



Southern and Eastern Oregon, and Northernmost California Can Become a Part of Idaho

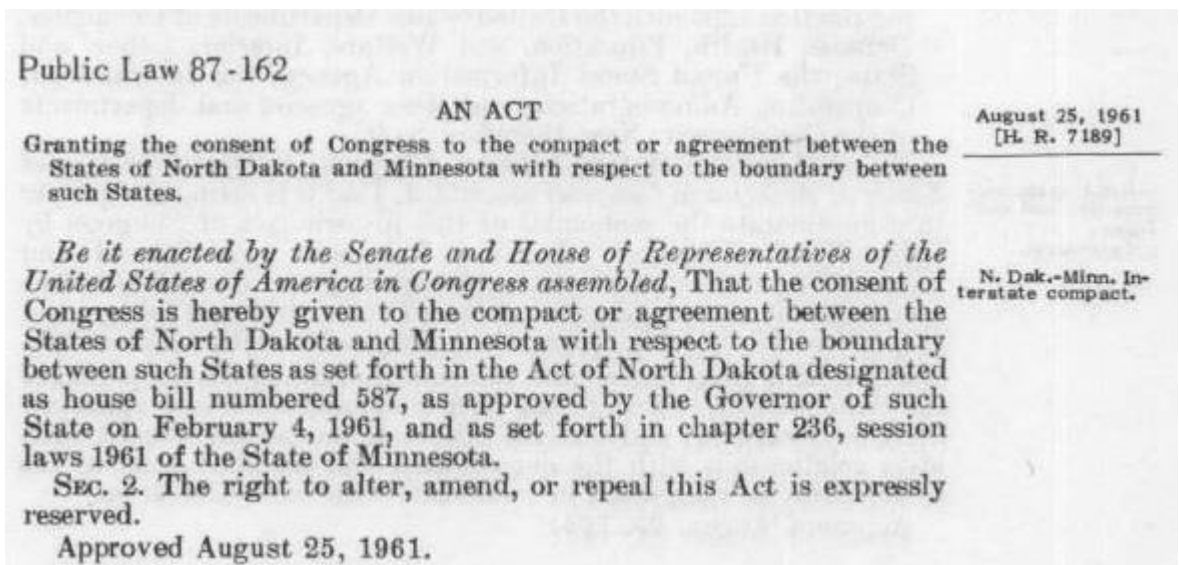
This proposal is simply a shift in borders that does not affect the balance of power in the US Senate. It does not create a new state or increase the number of states.

Borders between states have been relocated many times in US history. If a deal were made that two state legislatures pass, a border change would almost certainly become a reality. According to a peer-reviewed law journal, "Prior to 1921, 36 compacts between states were put into effect with the consent of Congress; virtually all of these settled boundaries between contiguous states." These interstate compacts are constitutional according to Article 1, section 10 of the US Constitution. See link:

http://scholarship.law.upenn.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?&article=1544&context=penn_law_review

The most recent example was in 1999, when Congress approved an interstate compact between Missouri and Nebraska which exchanged farmland along the banks of certain stretches of the Missouri River (cf. https://ballotpedia.org/Missouri-Nebraska_Boundary_Compact)

Additionally, in 1961, land was transferred from Minnesota to North Dakota. Cf.



www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/1961/0/Session+Law/Chapter/236/pdf

In Oregon, the most recent example in Oregon was an adjustment to the Oregon/Washington state line along the Columbia River in 1958. Previously, the border had been defined as the centerline of the "main" channel of the river. But as other channels increased in flow to become the "main" channel of the river, jurisdiction for portions of bridges, dams, and riverine islands became disputed. Finally an interstate compact was

State lines have been moved before by an interstate compact between two states [US Const. Art. 1 Sec. 10]
It's time to do it again.
Join: www.facebook.com/groups/GreaterIdaho

Abraham Lincoln recognized an alternate legislature of Virginia that ceded these counties, not the original legislature of Virginia, which had withdrawn the state from the Union. West Virginia was admitted to the Union June 1863.

ratified to define the border using points established by latitude and longitude. Cf. <https://www.oregonlaws.org/ors/186.510>

