

## Idaho State Representative District 4b

	<b>Christa Hazel</b>	<b>Elaine Price</b>
<b>1.</b> What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?	My name is Christa Hazel. I'm running for Idaho House 4B because I believe leadership should be about service, not special interests. I've spent years working in this community—passing levies, protecting North Idaho College, and helping deliver real results. I'm not running to be the loudest voice in Boise. I'm running to be an effective one—focused on protecting our values, keeping taxes low, and making sure government works for the people of North Idaho.	My name is Elaine Price and I am seeking re-election as Representative in District 4b because North Idaho needs a strong, steady voice in Boise who understands our community and will stand firmly for its traditional values. When re-elected, I want to continue strengthening families, supporting educational freedom, supporting our veterans, protecting our constitutional rights, and making sure Idaho government remains accountable, disciplined, and responsive to the people it serves.
<b>2.</b> When do you believe life begins and how does this belief affect the legislation you will support?	I am adopted and I believe life begins at conception. Our laws should reflect that all lives are important in Idaho, including the life of the mother. I have not signed the Reproductive Freedom Initiative.	I believe life begins at conception, and I will vote to repeal the initiative currently advancing through the state that will allow death for a preborn child at the discretion of a physician who determines the viability of that child. I also co-sponsored legislation that recognizes personhood for the unborn.
<b>3.</b> What are the top three issues that you feel the legislature needs to address?	Stable property taxes, quality education and keeping our communities safe.	My top three issues are protecting children, defending parental rights, and ensuring responsible government spending — these are foundational to a healthy community. Protecting children means programs that prioritize their well-being and allow children to be children. Defending parental rights ensures families have the authority to make educational and moral choices for their children. Responsible spending means disciplined budgets, transparency, and prioritizing core services over unnecessary expansion. Get these right, and we strengthen families, restore trust in government, and keep Idaho on a stable, prosperous path.
<b>4.</b> What do you consider the biggest health care issue for Idaho, and where do you stand on it?	Access to quality healthcare when it is needed is our biggest issue. Pres. Trump's Big Beautiful Bill provides money directly to Idaho to reform rural healthcare – and my opponent voted no. Leaders need to be ready, willing and able to accept this money, use it for what it was intended, and not let families fall through the cracks. Politicians in Boise finally agreed on a plan, but my opponent said no.	Affordability and sustainability are our biggest health care issues in Idaho. Costs are rising and families are feeling it. We need more transparency and more competition.
<b>5.</b> Do you support or oppose legislation to prohibit gender reassignment treatment/surgery on minors?	I oppose transgender surgeries on minors.	I have voted for legislation that prohibits gender reassignment treatment/surgery on minors. We might even think about protecting anyone under the age of 21 from these irreversible medical decisions. We have laws in place that prohibit smoking and drinking until the age of 21 maybe we should add these medical decisions as well. Children and young adults deserve time to grow and develop without being pushed into permanent changes. These decisions require caution, and the law should reflect that responsibility.

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<b>6.</b> 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?	By listening to constituents, following my Republican principles, and through quiet reflection. I refuse to let out-of-state interests shape my vote. My opponent receives significant support from out-of-state, dark money interests. As a legislator, I want to solve Idaho challenges with solutions designed right here in Idaho. I'm proud of the in-state support I have received.	I stay aligned by listening to my constituents and being accessible. I take phone calls, read and respond to emails, have coffee with constituents and attend townhalls. I also stay consistent in my principles. My voting record reflects North Idaho values because I don't shift with pressure. I represent the people who sent me to Boise.
<b>7.</b> Do you support or oppose Digital IDs in the State of Idaho? Why or why not?	I support the option to use Digital ID for folks who feel it fits their lifestyle, most often world travelers. But it shouldn't be required of everyone, especially those who view that as government intrusion and digital tracking. Individual liberty and a protection of digital privacy is vital to me.	I have serious concerns about digital IDs and any system that increases government tracking or control over individuals. Too often we trade freedoms for convenience, and digital identification risks normalizing constant surveillance, data collection, and function creep. Protecting privacy and limiting government overreach must come first: any proposal should include strict data-minimization standards, independent oversight, clear limits on use, strong security protections, and a guaranteed right to opt out or choose alternatives. Lawmakers must insist on transparent legislation that preserves personal liberty, prevents mission creep, and holds vendors and agencies accountable before expanding digital identity systems.
<b>8.</b> What is your opinion on the use of Central Bank Digital Currency? Would you support this for Idaho?	<p>A CBDC is government-issued digital money, and it raises serious privacy concerns. It creates the potential for government to track everyday transactions—something Idahoans don't take lightly.</p> <p>There's a better approach—set clear rules for private digital innovation and keep decisions in the marketplace, not in Washington.</p> <p>I support innovation, but we need to move carefully to protect financial privacy, personal choice, and the role of our local banks.</p>	I do not support Central Bank Digital Currency. I have run several bills trying to keep it out of Idaho as it raises significant concerns about financial privacy and government control. We have to be prepared for the different ways this will come to Idaho. We cannot focus just on the name but the functionality of the control over your currency and bank accounts. Idaho should stand for individual freedom, including the ability to conduct personal transactions without unnecessary oversight.
<b>9.</b> What is your definition of marriage?	<p>Marriage has deep meaning in both faith and society. My husband and I have been married 26 years, and my parents 62, so I understand the value of that commitment. I believe marriage is a sacred covenant between a man and a woman, and I support the right of religious communities to hold and practice that belief.</p> <p>In civil law, marriage is recognized as a legal contract between consenting adults.</p> <p>As a legislator, my role is to protect religious liberty, uphold the rule of law, and respect the constitutional framework we operate within.</p>	I follow the biblical definition of marriage, between one man and one woman. I believe marriage is a foundational institution centered on family, stability, and raising the next generation. Strong families are the backbone of strong communities.

