

# HERNDON vs. WOODWARD — THE RECORD

SCOTT HERNDON

JIM WOODWARD

**96.2% IFF Freedom Score**  
**100% CPAC**  
**97.9% Inst. for Legislative Analysis**  
**Champion of Limited Government**

**IFF Freedom Score: 52.0% — Grade F**  
**Lifetime Spending Score: 6.8% — Grade F**  
**84% CPAC**

## PROPERTY TAXES

Voted for HB 292 — \$317.4 million in property tax relief. Governor vetoed it. Herndon voted to override the veto, 28-7. It is now law. Running to **eliminate all property taxes** in Idaho.  
*[HB 292, 2023]*

Sits on the Senate Finance Committee as Vice Chair. Has had every institutional tool to deliver property tax reform. Has not delivered meaningful relief. Opposes eliminating the grocery sales tax. Prefers a \$150 credit.

## GOVERNMENT SPENDING

Served on the Senate Finance Committee and used that seat to cut **\$200 million** from the state budget. Supports line-by-line budget review and separate votes on new spending.  
*[Budget Reform, 2024]*

IFF Lifetime Spending Score: **6.8%** — the worst in the Republican caucus. Called the conservative budget reform process a “scheme.” Used his Vice Chair position on the Senate Finance Committee to resist the new line-item budget process that would have given legislators greater oversight of spending.  
*[Senate Finance Committee, 2026; Idaho Capital Sun, 2025]*

## INCOME TAX CUTS

Consistent votes in favor of income tax reduction. Supported every income tax cut brought before the Senate. Voted for Idaho’s **\$50 million flat tax rate reduction**.  
*[HB 521, 2023]*

Voted **NO** on HB 40 — a \$253 million income tax cut including exemptions for military veteran pensions, disabled veterans, and bullion capital gains. Passed 27-8. One of only 8 No votes.  
*[HB 40, 2025]*

## FEE & TAX INCREASES

Opposes tax and fee increases on Idaho farmers, ranchers, and small businesses. Consistent votes against growing the cost of doing business in Idaho.

Voted YES on **four fee and tax increases** in 2025: quadrupled clover/alfalfa seed levy (HB 173), tripled livestock dealer fees (SB 1016), raised attorney bar fees (SB 1030), increased bean grower tax (SB 1054).  
*[HB 173, SB 1016, SB 1030, SB 1054 — 2025]*

## GUNS & 2ND AMENDMENT

Floor sponsor of **SB 1374** — concealed carry on public property. Passed Senate 28-7, House 58-10. Signed into law. Filed **Herndon v. Sandpoint** — sued over a firearms ban at public events, at personal expense. Supported HB 295 banning credit card tracking of gun purchases. 100% CPAC.  
*[SB 1374, 2024; Herndon v. Sandpoint; HB 295, 2023]*

**Publicly opposed HB 376** at town halls in 2025. HB 376 would have restored full gun rights on all public property. Woodward actively spoke against expanding concealed carry protections that Herndon fought to pass.  
*[HB 376, 2025]*

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## PUBLIC LANDS ACCESS

Authored **SB 1258** — requiring equivalent replacement public access before vacating any right-of-way to public land or water. Passed the Senate 33-2 but was blocked in a House committee by a lobbyist. Authored **SB 1021** — stopped the Priest Lake Siphon project. Signed into law.

[SB 1258, 2024; SB 1021, 2023]

Voted YES on **SB 1086** — would have made it a crime for Idaho residents to violate federal recreational use restrictions on public land. Penalties could escalate to a **felony**. No willfulness requirement.

[SB 1086, 2025]

## ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

Sponsored **SB 1216** — prohibiting illegal aliens from obtaining Idaho driver's licenses. Voted to ban Chinese government-connected entities from purchasing Idaho agricultural land. Supports full enforcement of federal immigration law.

[SB 1216, 2024; HB 173, 2023]

Voted YES on SCR 107 — driving privileges for residents “whose presence is not in accord with federal immigration law.” Received \$1,000 from Idaho Dairy Association (employs workers without legal status). **Personally donated \$2,600 to Idaho Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee.**

[SCR 107, 2021; FEC/Idaho SOS records, 2023]

## PRO-LIFE & FAMILY VALUES

100% pro-life. Endorsed by Idaho Chooses Life (2024). Co-authored **HB 752** with Rep. Razor — criminalizes men in women's bathrooms/locker rooms. **First law of its kind in the nation.** Co-sponsored SB 1100 — biological sex separation in schools. Supported Vulnerable Child Protection Act (HB 71) — **criminalized “transgender” surgeries and drugs on children.**

[HB 752, 2026; SB 1100, 2023; HB 71, 2023]

Sponsored **SB 1184** — described as loosening Idaho's abortion ban. Supported by a group running a ballot initiative to legalize abortion through fetal viability. Opposed by Idaho Chooses Life. Voted **against the Fairness in Women's Sports Act (HB 500)** — one of only 5 Republicans. Voted YES on SB 1199 redefining minors to exclude pregnant girls from parental consent.

[SB 1184, 2025; HB 500, 2020; SB 1199, 2025]

## EDUCATION & SCHOOL CHOICE

Passed charter school expansion (SB 1042/1043), open enrollment (SB 1125), school bathroom protections (SB 1100), CPS reform (HB 66, SB 1029). Proposes **constitutional amendment** to protect homeschool and private school freedom.

[SB 1042/1043, SB 1125, SB 1100, HB 66, SB 1029 — 2023]

Voted **NO** on HB 93 — \$50M parental choice tax credit (\$5,000/student). Voted **NO** on SB 1198 banning DEI at universities — in Democratic minority, 23-12. Voted to fund \$3.8M for DEI staff at BSU and U of I. Helped kill parental opt-in for sex education 3 years running.

[HB 93, 2025; SB 1198, 2025; HB 249, 2021]

## HEALTH FREEDOM & EMERGENCIES

Supported **SB 1130** banning mandatory Covid vaccinations. Signed into law. Sued governor in federal court when church attendance was criminalized — **governor backed down.**

[SB 1130, 2023; Herndon v. Little]

Opposed S1381 protecting from mandatory Covid vaccinations — voted with Democrats. Voted against right to work during Covid. **“Flip-Flop Five”** — changed vote to sustain governor's veto on emergency powers.

[S1381, 2022; H135, 2021; SB 1136, 2021]

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**DEMOCRATIC PARTY DONATIONS**

No donations to Democrats and not funded by Democrats.  
**91% individual donors from Idaho, 94.5% in-state donors.**

Woodward has received maximum personal donations of \$3,000 from Tom and Jacinda Bokowy and their company, \$1,000 in donations from Debra Dawson, \$2,000 from Quantum Concepts, a company controlled by Diana Dawson, \$1,000 from Karen Pence, \$1,000 from Laura Baker. All of these donors (and other donors to Woodward) have documented, regular donations on FEC.gov to Obama, Hillary Clinton, Joe Biden, Kamala Harris and other national Democrats or PACs like Stop Republicans.

*[FEC/Idaho SOS records]*

**Republican Primary: May 19, 2026 — Idaho Senate District 1**  
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