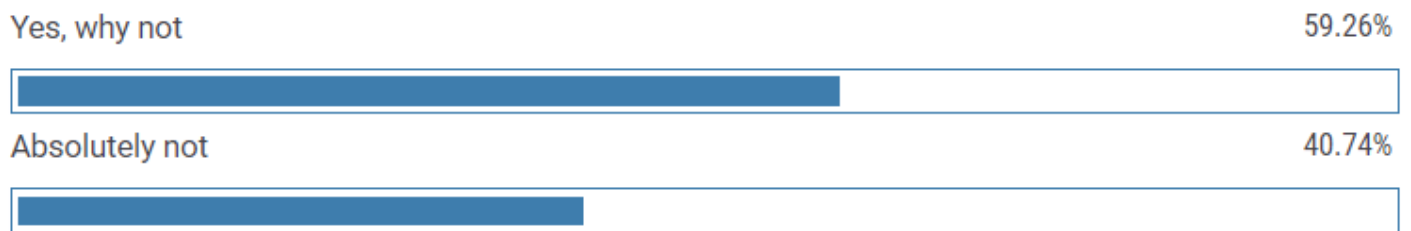
West Virginia was admitted to the Union in June 1863. The Virginia/West Virginia border was moved in August 1863 to annex Berkeley County to West Virginia, and then again in November 1863 to annex Jefferson County.

This proposal proposes that Oregon and California move their borders to put conservative counties on the other side of their borders to make Idaho bigger.

An online poll on the website of an Idahoan country music station showed 59% in favor

<https://kezj.com/poll-would-you-vote-to-allow-oregon-counties-to-join-idaho/>

Idaho country music station website poll shows Idahoans in favor of annexing Oregon counties



The Democratic Party has a supermajority in the legislatures of Oregon and California, and the governors are Democrats. These legislatures can be expected to be in favor of **strengthening the position of their party in their state by letting Trump-voting counties leave**. They should be in favor of improving their state finances by allowing the departure of counties that don't pay their share of income and sales taxes. This is true because the average income of this group of counties matches Idaho's average income, not Oregon's average income, which is much higher.

After the border change, the remainder of Oregon (northwestern Oregon) would have an annual per capita personal income (2017 BEA) \$1777 higher than Oregon's is. This would allow Oregon taxes to be decreased so that **the average Oregon wage earner would save \$324 in taxes annually**, assuming a marginal tax rate of 11% (the typical Oregonian earner is in the 9% state income tax bracket, but also pays other taxes). The territory that we propose removing from Oregon has only 21% of the population of Oregon.

After the border change, the remainder of California (excluding northernmost California) would have an annual per capita personal income (2017 BEA) \$141 higher than California's is now. This

would allow California taxes to be decreased so that the average California wage earner would save \$28 in taxes annually, assuming a marginal tax rate of 11.8% (the typical California earner is in the 9.3% state income tax bracket, but also pays other taxes). This improvement is large considering that California would only lose 0.9% of its population (less than one percent).

Moving State Lines is a Win-Win for Each Area!

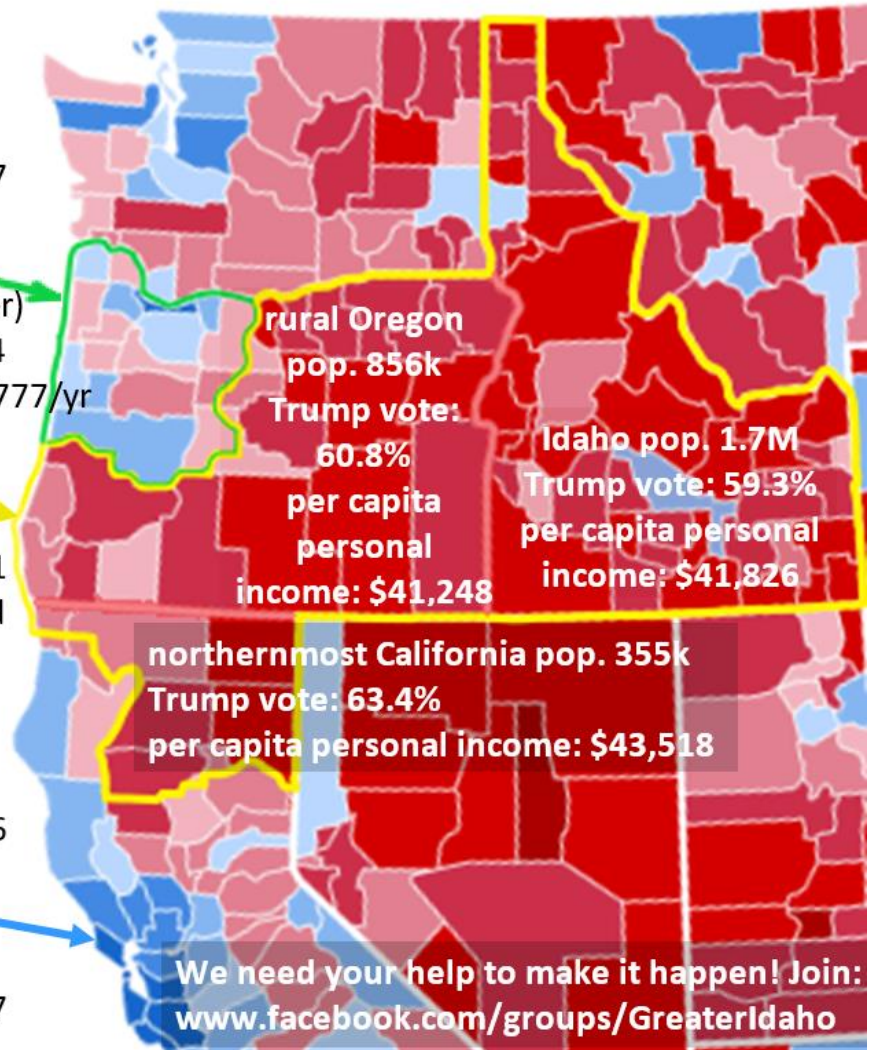
current Oregon pop. 4.1M
Trump vote: 39.1%
per capita personal income: \$48,137

