Republican Legislative District 32

Public Statement by the Republican Legislative District 32 Chair on the March 7th, 2023, Meeting for Senator Cook

The Legislative District 32 Republicans (LD 32) believe questioning a representative of the people is a serious matter. We also believe that it is important to promote true and helpful communication, as may be needed from time to time, between political parties and those who use the party name to get elected.

The Precinct Committee Officers have worked to establish and ensure that complaints against any elected representative are provided with fair hearing and due process. Upon receiving complaints, your Precinct Officers reviewed the merits, and established clear rules, conduct and constraints for the scope of the inquiry. We wanted to listen and engage with Senator Cook, allowing him the opportunity to convey his perspective, state his beliefs, and outline his thoughts relative to each vote. Unfortunately, Senator Cook refused to appear, allowing this process of cooperation and growth.

Senator Cook pledged in writing to "read and support the Idaho Republican Platform and accept it as the standard by which my performance as an officeholder should be evaluated."

Senator Cook was invited multiple times by multiple individuals to communicate with the committee, in person and in writing, for the purpose of helping us understand his approach and thoughts regarding the votes in question and for him to understand our concerns.

As a result of the established due process, the LD 32 Committee diligently deliberated each of the allegations of the Idaho Republican Party Platform. Our State Republican Party Platform is a dynamic document responding to the concerns and the vision that Idahoans must innovate better ways of how We the People govern ourselves. Our platform helps our party work together to promote freedom, responsibility, and a just process. The platform promotes fairness in dealings with all elected representatives as well as giving direction for what we, as a party, value and promote.

At each step, our Precinct Committee Officers have been admirable in a process marked by decorum and with opportunity to increase communication, and I sincerely appreciate the spirit in which they have conducted themselves on this journey.

Throughout this hearing process, our goal has been to open lines of communication between Senator Cook and the Republican Legislative District 32 Committee. Our goal is to work together with all our elected representatives.

Don't be gaslighted, this is **not about any purity test**. It is about **an integrity test**. Senator Cook shuns any form of party accountability, after pledging to support the platform and agreeing to be held accountable for the same.

I am compelled to ask a few questions – what kind of a society do we want to live in? One where a person's promise or word means something or nothing? Or one where certain people are held to their promises while others are given a free pass? Or one where it is okay to lie to some people but not others? These are very crucial societal questions – the decisions we make will have consequences.

Bear in mind this process is not about good legislator / bad legislator. Or good person / bad person. I'm sure there are some voters out there that are more than happy with legislators not following the Republican Platform.

Døyle Beck

Chair, Republican Legislative District 32

Public Statement of the Republican Legislative District Chair on December 11th, 2024, Hearing for Senator Cook

A Resolution of Censure of Senator Kevin Cook with Respect to School Choice / Parental Rights

WHEREAS, the Idaho Republican Party is a private political organization;

WHEREAS, in March of 2022 Kevin Cook filed to run as a representative of the Idaho Republican Party for the State of Idaho Senate in Legislative District 32 (LD32) and was elected as the Republican Party candidate in the closed Republican Primary in May of 2022 and then subsequently elected to the State of Idaho Senate for LD32 in the general election in November of 2022;

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2022, during his candidacy, pursuant to, and as required by, Idaho Republican Party Rules (Rules) Article XIII Integrity in Affiliation, Senator Cook signed a pledge to support the Republican Party Platform and accepted it "as the standard by which his performance as a candidate and as an officeholder should be evaluated";

WHEREAS, Article XX Idaho Republican Party Platform Enforcement, provides in Section1 that:

The Idaho Republican Party is a private organization dedicated to the promotion of certain political ideals, primarily by supporting candidates who pledge to support ... the Idaho Republican Party Platform under Article XIII of these Rules. The support from this Party is very beneficial to those who make such a pledge and once elected, keeping that pledge is paramount to the integrity of the Party and the confidence of the voters who elected them.

