

### Idaho State Senator District 5

	Carl Bjerke	Adam Chapman
<b>1.</b> What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?	I am Carl Bjerke, incumbent Senator for legislative district 5, and I am running for re-election for my seat. I am running to continue serving my constituency in district 5 and the great State of Idaho. I have just completed my freshman session and I am looking forward to the opportunity to continue advancing the good work accomplished in the 67 <sup>th</sup> legislative session, into the 68 <sup>th</sup> .	<b>No Response Received</b>
<b>2.</b> When do you believe life begins and how does this belief affect the legislation you will support?	I believe life begins at conception, and this belief is the cornerstone of and the basis for the votes I make and the stances I take regarding the sanctity of life.	<b>No Response Received</b>
<b>3.</b> What are the top three issues that you feel the legislature needs to address?	<p>This question represents a moving target as the attempts to subvert the founding principles of this constitutional republic form of government are constantly shifting as well. Based on my experience while serving in this past session, I believe the most global concerns to continue addressing are reflected as such:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Legislature will need to continue addressing the multifaceted Marxist driven attempts to fundamentally transform our nation, everything from DEI, CRT and SEL indoctrination in our public schools to the constant attempts at creating gender confusion, the efforts at destroying the family and removing God from our public spaces.</li> <li>• The national debt and the effect it will ultimately have on our state budget. We rely heavily on the federal government, to the tune of 40% of our current budget.</li> <li>• Continuing to be vigilant on protecting our God given rights, i.e., 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> amendments, which are number 1 and 2 for a very good reason – if we don't protect these rights, we lose the battle for retaining all others.</li> </ul>	<b>No Response Received</b>
<b>4.</b> What do you consider the biggest health care issue for Idaho, and where do you stand on it?	Based on my experience from this past session, our biggest health care issue facing Idaho will be the effect of health care rationing, not only due to the growing influence of a single payer system, but also because we are 50 <sup>th</sup> (dead last) per capita, doctors and allied medical providers to population. If we don't address this inequity and our failing Emergency Medical System (EMS), we will be underserving our aging baby boomer population, in particular, but also everyone else. My stance is in support of efforts to provide a public medical school and increasing the number of residency opportunities.	<b>No Response Received</b>
<b>5.</b> Idaho's school system has room for improvement, how would you legislate to improve K-12 education in Idaho?	There is a simple solution that I have supported, in different fashions, in each half of the 67 <sup>th</sup> legislative session, which is to provide a vehicle for school choice. Opponents of school choice will often state that we have school choice / education freedom through the charter school system, but this is just another form of public school. The needed choice will be appropriately reflected in support for home school, micro schools, etc. Believe it or not, some of our highest performing schools are the charter schools, which created part of the current contrast indicating some of the failures of the traditional public education system, here in Idaho; rising tides raise all boats and competition is necessary to maintain sharpness in this industry.	<b>No Response Received</b>
<b>6.</b> Do you support or oppose legislation to prohibit gender reassignment treatment/surgery on minors?	I have and will continue to support legislation to prohibit gender reassignment treatment and surgery on minors, as well as voting to take away the opportunity to use any public monies to be utilized for these treatments and therapies for minors and adults alike. I will continue to support these efforts as long as I am serving in the legislature.	<b>No Response Received</b>

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7. If elected, how will you ensure that you are aligned with your North Idaho constituents' values and how will your voting record reflect those values?	My metrics for voting is, in this order: I pray for wisdom and knowledge before each floor session; I consider the US and Idaho constitutions for guidance, as well as the respective Republican Party platforms. I have someone doing studies of emails and calls received from my district, where I take these requests into account, when making my decisions on voting. The last thing I consider is the other many influences, such as: lobbyists, political action committees, government agencies, etc. I have a voting record, now, so it is available to gauge my metrics for making my votes and how my values and principles align with those of my constituents in N Idaho.	<b>No Response Received</b>
8. What is your definition of marriage?	My definition of marriage is the Biblical definition: A God ordained, covenant relationship between a man and a woman.	<b>No Response Received</b>
9. In recent years, sexually explicit materials have been found in public schools and libraries. In your opinion are these materials appropriate for minors under 18 years old?	My second half of the 67 <sup>th</sup> legislative session vote on House Bill 710 is an indication of my views on this matter, where I voted to not have these materials available to minors in our school and public libraries. This is a great win for those who support this cause – the bill went to the Governor on April 4 <sup>th</sup> .	<b>No Response Received</b>
10. What legislation should be passed regarding School Choice?	There are several potential iterations in dealing with the school choice issue, but I lead towards having a tax break / credit provided for those wishing to educate their children outside of the traditional public school system.	<b>No Response Received</b>
11. What legislation would you recommend to prevent property tax increases that are causing a financial burden and forcing some owners out of their homes?	This issue should not necessarily be isolated as the most direct cause and effect reason for increased property taxes, as it is more complicated. The cycles of boom and bust and effects of migration are both temporary phenomena, albeit part the equation. So, the solutions should address more lasting strategies that will allow for adjustments to the market, without driving people from their homes. There has and continues to be efforts made, whether it is the circuit breaker or the last two decreases in income tax, as an associative relief to rising property taxes, but I feel more structural changes to the levy system could have a greater positive affect. But, and generally speaking, setting a limit on the taxable value of the home, on a sliding scale, could take away the burden of taxes for most homeowners, or at least buffer the effects of large swings in taxes related to value.	<b>No Response Received</b>
12. In your opinion, if elected, who do you see yourself accountable to and why?	First and foremost, I see myself accountable to God, as it is to His divine providence that I have been afforded this opportunity to serve. If I am setting out to align my service and my votes to His will, I will also be accountable to those who elected me. I am not serving in this capacity for myself – this is not a self-serving venture. I am accountable to my constituents and the great State of Idaho to leave this place better than how I found it.	<b>No Response Received</b>
13. In recent years some groups have advocated for legalizing marijuana in our state, do you support or oppose the legalization of marijuana? Why or why not?	We are set apart in the best of ways for continuing to take a stance against the legalization of marijuana – I oppose any legislation that would change this. I believe very strongly that the legalization would be an immediate slippery slope to a greater degradation here in Idaho, putting us on bad par with states close to us who have already witness the error of their ways.	<b>No Response Received</b>

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14. What is your background and why do you feel it qualifies you for this position?	I am the current LD5 Senator, and my qualifications will be weighed by my constituents and their wiliness to put me back into office. But, in general, I have had a long careen in the medical and public safety arena and have spent most of my later years in personnel and organizational management. My background has given me a unique perspective that not only sees problems but provides for solutions.	<b>No Response Received</b>

Watchmen Ministry North Idaho