAUTION: This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.

Hello,

As a resident of north Idaho, I would like to express my unfavorable opinion of changing the legislation you are considering this day. My concern is that this may allow for outright intimidation and a loss of individual safety and expression.

Thanks for your time,

Respectfully,

Chuck Giordano
[redacted]

Joyce Brewer

From: Barb Hair [redacted]
nt: Thursday, February 23, 2023 3:59 PM
:o: Senator Jim Guthrie; Joyce Brewer; Senator Treg Bernt; Senator Chuck Winder; Senator Kelly Anthon; Senator Abby Lee; Senator Ben Toews; Senator Melissa Wintrow; Senator James Ruchti; Senator Mark Harris
Subject: 1056

CAUTION: This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.

It has come to my attention that you will be reviewing bill 1056 which would allow private militias to openly carry and parade weapons of war. I was born in Idaho, and though I grew up hunting with my father, and have respect for all outdoorsmen including hunters, I do not support individuals openly carrying guns that are used only for hunting one species, humans. I do not own an assault weapon because I do not ever intend on shooting another American. I do not intend on using it to intimidate others. That is the only reason militias wish for open carry in public places, to intimidate other Americans who may disagree with them. It is a violation of my free speech to go to my place of government to protest that government only to be met with those trying to intimidate me. We clearly have a problem in this country with mass murder committed with assault weapons. Where is the liberty to safely go to the mall, a movie, a concert, a protest, school, or a parade without the terror that one may be massacred? That is not liberty. This is extremism brought to you by extreme people who are in most cases not even Idaho natives. The Idaho where I was born would never have to endure individuals carrying military weapons or any guns to places were families enjoy a parade or recreate in a park. Allowing this would be dangerous for Idaho families and for law enforcement. Please protect our liberty to move freely about in society without an AR-15 in the vicinity! Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone
Barb Hair

Joyce Brewer

From: Sarah Hansen [redacted]
nt: Thursday, February 23, 2023 12:08 PM
: Senator Jim Guthrie; Joyce Brewer; Senator Treg Bernt; Senator Chuck Winder; Senator Kelly Anthon; Senator Abby Lee; Senator Ben Toews; Senator Melissa Wintrow; Senator James Ruchti; Senator Mark Harris
Subject: Militia Open Carry Bill

CAUTION: This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.

Members of the State Affairs Committee:
My name is Sarah Hansen, I live in [redacted] I am writing regarding SB1056, which would allow privately organized militia to openly carry/parade with firearms.
I understand this bill is getting a hearing tomorrow, and I encourage each of you to OPPOSE this bill.
There has been an increase in privately organized militias carrying at protests and in public spaces in recent years. These groups are often motivated by extremist beliefs and conspiracy theories.
Citizens of Idaho should be able to attend events and engage in politics without increased intimidation and risk from these groups.
Legislators in Idaho should have citizen's safety first in mind and reject any attempt for extremist militia to operate and intimidate other citizens in our state.
Thank you for your time,
rah Hansen

Joyce Brewer

From: k konek [redacted]
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2023 10:12 AM
To: Senator Jim Guthrie; Joyce Brewer; Senator Treg Bernt; Senator Chuck Winder; Senator Kelly Anthon; Senator Abby Lee; Senator Ben Toews; Senator Melissa Wintrow; Senator James Ruchti; Senator Mark Harris
Subject: Against S1056

CAUTION: This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.

Please let my voice be heard.

I am against S1056 - Militia to open carry. We do not need to empower these groups more than they already are. They can open carry in the State of Idaho. What more do they need? Not all of the members of these groups understand, nor know how to use, the weapons they already own.

Please, I encourage you to vote no.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kathy
[redacted]

Joyce Brewer

From: christi kramer [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2023 10:53 PM
To: Senator Jim Guthrie; Joyce Brewer; Senator Treg Bernt; Senator Chuck Winder; Senator Kelly Anthon; Senator Abby Lee; Senator Ben Toews; Senator Melissa Wintrow; Senator James Ruchti; Senator Mark Harris; Christi Kramer
Subject: Senate Bill 1056 -- Idaho laws must restrict militias

CAUTION: This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.

I urge you, please, to **uphold the laws in place to restrict militia**; to remain steadfast that the provisions of Idaho law are essential to safe-guard our State.

Our family has known Idaho as home for seven + generations; my great-grandpa was commissioner when Kootenai, Boundary and Bonner County were all one. We are proud this has been our home and we have contributed to our State's success and well-being. I am concerned, as my son was born into a very different Idaho; our safety is threatened by radical (armed) extremists moving in.