NW Oregon pop. 3.3M
Trump vote: 33.5% (5.6 pct pts lower)
per capita personal income: \$49,914
increase in ave personal income: \$1777/yr

Greater Idaho pop. 2.9M
Trump vote: 60.8%
per capita personal income: \$41,861
(plus economy of rural OR/CA would rebound after deregulation)

current California pop. 39.5M
Trump vote: 31.6%
per capita personal income: \$59,796

remainder of California pop. 39.2M
Trump vote: 31.3% (-0.3 pct points)
per capita personal income: \$59,937



Southern and eastern Oregon, as well as northernmost California, wish to be under red-state law. These areas in the 2016 presidential election gave 2.05 votes to Trump for every Hillary vote. Idaho has less demanding laws and regulations on home building and businesses, so Oregon's 2018 cost of living was 39% higher than Idaho's. California's was 47% higher.

Idaho would benefit from this proposal. The state government would gain economies of scale, as the population would increase by 71% to 2.9 million, making it almost half the population of

the average US state. At first, the average income of “greater Idaho” (Idaho with additional counties) would be the same as Idaho’s average without the additional counties, but the economies of those counties would soon boom when released from the shackles of blue-state laws, regulations, and taxes. Idaho would no longer be a land-locked state, which could allow it to gain more political autonomy in the future. Idaho would have the satisfaction of freeing 1.2 million people from blue-state law.

It is very unlikely that the legislature of Oregon or California would allow the creation of a new state because they would not want more Republicans in the US Senate, and giving them US senators affects the presidential electoral college. Even Congress is unlikely to approve the creation of a new state, even when it is controlled by Republicans. From the point of view of US Senators, giving extra senators to every state that is willing to become multiple states is a dangerous precedent that would weaken the voice of their own state. This is all the more dangerous today, when progressives are looking for ways to ameliorate their disadvantage in the electoral college.

If you favor the idea of “greater Idaho”, please read the section of this proposal on Next Steps. We need your help to spread the word about this idea; please join our group at www.facebook.com/groups/GreaterIdaho