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2023, pursuant to Article XX of the Rules, a Petition by 20% of the LD32 Committee members was delivered to the LD32 Chairman with respect to Senator Kevin Cook's possible Platform violations in connection with votes that he made during the 2023 Legislative session;

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2023 the LD32 Committee issued a Resolution of Guidance for Senator Cook wherein the Committee found Senator Cook to be in violation of the Idaho Republican Party Platform and his affiliation and pledge to support the Republican Party Platform by having voted against the values/ideals contained in various Platform provisions, the LD32 Committee further called upon Senator Cook to "publicly reaffirm his commitment to the Idaho Republican Party Platform and to consider the Platform when evaluating proposed legislation";

WHEREAS, Senator Kevin Cook on January 22, 2024 participated in a Main Street Town Hall podcast episode wherein he stated that "we have school choice in Idaho" referring to a student's ability to go to a *public* school or a *public* charter school of their choice and that he was against "funding people's private decisions with public tax dollars", that "these educational tax credit entitlement programs, we're going to ... just give them 5,000 bucks and we're not going to expect any kind of outcome...", because JFAC had already earmarked/allocated that money before it was even received, that the legislature had a sacred trust to do so, and that he was protecting people from tax audits, and he re-iterated his support for the Launch program;

WHEREAS, Senator Kevin Cook on January 27, 2024 co-authored an article in the Post Register entitled "*Using tax dollars for private education is unwise*" wherein he again argued that allowing parents to spend the money that they earned on the school of their choice would amount to spending someone else's money ("a handful of folks .. want us to send *your* tax dollars to fund private education"), such tax credits would be a redistribution of wealth, and a tax audit would be insufficient oversight;

WHEREAS, a Petition by 20% of the LD32 Committee members was delivered to the LD32 Chairman on February 7, 2024 with respect to Senator Kevin Cook's possible violations of the Republican Party Platform Preamble, Article II Sections 1, 2 and 3 which provide:

We believe the strength of our nation lies with our faith and reliance on God our Creator, the individual, and the family; and that each person's dignity, freedom, ability, and responsibility must be honored.

Article II. CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT IN GOVERNMENT The Idaho Republican Party believes that government works best when its citizens become actively involved. The Party encourages all citizens to engage in healthy debate on all issues that will increase citizen control of government.

Section 1: We encourage all citizens to educate themselves in constitutional government and to be full participants in the political process.

Section 2: We seek to heighten the level of discourse by encouraging all office holders, candidates, and citizens to be civil, dignified, honest, and forthright in their discussions, actions, statements, and political processes. This includes the actions of special interest groups who provide support for or against any Idaho candidate.

Section 3: We believe Primary elections in the Idaho Republican Party should be open to all people who have affiliated as Republicans at least one year prior to the primary election and who support a vast majority of the Idaho Republican Platform. To allow those who have no loyalty or allegiance to the Idaho Republican Party or its platform and Resolutions to select our candidates is simply not proper.

and his possible breach of his Idaho Republican Party Rules (Rules) Article XIII Integrity in Affiliation pledge with respect to his conduct following the filing of the initial Petition received September 28, 2023 and during the Rules Article XX Enforcement process and following the issuance of the December 12, 2023 Resolution referenced above:

WHEREAS, following receipt of said Petition and a notice of hearing, Senator Kevin Cook stated on February 11, 2024 that "since we cannot agree on the rules I will not be participating";

WHEREAS, the LD32 Committee held a hearing on March 7, 2024 where the Petition was presented and reviewed;

WHEREAS, the LD 32 Committee voted and found Senator Kevin Cook to be in violation of the Republican Party Platform Preamble and Article II Sections 1 and 2 and further in violation of Republican Party Platform Article III, Sections 3 and 10, and Article XIV Section 4 which provide in pertinent part that:

ARTICLE III EDUCATION

Section 3: We believe in improving the quality of education for every child by maximizing parental choice. This will be accomplished through money following students to their parent's school of choice. We support all education environments desired by parents including public charter schools, public virtual charger schools, homeschools, schooling at home, microschools, learning pods, co-ops, private and parochial schools, and accountable public school systems.

Section 10: ... We believe parental rights are paramount and that parents have the God given right to direct their child's education.

Article XIV AMERICAN FAMILY

Section 4: Children

The Idaho Republican Party recognizes that children are a heritage of the Lord.

We believe parents, not the state, have a sacred duty and a legal right to rear their children in love and righteousness, to provide for their temporal and spiritual needs, and to teach them to be law-abiding citizens.

Senator Kevin Cook was further found to be in violation of his Article XIII Integrity in Affiliation pledge and that he willfully disregarded the December 12, 2023 Resolution of Guidance request to reaffirm his commitment to the Platform.

NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

- 1. Senator Kevin Cook be censured for his very public stance in opposition to the Republican Party Platform Preamble, Article II Sections 1 and 2. Article III Sections 3 and 10 and Article XIV Section 4 and his violation of his Republican Party Rules Article XIII Integrity in Affiliation pledge;
- 2. Senator Kevin Cook be censured for his willful disregard of the request from this Committee to reaffirm his commitment to the Idaho Republican Party Platform;
- 3. The Legislative District 32 Republican Committee Secretary be directed to transmit an official copy of this Resolution to Senator Kevin Cook;
- 4. The Legislative District 32 Republican Committee Chair be directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Idaho State Republican party as required by party rules; and
- 5. The Legislative District 32 Republican Committee publish a copy of this Resolution on the Bonneville County Republican Central Committee web site.

75 day of March, 2024

Dowe Beck, Chairman

Legislative District 32 Republican Committee

A Resolution of Censure of Senator Kevin Cook with Respect to Party Disaffiliation

WHEREAS, the Idaho Republican Party is a private political organization;

WHEREAS, in March of 2022 Kevin Cook filed to run as a representative of the Idaho Republican Party for the State of Idaho Senate in Legislative District 32 (LD32) and was elected as the Republican Party candidate in the closed Republican Primary in May of 2022 and then subsequently elected to the State of Idaho Senate for LD32 in the general election in November of 2022;

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2022, during his candidacy, pursuant to, and as required by, Idaho Republican Party Rules (Rules) Article XIII Integrity in Affiliation, Senator Cook signed a pledge to support the Republican Party Platform and accepted it "as the standard by which his performance as a candidate and as an officeholder should be evaluated";

WHEREAS, Article XX Idaho Republican Party Platform Enforcement provides in Section1 that:

The Idaho Republican Party is a private organization dedicated to the promotion of certain political ideals, primarily by supporting candidates who pledge to support ... the Idaho Republican Party Platform under Article XIII of these Rules. The support from this Party is very beneficial to those who make such a pledge and once elected, keeping that pledge is paramount to the integrity of the Party and the confidence of the voters who elected them.

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2023, pursuant to Article XX of the Rules, a Petition by 20% of the LD32 Committee members was delivered to the LD32 Chairman with respect to Senator Kevin Cook's possible Platform violations in connection with votes that he made during the 2023 Legislative session;

WHEREAS, on December 2, 2023 (re-published December 13, 2023) Senator Cook authored a Post Register article entitled "Addressing BCRCC allegations – voters should decide" wherein Senator Cook asserted that he was "committed to fostering transparency, accountability and open dialogue" and welcomed input yet refused to discuss any of the Petitioners' concerns with any member of LD32; and asserted that he was not answerable to the LD32 Committee nor the Republican Party but just to voters in general. Senator Cook then proceeded to set forth his position on some of the concerns together with an attack on Republican Chairwoman Dorothy Moon who he asserted "has used consolidation as an excuse to force a presidential caucus ... and cut tens of thousands of Idahoans out of the presidential nominating process", when in truth and fact *the legislature* had removed the presidential primary in its entirety from legislation that it had passed and utterly failed to correct their own mistake;

WHEREAS, on December 7, 2023 Senator Cook participated in a local Townhall Meeting with other legislators in the area and stated without equivocation that "I believe in open

primaries" and stated that "it is my job to say here is the information about each one of those individuals who are running for office";

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2023 the LD32 Committee issued a Resolution of Guidance for Senator Cook wherein the Committee found Senator Cook to be in violation of the Idaho Republican Party Platform and his affiliation and pledge to support the Republican Party Platform by having voted against the values/ideals contained in various Platform provisions. The LD32 Committee further called upon Senator Cook to "publicly reaffirm his commitment to the Idaho Republican Party Platform and to consider the Platform when evaluating proposed legislation";

WHEREAS, a Petition by 20% of the LD32 Committee members was delivered to the LD32 Chairman on February 7, 2024 with respect to Senator Kevin Cook's possible violations of the Republican Party Platform Preamble, Article II Sections 1, 2 and 3 which provide:

We believe the strength of our nation lies with our faith and reliance on God our Creator, the individual, and the family; and that each person's dignity, freedom, ability, and responsibility must be honored.

Article II. CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT IN GOVERNMENT The Idaho Republican Party believes that government works best when its citizens become actively involved. The Party encourages all citizens to engage in healthy debate on all issues that will increase citizen control of government.

Section 1: We encourage all citizens to educate themselves in constitutional government and to be full participants in the political process."

Section 2: We seek to heighten the level of discourse by encouraging all office holders, candidates, and citizens to be civil, dignified, honest, and forthright in their discussions, actions, statements, and political processes. This includes the actions of special interest groups who provide support for or against any Idaho candidate.