In the midst of an insurgency and increasing instability, **it is unwise to let militias, especially armed groups formed and acting on ideology, go unchecked.**

I have felt confident in the clarity and strength of Idaho law regarding militia, with provisions to prohibit private militia or paramilitary activity and vigilantism, where (Idaho Code § 18-711) it is a felony offense for any individual to "unlawfully exercise or attempt to exercise the functions" of a law enforcement officer. And, in particular where, the Idaho Constitution's Strict Subordination Clause forbids private military units from operating outside state authority, as the "military shall be subordinate to the civil power" (Idaho Const. art. I, § 12). And where the State (the Governor of Idaho, as commander-in-chief, is the state official who has the authority to call the unorganized militia into active service that [the militia] "shall be organized into such units and shall be armed and equipped in such manner as the governor in his discretion shall deem proper. The officers thereof, shall be appointed and commissioned by the governor under such rules and regulations as he may deem expedient to promulgate." (Idaho Code § 46-106). The governor of the state by virtue of his office, shall be commander-in-chief of the national guard, except of such thereof, as may be at times in the service of the United States. (Idaho Code § 46-110)-- **The power to regulate militia must remain with the State.** Moreover, Idaho's statute prohibiting "unorganized associations" from engaging in paramilitary activity states, "No body of men, other than the regularly organized national guard, the unorganized militia when called into service of the state, or of the United States . . . shall associate themselves together as a military company or organization, or parade in public with firearms in any city or town of this state" (Idaho Code § 46-802). **The U.S. Supreme Court has long recognized that such laws are constitutional and do not violate the Second Amendment.**

To those who argue that the current law violates the first and second amendment:
There is no absolute right to carry firearms. The US Supreme Court's language in District of Colombia v. Heller states "the right secured by the Second Amendment is not unlimited" and **is "not a right to keep and carry any weapon whatsoever in any manner whatsoever and for whatever purpose".**

We must reject any attempt to authorize extremist militia to operate in the State. We cannot encourage an insurgency/paramilitary to parade through our public spaces with guns.

Thank you very much for your attention and service.
Sincerely,

Christi Kramer
[redacted]

* Recognizing the current movement of armed extremists into our communities; how many patriots publicly self-identify as militia:
https://www.cia.gov/readingroom/docs/CIA-RDP87T01127R000300220005-6.pdf

* This week, Idaho in the Washington Post -- the article ends with fighting words. It matters if there are laws to limit militias, especially within a volatile environment.
https://www.washingtonpost.com/religion/2023/02/24/idaho-christian-nationalism-marjorie-taylor-greene/?utm_campaign=wp_evening_edition&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_evening&carta-url=https%3A%2F%2Fs2.washingtonpost.com%2Fcar-ln-tr%2F39396a4%2F63fa85161b79c61f87a93912%2F5977ded6ae7e8a6816e8203d%2F25%2F48%2F63fa85161b79c61f87a93912&wp_cu=7b133afb6f83e54ef7c7e5474afd1d30%7CC0DBB7D110422B3DE0430100007F44AE

Joyce Brewer

From: Robin Lundgren [redacted]
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2023 10:00 AM
To: Joyce Brewer
Subject: S 1056

CAUTION: **This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.**

Please enter my testimony into the public record'

Dear Senators:

While I wholeheartedly support our 2nd Amendment rights, I believe S 1056 is a bad idea, a bad bill.
Permitting or even encouraging private militias to parade armed with their weapons is potentially very dangerous.
Dangerous to our law enforcement officials and dangerous to the general public.

Please vote No on S-1056.

Thank you.

Robin Lundgren
[redacted]

Joyce Brewer

From: Mary Ollie [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2023 4:13 PM
To: Joyce Brewer
Subject: Testimony re SB 1056

CAUTION: This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.

Please enter my testimony into the public record.

Chairman Guthrie and Members of the Senate State Affairs Committee:

Senate Bill 1056 should be voted down. This is not part of our history as a country - that is unless one considers the activities of the Ku Klux Klan and other vigilante groups. The danger to our law enforcement men and women is significant. There is no accountability for these militias. And the bill is unnecessary.

Should an armed group of citizens become necessary, our elected County Sheriffs have the power to deputize. We also have the National Guard. These groups are accountable and operate under regulations.

Many years ago my hometown in Minnesota had four tornadoes hit. The County Sheriff deputized several people and organized them to provide security and to do searches. It was just in time as within hours storm chasers and con men descended on the town. Because of the sheriff's organization and expertise, my town avoided the crime that often accompanies a major disaster.

Private militias are not needed during disasters AND we certainly do not need private militias parading around polling places or public meetings.

