



# Idaho



## *Liberty Loving Populace Seeks Libertarian Leadership*

**What really sets Idaho apart is it's potential for big political success.**

*Q: Which state's existing population supports liberty the most?*

*A: Idaho!*

Idaho voters want liberty oriented candidates. Idaho voters keep asking for more liberty by voting for the Libertarian Party **more than any other Free State Project (FSP) candidate state**. Idaho has elected the most libertarian Congressional representatives in the nation. With the help of the FSP, Idaho can become The Free State.

The voters in Idaho have supported the Libertarian Party with more votes than any other FSP Candidate. The best three 2002 statewide races in Idaho received a **higher percentage vote total than the top races in either Wyoming or New Hampshire**. Though New Hampshire has more LP members, Idaho had **better per-capita vote totals** in statewide races than New Hampshire, or any other state in the FSP.

But Idaho's leading Libertarian Party vote totals aren't the only compelling evidence to suggest Idaho has the most libertarian political culture. Even the Idaho Republican congressional delegation is very libertarian. The Republican Liberty Caucus scores U.S. House and Senate members each year based on their voting record to find out their actual libertarian leanings. Idaho's average score for 2001 (the most recent scores available) is the **most libertarian in the nation**.

One of the most popular Idaho politicians is "Butch" Otter. He was elected Lieutenant Governor four times, and was recently reelected to Congress, where he originally replaced Helen Chenoweth, another very liberty oriented representative. He is **the most libertarian U.S. Representative** in any of the FSP candidate states, and one of the best in the nation. Mr. Otter is the 'Ron Paul of Idaho', is a member of Dr. Paul's Liberty Caucus, and was one of only three Republicans to vote 'No' on the Patriot Act.

The Democratic party in Idaho is largely a no-show. They hold less than ¼ of the seats in the legislature, and did not even field a full slate of statewide candidates in 2002. That offers an opportunity for liberty to dominate the political landscape in Idaho. Between the Libertarian Party and the Republican Party, we stand a chance to give the voters the best choice: a libertarian or a Libertarian.

Idaho is the population and political center of a region of liberty-oriented states. That makes Idaho the state where we can maximize our overall impact, not only in Idaho, but in the surrounding region and the rest of the nation. The FSP could, in a very real way, make Boise the liberty capital of America. From there, it will be easy to inspire surrounding states in the region to become fellow free states. For more information please visit this website:

<http://freethewest.us>

With the help of the FSP, Idaho can become

# The Free State!











# Idaho








## *Idaho Offers Excellent Climate*

A liberty friendly political environment isn't the only thing necessary for the success of the Free State Project (FSP). To succeed, we **must** attract the remainder of the 20,000 people, and facilitate their activism. To that end, Idaho stands out as the very best state. Here are **just a few** of the reasons why:

### Legal and Political Climate

-  In the most recent 7 years of a respected academic study, voters in Idaho averaged **25% better at voting for small-government** campaigns than even the second -place FSP candidate state.
-  Idaho is one of only two states with a **competitively elected supreme court**, which could help us achieve our agenda.
-  Idaho has an excellent **initiative and referendum** process. This could be used to present our issues directly to the voters.
-  Idaho has **gun friendly** laws including shall-issue concealed carry (and no-permit concealed carry outside towns and some other places), peaceable journey, and open carry.
-  Idaho has virtually no restrictions on **homeschooling** and the courts have strongly upheld that tradition. Our families who want to homeschool won't have to fear government harassment.
-  For parents, Idaho is best. Midwifery is allowed by statute, there are no decency laws that interfere with breastfeeding, and it is the only state that **recognizes child-rearing as a jury duty exemption**.
-  Idaho is a **right-to-work state** and ties for the lowest percentage of NEA/AFT membership among FSP candidates.
-  Idaho has, the **fewest trial lawyers per capita** of FSP candidate states.

### Economy and Livability Climate

-  **Sunny Idaho has the most diverse geography and climate.** Idaho's largest cities have **warmer winters** than every other FSP state except Delaware. Idaho also has cooler areas, flat areas, mountains, and more.
-  Idaho has the **best job forecast** of any of the FSP candidates. That will make it quicker and easier for all of us to get jobs and focus on activism.
-  Idaho has a **low cost of living and low real estate prices**, even in it's largest city, Boise. That will allow us to live better on less money and devote more resources to increasing liberty.
-  Idaho is **business friendly** and has a vibrant high technology sector. There are **more patents issued** per-capita in Idaho than in any other state in the US. Idaho also has **better air service** than any of the other FSP candidates.
-  The comprehensive 'Economic Freedom in America's 50 states' report by Clemson Dept. Of Economics **ranks Idaho 1<sup>st</sup> in the nation** and highlights Idaho's low cost of welfare payments and rate of public aid.

**Idaho is the best choice for meeting the critical goal of 20,000 activists.**

### A look ahead

Can the FSP succeed in Idaho? Yes!  
Can you enjoy living in Idaho? Yes!

Idaho has the best combination of existing libertarian-leaning population, legal and political climate, and economy and livability climate. Any one of those would make Idaho good. Together, they make Idaho great, **the very best candidate for the FSP.**