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<b>10.</b> The cost of electricity is increasing across the state of Idaho. What legislation would you recommend to help increase electrical generation and independence in Idaho while still allowing power companies to remain profitable?	Idaho shouldn't be sending water or power out of state while our own costs go up. We need an Idaho-first energy plan that protects our resources like lakes and our aquifer, builds our supply, and ensures it benefits Idaho families first.	We need reliable, affordable energy. That requires a balanced approach: expand domestic production, pursue responsible development, and plan for the long term. Government should facilitate responsible energy development while protecting consumers and serving as the people's voice. I'm concerned the Public Utilities Commission isn't giving consumers enough weight; utilities must be responsive to customers' concerns. The commission should hold companies accountable and ensure rates, reliability, and service reflect the public interest.
<b>11.</b> What legislation would you recommend to prevent property tax increases that are causing a financial burden and forcing some owners out of their homes?	I support legislation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stop unfunded mandates from Boise that shift costs onto cities, law enforcement, and local taxpayers</li> <li>- Fix the education funding formula so districts aren't forced back to levy voters</li> <li>- Use existing dollars smarter—like redirecting earned interest into school funding; my opponent voted no</li> <li>- Hold institutions accountable—\$13M was wasted at NIC under leadership my opponent supported</li> <li>- Protect cost-saving programs like Idaho Digital Learning Alliance, which serves thousands locally; my opponent tried to eliminate it without a plan</li> <li>- Reduce costs by banning synthetic kratom, which impacts hospitals and law enforcement.</li> <li>- Support rural healthcare access, including existing funding; my opponent voted no</li> <li>- Protect Idaho agriculture from regulations that raise food prices—a hidden tax on families</li> </ul>	Property taxes are a real burden, and we must act at both the state and local level to control them. At the state level, that means reigning in spending growth, limiting unfunded mandates, and using targeted relief programs—like circuit-breaker tax credits—for seniors and low-income homeowners so people aren't taxed out of their homes. At the local level, we should enforce levy limits, restrict automatic tax increases tied to reassessments, promote shared services and consolidation to reduce costs. Transparent budgeting, strict oversight of new programs, and policies that diversify revenue while prioritizing essential services will help ensure government lives within its means and property owners get fair relief.
<b>12.</b> In your opinion, if elected, who do you see yourself accountable to and why?	Elected officials are always accountable to The People. However, I am most accountable to my faith, values, and Republican principles as a leader. I will put my community first. I'm not afraid to choose what's right over what's popular.	I am first accountable to God and then to the people of my district, who elected me. I represent them and will serve with integrity, transparency, and steadfast consistency.

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<b>13.</b> 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?	Oppose. Most of these groups appear to be from out-of-state but looking to use Idaho as a political point. Some have previously supported my opponent.	I do not support legalizing marijuana in Idaho. Experience in neighboring states shows legalization can bring increased youth access and use, greater impairment on roads and workplaces, higher treatment needs for substance use disorders, and strains on public health and safety resources. It can also disrupt communities through increased crime while promised tax revenues often fall short of covering long-term costs. Before considering any change, we must carefully weigh these lasting consequences and prioritize prevention, treatment, and public safety for Idaho families.
<b>14.</b> Is there anything in your personal, business, or career life that would be a conflict of interest in your ability to serve the people of Idaho?	No.	I am not aware of any conflicts that would prevent me from serving the people of Idaho with integrity. Transparency and accountability are essential to public trust.
<b>15.</b> What is your background and why do you feel it qualifies you for this position?	<p>I grew up here. I've spent more than 30 years serving this community.</p> <p>I was elected to the Coeur d'Alene School Board in 2013 and later served as Chair—passing levies, managing budgets, and expanding workforce training.</p> <p>In 2016, my neighbors elected me to the KCRCC. In 2022, I helped co-found Save NIC to protect North Idaho College.</p> <p>My law degree from University of Idaho helps me read and understand legislation.</p> <p>My family and my love for this community keep me grounded. I want families here to thrive because we live in a great place.</p>	<p>I am qualified because I come from the real world, not a political pipeline. As a small business owner, mother, and second-term legislator, I have built a record of protecting children, defending parental rights, and being responsible with taxpayer dollars. I have most recently served on the Local Government and Appropriations committees. My oldest son, Aaron, passed away during my first term in the House of Representatives. He was 31 and a veteran. My faith in our Lord Jesus Christ gave me the strength to carry on in both my personal life and my commitment to serve North Idaho in Boise. With God as my North Star, I am seeking re-election not for power or position, but to continue to put North Idaho's voice and values in Boise.</p>