During the May primary and the November general election, deputies were called to polling places in District 1. There were cases of voter intimidation and harassment. A few people, rather than face the shouters thrusting flyers at us, decided to turn around and leave.

Imagine how this might play out if a private militia chose to do an election day display of "patriotism".

Anyone who cites the Second Amendment is not telling our real history. Don't believe them. Vote this bill down.

Sincerely,

Mary Ollie
[redacted]

Joyce Brewer

From: Kelley Packer [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, February 25, 2023 12:12 PM
To: Joyce Brewer; Senator Jim Guthrie; Senator Treg Bernt; Senator Chuck Winder; Senator Kelly Anthon; Senator Mark Harris; Senator Abby Lee; Senator Ben Toews; Senator Melissa Wintrow; Senator James Ruchti
Cc: Justin Ruen; Rob McQuade; Julie Hart; Isaac Belden; Mary Alice Taylor; jevans@gardencityidaho.org
Subject: S1056

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Chairman Guthrie & Senate State Affairs Committee,

The Association of Idaho Cities Board of Directors took a position on S1056 to oppose because we thought it would negatively impact our city law enforcement's ability to keep our communities safe. However, there's been some discussion with a few city police chiefs that don't believe this latest version editing I.C. 46-802 will impact their ability to manage the needs of their jurisdictions. Our board plans to reconsider their position at their next legislative board meeting on Friday, 3/3/23. We will make any necessary changes to our electronic and printed scorecards after that meeting. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you SO MUCH for your service. Yours is not an easy job. We appreciate all you do for Idaho!

Kelley Packer
Executive Director

3100 S Vista Avenue, Suite 201
Boise, Idaho 83705
(208) 342-1008; Direct
(208) 241-3350; Cell
(208) 344-8677; Fax
www.idahocities.org

Joyce Brewer

From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2023 8:55 AM
To: Senator Jim Guthrie; Joyce Brewer; Senator Treg Bernt; Senator Chuck Winder; Senator Kelly Anthon; Senator Abby Lee; Senator Ben Toews; Senator Melissa Wintrow; Senator James Ruchti; Senator Mark Harris
Subject: FW: Senate Bill 1056 -- Idaho laws must restrict militias

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Do NOT repeal the existing law that states the only legal militia in Idaho is the National Guard under the authority of the Governor. We are aware of the illegal militias who have paraded in our streets acting unlawfully as protectors and law enforcement. This bill goes in the wrong direction. There should action to enforce the law already in place and stop these illegal militias, not the other way.

Barbara Russell
[redacted]

Boundary County Human Rights Task Force, chair
PO Box 615
Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805

Joyce Brewer

From: Starr Shepard [redacted]
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2023 8:00 AM
To: Joyce Brewer
Subject: Testimony AGAINST S1056

CAUTION: This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.

Dear Senate State Affairs Committee:

I am a constituent in District 16, and I writing to urge you to please **vote against S1056**. I do not believe the parading in public with firearms sections should be repealed. It is not obsolete. If anything, it is more relevant as ever as the FBI has stated that domestic terrorism is a significant threat in the United States today.

Militia-types are showing up armed with assault rifles and tactical gear to counter protests across the state. I have witnessed this in Boise at the Capitol and other areas downtown. These people are there with the express intent to intimidate people with opposing political views. They say they're there to "protect property," but they have not been deputized to do-so.

While I am pro Second Amendment with commonsense regulations in-place, I do not believe the Second Amendment includes chilling someone else's First Amendment rights. This is the effect when armed paramilitary guerrilla groups show up with AR-15s at protests. I've seen photos in Boise of high-school aged kids with big guns and disheveled middle-aged men "staking out" the area with large guns (hiding like they're waiting to surprise someone). I mention their disheveled appearance because they don't look sober or like they take care of themselves. At least with the National Guard, they care about their appearance which gives the public some sense of discipline and self-control.

Parading armed in the streets at protests amounts to domestic terrorism. People bringing ARs to political rallies is a of political intimidation. It uses the threat of violence for political means. This is the definition of terrorism. Also, some of these groups are openly calling for Civil War and insurrection against our government.

I am terrified having to warn my 18- and 20-year-old son and daughter to watch out for bad actors with guns when they go exercise their First Amendment rights. I tell them to take their pictures though (if they can safely). Many of these people wear masks which make them even more terrifying. We should know who these people in our community are. AT THE VERY LEAST, open carrying downtown should be done mask-free. We need to regulate this.