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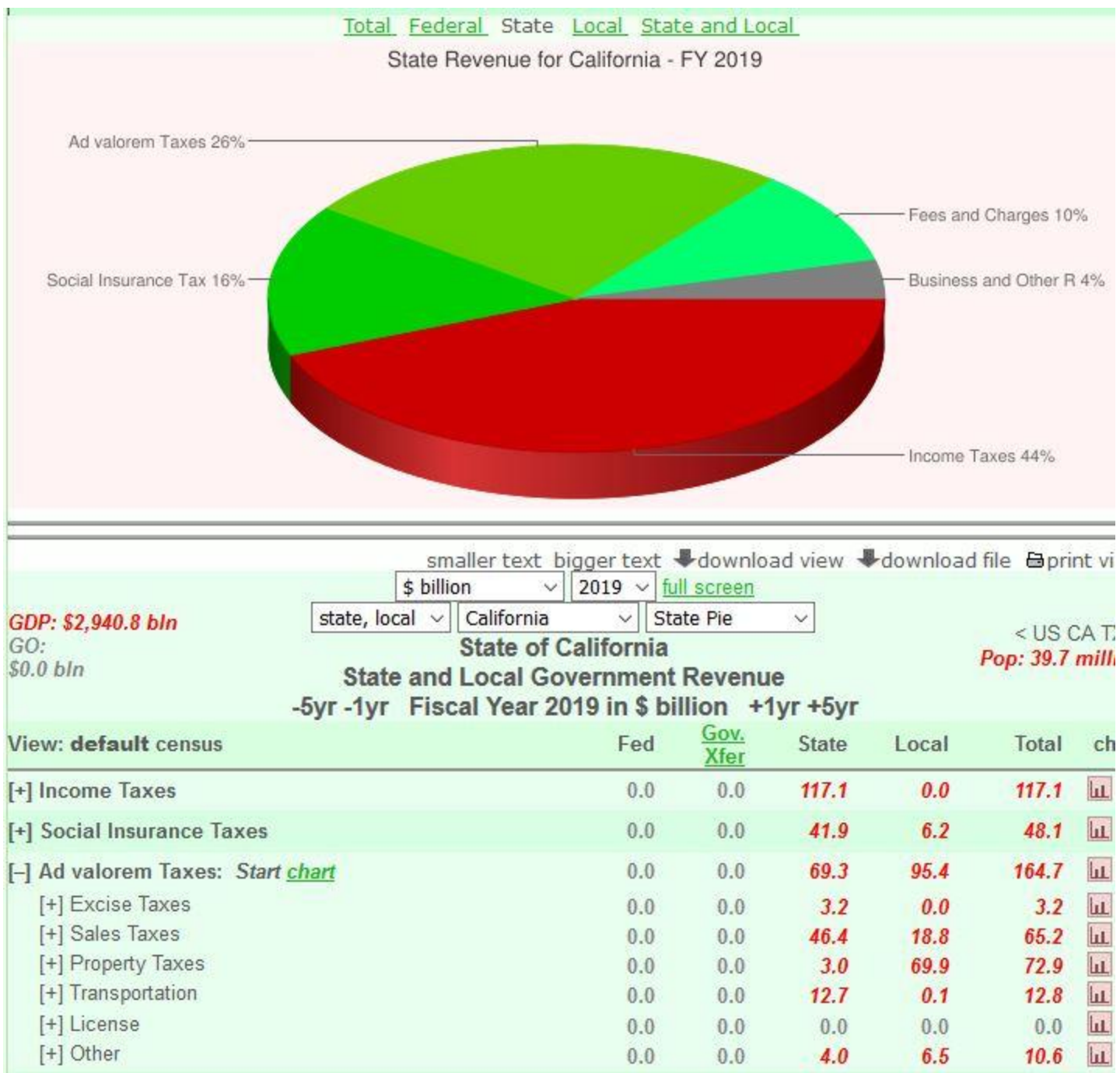
Why the Oregon and California Legislatures are Likely to Approve this Deal

1.) Financial Reasons: Important financial benefits to Oregon and California are described above. By letting relatively poor counties go, Oregon's and California's average income becomes much higher. Making the average income higher by reducing the number of poor counties in the state would not directly increase a resident's income, but it would help the state government's finances to the point that the state could reduce tax rates, or at least reduce the budget deficit. This effect is very large and would pay off every year.

The loss of a large amount of land should not concern the state legislature because there is no state property tax. A state legislature cares about the per capita or per household income of an area because this indicates whether this area is a net contributor or net drain on the state government's budget. State government revenue comes almost entirely from income taxes and sales tax (see below). Corporate taxes are a very small part of state revenues. As far as the state budget is concerned, people and their incomes matter, not land area. The only thing Oregon and California have to lose is the satisfaction of seeing a large footprint when they look at a map. Here's the data for Oregon's state budget:

