

IDAHO BLUE BOOK

2015-2016



Published by
SECRETARY OF STATE
LAWERENCE DENNEY
for the
STATE OF IDAHO

Idaho Blue Book

The *Idaho Blue Book* is distributed free of charge to libraries, schools and government agencies in Idaho.

For all others the cost is \$10.00 per copy.

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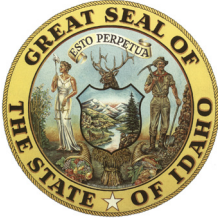
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SECRETARY OF STATE

DEDICATION

Dear Fellow Idahoans:

Following in the longstanding tradition of dedicating each edition of the Blue Book to an outstanding Idaho citizen, it was easy to decide to whom this Blue Book should be dedicated---Ben Ysursa, the second longest serving Secretary of State since the beginning of Idaho's statehood in 1891. Including the 2014 general election, twenty-five Idahoans have served as Secretary of State, and only Pete Cenarrusa eclipsed Ben's tenure

Ben graduated from Gonzaga University in 1971, earned his law degree at St. Louis University Law School in 1974, and in October 1974 was admitted to the Idaho State Bar. He began his career with the Secretary of State's office as Deputy Secretary of State from 1974-1976. From 1976-2002 he served as Chief Deputy Secretary of State. Ben was elected Secretary of State on November 5, 2002, re-elected in 2006 and again in 2010. In 2013 Ben made the decision to retire from public office.

Under Ben's leadership, the Office maintained its reputation for timely and efficient service as well as continuing to upgrade technological advances to meet the needs of Idahoans including: 1) online application process for business corporations, 2) online campaign disclosure process, 3) online lobbyist registration. Ben also continued to maintain relationships with county clerks and through those relationships was able to initiate election consolidation. In addition, Idahoans now have the ability to register to vote on the day of an election. With funds secured through the grant program affiliated with Help America Vote Act (HAVA), Idaho counties were able to update their voting systems.

Because of his strong family values and a desire to make a difference, Ben assisted in developing the ProtecTeens video and resource kit, which provides parents with information about the danger to children from Internet sexual predators.

Ben will long be remembered for his commitment to preserving fair and honest elections in Idaho, his strong adherence to non-partisanship as Secretary of State, and his 40 years of service to the citizens of Idaho. THANK YOU, BEN.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Denney
Secretary of State

NOTE: With the passing of Pat Herman, previous editor of the Blue Book, we welcome our new editor, Jeff Harvey. We have made some changes to the Book, and we certainly welcome your comments as to the "new" look.



Former Secretary of State Ben Ysursa, with wife Penny, speaks at his retirement reception



The Voice of Bishop Kelly Football
Former Secretary of State Ben Ysursa

PREFACE

The *Idaho Blue Book* is published biennially under the direction of the Secretary of State. This twenty-third edition offers constitutional, historical, and statistical information about Idaho. It also details the structure of Idaho's government and includes biographies of elected officials.

The Blue Book received its name not from the color of its cover but rather by definition of content. Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms defines the term Blue Book as "a printed book containing the names of all persons holding office under the Government of the United States. It answers the Red Book of England." Individual states have taken this concept and expanded it to include a wealth of information about state officials and resources as well as statistical and historical profiles.

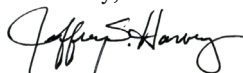
This office strives for the greatest accuracy possible with this type of publication. However, because of the constant changes in appointments, some information contained within the section on Governor's Appointments is out of date even as this book is being printed.

To make this edition of the *Idaho Blue Book* possible required the assistance of many people throughout local, county, and state government. Their help has been indispensable in my transition to editor. You know who you are, and I thank you for all of the help and support.

My special thanks goes out to a few people: To Pat Herman, whose excellent work as the previous editor created a strong foundation for the *Idaho Blue Book*, and for her excellent organizational skills which made this transition much easier – may she rest in peace; to Ann Beebe of the Governor's office, for answering my numerous questions about boards and commissions; to Jim Mairs for his creative insight; and especially to Brenda Charters, my colleague with the Secretary of State's office, whose thoughtfulness, consideration, and willingness-to-help made this edition of the *Idaho Blue Book* possible.

People who regularly use past editions of this book will notice some changes. They are mostly aesthetic. All of the information you're used to seeing is still where you expect it to be. As with previous editors, I hope that you find the *Idaho Blue Book* to be an interesting and useful resource on the State of Idaho.

Sincerely,



Jeff Harvey
Editor