Keeping this regulation on the books is one way to protect public safety. I understand the governor wants to reduce regulations so he can continue to tout Idaho as "the least regulated state." That's not the compliment he thinks it is, by the way. **This is a legitimate concern, and one law that needs to be regulated more, not less.** We need laws like this on the books because we have open anti-government people running for office

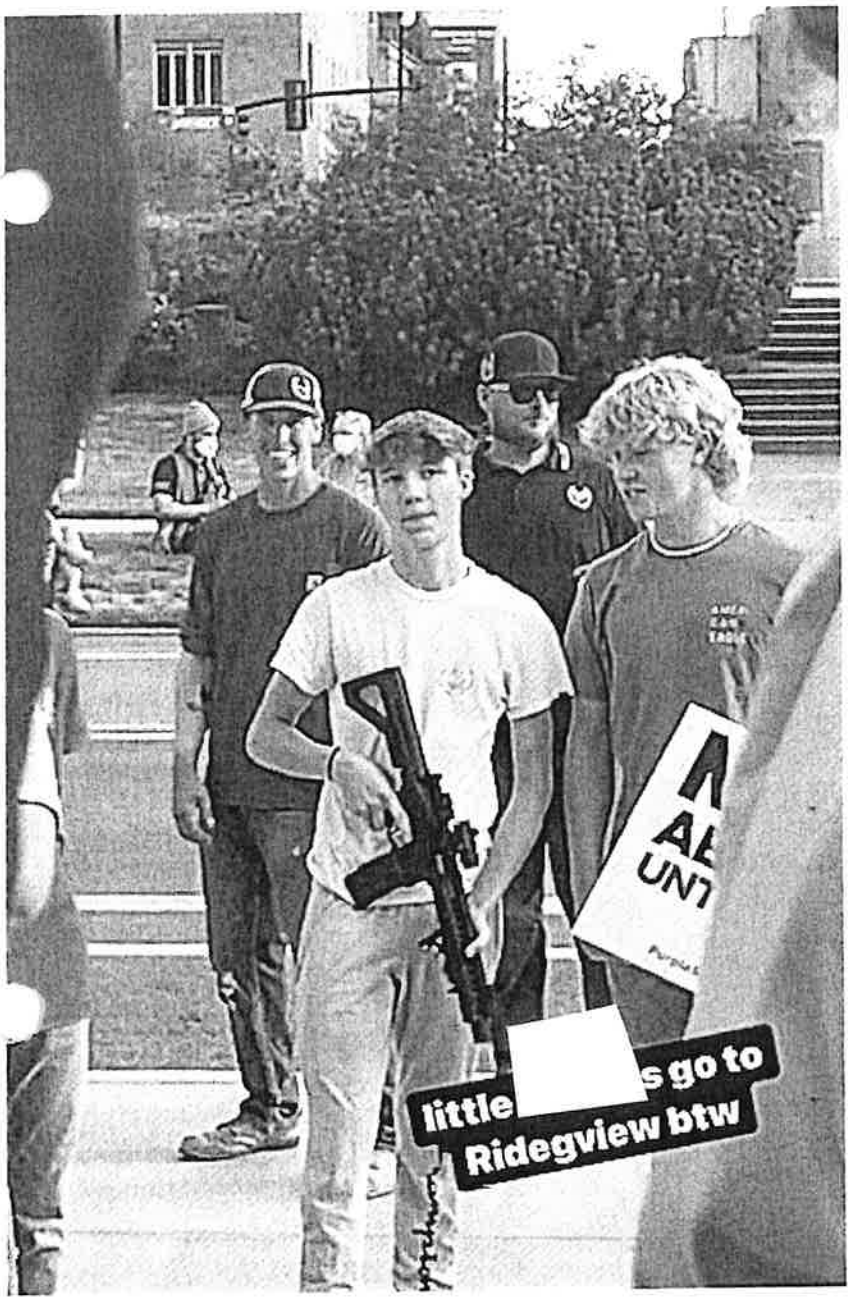
and openly calling for armed groups to use armed intimidation to get their goals met. Our GOP Chairwoman openly endorsed one such candidate.

I know Idaho has the Terrorist Control Act in place (Title 18, Chapter 61) specifically Section 18-8103(1), but I don't see our law enforcement officers doing anything about unlawful domestic terrorism. We need ALL laws on the books to protect the public against bad actors with no accountability, oversight, and questionable training.

Please VOTE NO on S1056.