SCHEDULE I. SUMMARY OF GENERAL FUNDS REVENUES BY MAJOR SOURCE

	2015-17 Actuals	2017-19 Current Estimates	Percent of Total	2019-21 Current Law Forecast	Percent of Total	2019-21 Governor's Budget
Taxes						
Personal Income Taxes	\$16,039,408,000	\$17,771,695,000	87.0%	\$19,024,777,000	89.2%	\$19,031,047,000
Corporate Excise and Income Taxes	1,194,526,000	1,267,787,000	6.2%	984,041,000	4.6%	1,015,341,000
Insurance Taxes	139,215,000	146,796,000	0.7%	142,811,000	0.7%	142,811,000
Estate Taxes	322,826,000	353,685,000	1.7%	341,984,000	1.6%	341,984,000
Cigarette Taxes	70,480,000	67,149,000	0.3%	65,709,000	0.3%	65,709,000
Other Tobacco Products Taxes	62,362,000	65,423,000	0.3%	68,203,000	0.3%	68,203,000
Other Taxes	1,802,000	1,724,000	0.0%	1,636,000	0.0%	1,636,000
Fines and Fees						
State Court Fees	114,542,000	120,422,000	0.6%	120,863,000	0.6%	120,863,000
Secretary of State Corporation Fees	66,448,000	71,112,000	0.3%	70,837,000	0.3%	70,837,000
Criminal Fines and Assessments	41,158,000	52,651,000	0.3%	60,690,000	0.3%	60,529,447
Securities Fees	24,021,000	23,293,000	0.1%	23,782,000	0.1%	23,782,000
Charges for Services	10,277,000	10,876,000	0.1%	10,876,000	0.1%	10,876,000
Sales Income	261,947,000	308,841,000	1.5%	343,337,000	1.6%	362,319,469
Interest Earnings	24,873,000	50,187,000	0.2%	62,122,000	0.3%	62,122,000
Other	8,482,000	11,089,000	0.1%	13,500,000	0.1%	13,500,000
One-time Transfers	140,883,000	111,425,000	0.5%	0	0.0%	64,900,000
Total General Fund Revenues	\$18,523,250,000	\$20,434,155,000	100.0%	\$21,335,168,000	100.0%	\$21,456,459,916



Oregon and California counties would need to agree to take their share of their state debt as they depart the state. These debts and unfunded liabilities are already owed by each citizen of these states, so it is not really a cost of the border change.

Oregon and California are counting on their current population to pay the pensions for state employees that have already been obligated. Departing counties would need to agree on a scheme that would compensate Oregon and California for the loss of their population, by agreeing to pay into the pension fund according to a schedule. Idaho would need to avoid

forcing the new counties to pay for the portion of Idaho state pensions that were already earned before the counties joined Idaho.

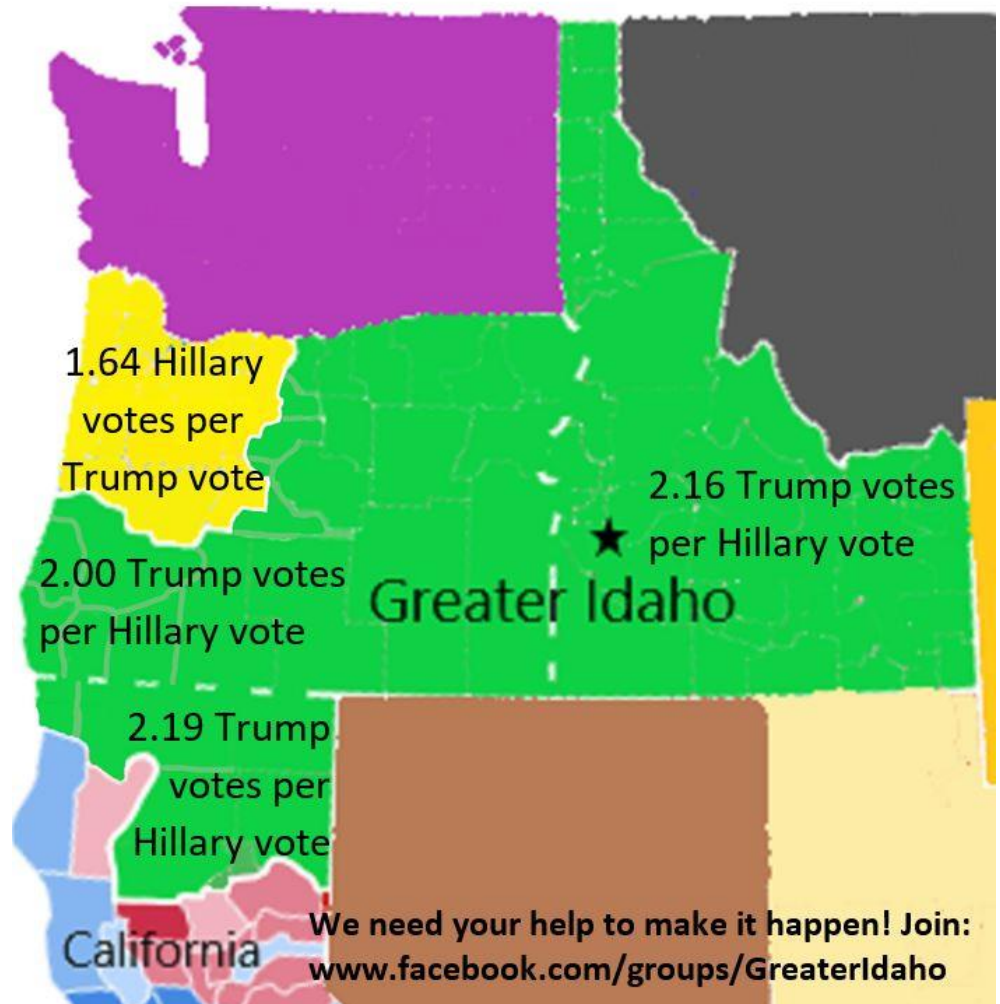
Oregon's Willamette Valley, where agriculture, industrialization, and urbanization occur, remains united after the border change. 99% of the lowland agricultural portion of California's Central Valley remains united as well.