Section 3: We believe Primary elections in the Idaho Republican Party should be open to all people who have affiliated as Republicans at least one year prior to the primary election and who support a vast majority of the Idaho Republican Platform. To allow those who have no loyalty or allegiance to the Idaho Republican Party or its platform and Resolutions to select our candidates is simply not proper.

and his possible breach of his Idaho Republican Party Rules (Rules) Article XIII Integrity in Affiliation pledge with respect to his conduct following the filing of the initial Petition received September 28, 2023 and during the Rules Article XX Enforcement process and following the issuance of the December 12, 2023 Resolution referenced above;

WHEREAS, following receipt of said Petition and a notice of hearing, Senator Kevin Cook stated on February 11, 2024 that "since we cannot agree on the rules I will not be participating";

WHEREAS, the LD32 Committee held a hearing on March 7, 2024 where the Petition was presented and reviewed;

WHEREAS, the LD32 Committee voted and found Senator Kevin Cook to have disaffiliated himself from the Republican Party by word and deed and to be in violation of the Republican Party Platform Article II Section 2 and 3 and his Article XIII Integrity in Affiliation pledge;

NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

- 1. Senator Kevin Cook be censured and given a vote of no confidence for his disaffiliation to the Republican Party and the Republican Party Platform, Rules and Resolutions;
- 2. Senator Kevin Cook be censured and given a vote of no confidence for his violation of the Republican Party Platform Article II Sections 2 and 3 and his violation of his Article XIII Integrity in Affiliation pledge;
- 3. Senator Kevin Cook be censured for his willful disregard of the request from this Committee to reaffirm his commitment to the Idaho Republican Party Platform;
- 4. The Legislative District 32 Republican Committee Secretary be directed to transmit an official copy of this Resolution to Senator Kevin Cook;
- 5. The Legislative District 32 Republican Committee Chair be directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Idaho State Republican party as required by party rules; and
- 6. The Legislative District 32 Republican Committee publish a copy of this Resolution on the Bonneville County Republican Central Committee web site.

Mth day of March, 2024

ADOPTED this

Doyle Beck, Chairman

Legislative District 32 Republican Committee

A Resolution of Censure of Senator Kevin Cook For Conduct Unbecoming of a Republican Representative

WHEREAS, the Idaho Republican Party is a private political organization;

WHEREAS, in March of 2022 Kevin Cook filed to run as a representative of the Idaho Republican Party for the State of Idaho Senate in Legislative District 32 (LD32) and was elected as the Republican Party candidate in the closed Republican Primary in May of 2022 and then subsequently elected to the State of Idaho Senate for LD32 in the general election in November of 2022;

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2022, during his candidacy, pursuant to, and as required by, Idaho Republican Party Rules (Rules) Article XIII Integrity in Affiliation, Senator Cook signed a pledge to support the Republican Party Platform and accepted it "as the standard by which his performance as a candidate and as an officeholder should be evaluated";

WHEREAS, Article XX Idaho Republican Party Platform Enforcement provides in Section1 that:

The Idaho Republican Party is a private organization dedicated to the promotion of certain political ideals, primarily by supporting candidates who pledge to support ... the Idaho Republican Party Platform under Article XIII of these Rules. The support from this Party is very beneficial to those who make such a pledge and once elected, keeping that pledge is paramount to the integrity of the Party and the confidence of the voters who elected them.

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2023, pursuant to Article XX of the Rules, a Petition by 20% of the LD32 Committee members was delivered to the LD32 Chairman with respect to Senator Kevin Cook's possible Platform violations in connection with votes that he made during the 2023 Legislative session;

WHEREAS, on November 25, 2023 Senator Cook participated in a Post Register article entitled "*BCRCC Special Investigative Committee on three legislators meets Monday*" wherein it was noted that Senator Cook had furnished the Post Register with the Petition filed against him including disclosure of the identity and signatures of the four Petitioners;

WHEREAS, on December 2, 2023 (re-published December 13, 2023) Senator Cook authored a Post Register article entitled "Addressing BCRCC allegations – voters should decide" wherein Senator Cook asserted that he was "committed to fostering transparency, accountability and open dialogue" and welcomed input yet refused to discuss any of the Petitioners' concerns with any member of LD32 and again disclosed the identities of the Petitioners. Senator Cook then proceeded to set forth his position on some of the concerns together with an attack on Republican Chairwoman Dorothy Moon who he asserted "has used consolidation as an excuse to force a presidential caucus ... and cut tens of thousands of Idahoans out of the presidential nominating process", when in truth and fact *the legislature*

had removed the presidential primary in its entirety from legislation that it had passed and utterly failed to correct their own mistake;