Thank you,
Starr Shepard

P.S. Forgive the language on this photo. I pulled it from the internet. It is not my own, but it represents the immaturity of some of the people I'm talking about. (Ridgeview is a high school). Note teh "Proud Boys" behind them. The domestic terrorist Proud Boys are currently on trial for sedition in Washington D.C. Also, remember the 18 year old who shot his AR-15 downtown in 2020? Said it was an accident? We're lucky no one was killed!


little s go to
Ridegview btw

Joyce Brewer

From: Denise Thompson [redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2023 4:56 PM
To: Senator Jim Guthrie; Joyce Brewer; Senator Treg Bernt; Senator Chuck Winder; Senator Kelly Anthon; Senator Abby Lee; Senator Ben Toews; Senator Melissa Wintrow; Senator James Ruchti; Senator Mark Harris
Subject: SB 1056

CAUTION: This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.

Honorable Senators,

I am urgently asking you to vote NO on SB 1056. In the past we Idahoans have never needed armed individuals to participate in politics, at government functions, and at community events. All individuals are welcome to attend WITHOUT firearms. In fact, participation at these events quite likely will diminish if this bill is passed. What is the purpose of this bill?

Additionally, there is no absolute right to carry firearms. In District of Columbia vs. Heller, the Supreme Court stated that "the right secured by the Second Amendment is NOT unlimited (emphasis added) and is "not a right to keep and carry any weapon whatsoever in any manner whatsoever and for whatever purpose."

Thank you for considering this bill as injudicious and voting no.

Denise Thompson
[redacted]

Joyce Brewer

From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2023 9:21 AM
To: Senator Jim Guthrie; Joyce Brewer; Senator Treg Bernt; Senator Chuck Winder; Senator Kelly Anthon; Senator Abby Lee; Senator Ben Toews; Senator Melissa Wintrow; Senator James Ruchti; Senator Mark Harris
Subject: militia bill S 1056

CAUTION: This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.

I am writing you to vote a resounding NO on militia bill S 1056 under the premise this bill would inherently harm the population of Idaho's good people who have LIVED here or MOVED here with the express regards to a conservative state free of worries about military type groups parading around at will with weapons. As a born and raised conservative Idahoan, with 6 generations here, gun owner and 2nd amendment supporter, I feel this would open the door for ANY militia group to come in and try to exert power through a militia status. In Boundary County we have already witnessed what is happening with groups coming in and trying to take over such as our "library recall board", taking down the library being voted best small town library IN THE NATION, the likes of Fioravanti trying to get into a county commissioner seat where the people stood up and said NO by voting in a write-in candidate, and seeing a good senator being taken out by the lying snake Scott Herndon. As a unified people, we need to stop this infiltration of self-possessed groups trying to take over our state and others surrounding us. Vote NO to all this nonsense.

Tim West
Bonners Ferry, Idaho
[redacted]

Joyce Brewer

From: Andrea Wilson [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 7:08 PM
To: Senator Jim Guthrie; Joyce Brewer; Senator Treg Bernt; Senator Chuck Winder; Senator Kelly Anthon; Senator Abby Lee; Senator Ben Toews; Senator Melissa Wintrow; Senator James Ruchti; Senator Mark Harris
Subject: Written Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1056

CAUTION: This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.

Dear Senators,

Thanks for allowing me to submit written testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 1056 which would allow privately organized militia to openly carry/parade with firearms. I'm Andrea Wilson, a constituent from District 15.

Lately, it feels like the only time Idaho makes national news it is because of extremist activity. Idaho is so much better than this. But this bill will only feed into the bad reputation we have earned and make extremism even more rampant, even sanctioned. Aryan Nations, Idaho 3%ers, Patriot Front, Lightfoot Militia from Eastern Idaho. Is this what we really want to be known for? NO!

From causing a lockdown at St. Luke's Hospital in Downtown Boise to loading up in a UHaul conspiring to start a riot at a large park event in Northern Idaho, armed groups are making our state less safe. As of right now, the Police have the authority to disallow a giant group of armed men loaded into a UHaul van from infiltrating a park gathering, and they did, thank God. If this proposed bill passes, the Police would lose their authority to do so in the future. Shameful.

I desired to be involved in the public discourse that takes place at the Capitol for many years, but frankly, I've been afraid to because of armed and disgruntled individuals who come to this building eager to make a statement. Intimidation is bad enough, but the fact is, armed individuals also behaved violently in this building, shattering a glass door, refusing to leave, etc. This type of behavior from armed individuals makes the average, reasonable citizen fearful to get involved, afraid to exercise their rights to free speech and free assembly, and scared to engage in the democratic process.

The last thing we need is to give extremists like these more leeway. Legislators in Idaho should reject any attempt to sanction extremist militias, but instead this bill effectively celebrates them, encouraging them to parade through our public spaces with guns.

This isn't just unsafe. I'd call it a recipe for disaster. Please vote no on Senate Bill 1056.