2.) Political: This proposal increases the power and sovereignty of the areas that remain in Oregon because it eliminates the political influence of the counties that leave the state. The population of Oregon would decrease 21%.

By letting conservative counties go, this deal makes the position of the Democratic Party stronger in Oregon and California. Their electorates would become more progressive. One way to measure the difference is to look at the 2016 election. In 2016, Trump won 39.1% of Oregon's vote. If the border had been changed beforehand, Trump would have won 33.5%. This border change would make the percentage Trump vote in Oregon less than that of the states of Washington and New York, although still more than Vermont, Massachusetts, and California.

The Counties in Green Can Become a Part of Idaho



In California, the border change reduces the population by only 0.9%. But the number of Trump voters would be reduced by 2%. Trump won 31.6% of California's vote, but with this border change it would have been 31.3%. This small benefit comes at little cost.

Idaho is one of the four reddest states in the US, so there is no risk that giving Idaho conservative counties would cost a Democrat an Idaho election.

The US Congress seats covering these departing counties are already held by Republicans, so this border change does not affect the balance of the US House of Representatives.

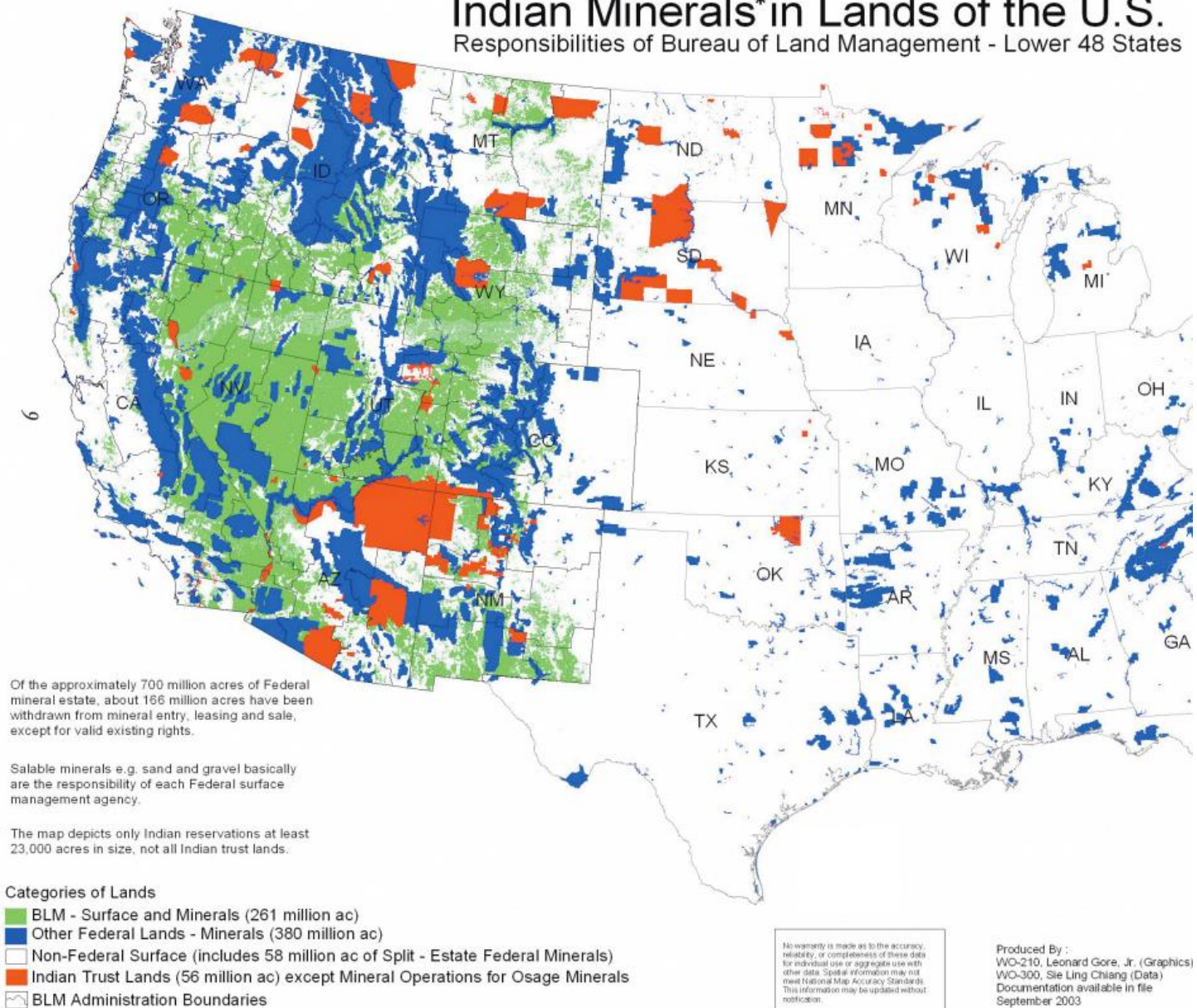
The US Senate would not be affected because Oregon and California would remain Democrat and Idaho would remain Republican.