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2023 the LD32 Committee issued a Resolution of Guidance for Senator Cook wherein the Committee found Senator Cook to be in violation of the Idaho Republican Party Platform and his affiliation and pledge to support the Republican Party Platform by having voted against the values/ideals contained in various Platform provisions. The LD32 Committee further called upon Senator Cook to "publicly reaffirm his commitment to the Idaho Republican Party Platform and to consider the Platform when evaluating proposed legislation";

WHEREAS, on December 16, 2023 Senator Cook participated in a Post Register article entitled "Local GOP committee scolds 3 legislators" wherein Senator Cook again named and called out all of the members of the LD32 Committee asserting that "the BCRCC needs to do a better job at their homework";

WHEREAS, a Petition by 20% of the LD32 Committee members was delivered to the LD32 Chairman on February 7, 2024 with respect to Senator Kevin Cook's possible violations of the Republican Party Platform Preamble, Article II Sections 1, 2 and 3 which provide:

We believe the strength of our nation lies with our faith and reliance on God our Creator, the individual, and the family; and that each person's dignity, freedom, ability, and responsibility must be honored.

Article II. CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT IN GOVERNMENT The Idaho Republican Party believes that government works best when its citizens become actively involved. The Party encourages all citizens to engage in healthy debate on all issues that will increase citizen control of government.

Section 1: We encourage all citizens to educate themselves in constitutional government and to be full participants in the political process."

Section 2: We seek to heighten the level of discourse by encouraging all office holders, candidates, and citizens to be civil, dignified, honest, and forthright in their discussions, actions, statements, and political processes. This includes the actions of special interest groups who provide support for or against any Idaho candidate.

Section 3: We believe Primary elections in the Idaho Republican Party should be open to all people who have affiliated as Republicans at least one year prior to the primary election and who support a vast majority of the Idaho Republican Platform. To allow those who have no loyalty or allegiance to the Idaho Republican Party or its platform and Resolutions to select our candidates is simply not proper.

and his possible breach of his Idaho Republican Party Rules (Rules) Article XIII Integrity in Affiliation pledge with respect to his conduct following the filing of the initial Petition received September 28, 2023 and during the Rules Article XX Enforcement process and following the issuance of the December 12, 2023 Resolution referenced above;

WHEREAS, the Rules Article X provides that "Robert's Rules of Order ... shall govern the Official Idaho Republican Party in all cases to which they are applicable ..."; and Robert's Rules of Order Section 63 provides that "to make any of the facts public may constitute libel";

WHEREAS, following receipt of said Petition and a notice of hearing, Senator Kevin Cook stated on February 11, 2024 that "since we cannot agree on the rules I will not be participating";

WHEREAS, the LD32 Committee held a hearing on March 7, 2024 where the Petition was presented and reviewed;

WHEREAS, the LD32 Committee voted and found Senator Kevin Cook to be in violation of the Republican Party Platform Preamble and Article II Sections 1 and 2 of the Platform by virtue of statements made and actions taken as set forth in the Petition to doxx, harass and possibly libel and invade the privacy of members of this LD32 Committee in an attempt to hold fellow elected Republican officers up to ridicule and retribution by the public at large with respect to a private party matter when they dared to question and hold accountable their allegedly Republican Party representative with respect to his votes and the pledge made and signed by him;

NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

- Senator Kevin Cook be censured and reprimanded for his public statements, conduct and attacks on fellow elected Republican officers in violation of the Republican Party Platform Preamble and Article II Sections 1 and 2 and his violation of his Republican Party Rules Article XIII Integrity in Affiliation pledge;
- 2. Senator Kevin Cook be censured for his willful disregard of the request from this Committee to reaffirm his commitment to the Idaho Republican Party Platform;
- 3. The Legislative District 32 Republican Committee Secretary be directed to transmit an official copy of this Resolution to Senator Kevin Cook;
- 4. The Legislative District 32 Republican Committee Chair be directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Idaho State Republican party as required by party rules; and
- 5. The Legislative District 32 Republican Committee publish a copy of this Resolution on the Bonneville County Republican Central Committee web site.

ADOPTED this ______ day of _____ Manch 2024

Doyle Beck, Chairman

Legislative District 32 Republican Committee