

Press Release

### **Josephine County is third county to approve circulation of petition by Move Oregon's Border**

A group called Move Oregon's Border for a Greater Idaho began collecting signatures in Josephine County, following the March 12 approval to circulate a petition issued by the Josephine County Clerk.

Josephine County Circuit Court had accepted the challenge by Move Oregon's Border to the ballot title issued by the district attorney. The Court issued a new ballot title on March 3. Their petition for this county and two other counties is available at their website GreaterIdaho.org here:

[http://www.greateridaho.org/the\\_downloads/2020/Josephine\\_County\\_Petition.pdf](http://www.greateridaho.org/the_downloads/2020/Josephine_County_Petition.pdf)

They need to collect 2428 signatures to put their Josephine County petition on the ballot.

About 500 people attended their rally in Roseburg on Saturday, March 7.

Mike McCarter explained why the turnout was so large in a town of 22,000 people, and why their Facebook group "Greater Idaho – Move Oregon's Border" has tripled in size in the last month:

"The people of eastern, central, and southern Oregon can't afford to be governed by a state that shows no regard for our livelihoods. The cost of Kate Brown's executive order will be draconian. It would destroy our communities by forcing people to move to find work in other states, but we choose to be governed by Idaho instead. Our counties have lower average incomes, so we can't afford to have our industries hobbled like Portland can. After we prove on November 3 that our counties don't want to be a part of Oregon, would it be ethical for Oregon to hold these counties against their will? We believe in self-determination. We want a divorce on account of irreconcilable differences and abuse."

McCarter added, "Increasing the cost of transportation is a death knell for sparsely-populated areas. Oregon law is not designed for rural communities like Idaho law is. Our counties are low-income, but they fit right in with Idaho. Oregon's state budget would be better off without our counties, and then Kate Brown will never have to worry about losing her supermajority and her quorum."

Republican Central Committee chairman Valynn Currie attended the event and said "I hope that this movement gets legs and takes hold, and that it pushes forward ... the rural counties are tired of being walked on and ignored," in an interview with KEZI: <https://www.kezi.com/content/news/Petition-rally-takes-place-568599831.html>

The goal of Move Oregon's Border is to make most rural counties of Oregon become counties of Idaho. Phase 2 of the effort would add six conservative California counties to Idaho.

Mark Simmons, 62nd [Speaker](#) of the [Oregon House of Representatives](#), and a member of Move Oregon's Border, said, "The ruling party in Salem has a vision of the future that does not include people like me or the rural culture of my community, friends and family. It is time to part ways with them by every legal means available to us"

Rural Oregon county commissioners are disgruntled by the way their counties' interests were ignored by the governor during a conference call and in the edicts she gave afterwards. Mike McCarter said, "the governor's handling of the coronavirus crisis is driving deeper the wedge between rural Oregon and northwestern Oregon. Unlike the urban elite, not all of us can afford to be without work for the next 9 months. "

Mike McCarter,  
President, Move Oregon's Border

For earlier press releases, visit [www.GreaterIdaho.org](http://www.GreaterIdaho.org)

Please read our FAQ here: [http://www.greateridaho.org/the\\_downloads/2020/main/FAQ.pdf](http://www.greateridaho.org/the_downloads/2020/main/FAQ.pdf)

And our main document

here: [www.greateridaho.org/the\\_downloads/2019/main/Greater\\_Idaho\\_Proposal.pdf](http://www.greateridaho.org/the_downloads/2019/main/Greater_Idaho_Proposal.pdf)

For hi-res images for publication, email [CascadeCarry@Outlook.com](mailto:CascadeCarry@Outlook.com)

The main Facebook group [www.facebook.com/groups/GreaterIdaho](http://www.facebook.com/groups/GreaterIdaho)

*If your business or office would like to be announced as a signing location in rural Oregon, where people can pick up and drop off petitions, contact Move Oregon's Border.*

*To get into the news, we need your help. Newspapers need a photo of you in action - a photo of someone out and about with the petition ready to collect signatures for their story. Please get someone to photograph yourself in Josephine, Umatilla, or Douglas County collecting signatures or at least holding the petition standing out in public and send it to us or post it in the comments on our Facebook post. You'll need to state your permission for them to use your photograph.*

*If you don't know any Josephine, Umatilla, or Douglas County voters, please be patient and wait for your own county's petition to be released. If we have your email address and County name, we will email you when it's ready. We post a county's petition to the website as soon as it is approved for circulation.*