For presidential elections, there are 538 electoral votes in the country. For every 754,000 people that move from a blue state to a red state, Republicans gain one electoral vote, which is only 0.19% of 538. Since the population of the departing counties from Oregon is 856,121, Oregon would usually have one less electoral vote. During about half of the upcoming decades, California would have one less vote, if it allows the 355,192 people in northernmost California to become a part of Idaho. We regard this as insignificant compared to 538 votes.

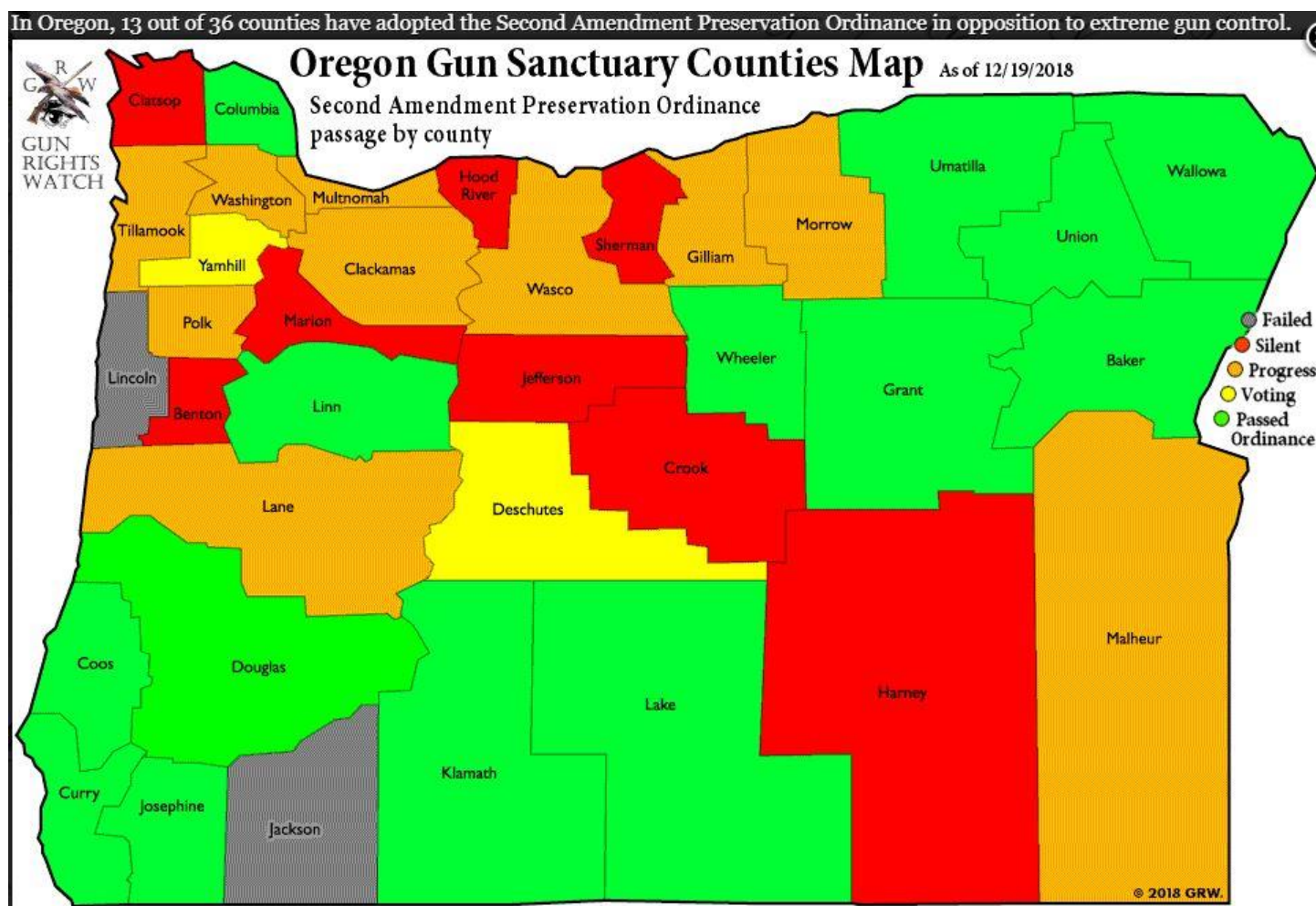
The wilderness in the departing counties is almost entirely federal land, so state law won't affect nature much there.

Public Lands, On-Shore Federal and Indian Minerals*in Lands of the U.S.

Responsibilities of Bureau of Land Management - Lower 48 States



3) Harmony and civility: The groups of counties changing to another state in this proposal voted very heavily for Trump. Their departure will reduce the partisanship in Oregon and California. County governments in these counties have approved “gun sanctuary county” resolutions expressing their will to defy any more gun control from the state and refuse to enforce new gun laws. More gun control is surely coming now that progressives have more control in the legislature. Allowing these counties to leave reduces the chance of unrest and makes these states more harmonious ideologically. The map below was made June 2018. The green counties had already passed the ordinance, and the yellow counties were committed to voting on it. Efforts were underway to get a vote in the orange counties.



Colin Woodard's book [11 American Nations](#) explains that, although all of Oregon saw pioneers who took the Oregon Trail, the culture of the Willamette Valley was mostly set by the merchants, missionaries, and woodsmen who arrived by ship: the middle-class descendants of New England Puritans. The pioneers who arrived on the Oregon Trail were mostly farmers and prospectors from the Missouri region, where the Trail originated. Because of this cultural difference, eastern and southern Oregon have never been unified with northwestern Oregon on the purpose or the role of government.

4) Vote count: The Oregon House of Representatives is 62% Democrat. Democrats would be expected to be in favor of this proposal if they don't live in the departing counties. There are 46 districts entirely within the counties that are not departing. 36 of these are held by Democrats. Also, 12 districts are almost entirely within the boundaries of the departing counties, and 11 of these are held by Republicans. In addition, Rep. Boomer Wright (R-Reedsport) lives on the greater Idaho side of the border, even though most of his district would remain in Oregon. There are 60 districts in the house. A coalition of northwestern Democrats and southern/eastern Republicans could give this proposal 48 out of 60 votes. To be less ambitious, the proposal would pass with 31 out of 60 votes, with the votes of 11 out of 11 of the southern/eastern Oregon Republicans, plus Rep. Wright, and only 19 out of 36 northwestern Democrats (53% of these Democrats).

The Oregon Senate is 60% Democrat. 22 of 30 districts are almost entirely within the counties that are not departing. 17 of these are held by Democrats. Also, 6 districts are almost entirely within the boundaries of the departing counties, and 5 of these are held by Republicans. Therefore, we would expect to get 21/30 votes. If all 5 southern/eastern Oregon Republicans vote for this proposal, and only 11 out of 16 northwestern Democrats vote for this (69%), the proposal would pass with 16 out of 30 votes. Southern/eastern legislators would have a bright future as legislators for Idaho after the border is revised. The number of state legislative districts can be reduced in Oregon to keep state legislators' districts stable, or the size of the districts can be reduced, to give citizens more voice. Districts are revised after every census anyway.

In the California Assembly, most of district 1 is covered by this proposal, and it is always held by a Republican. The departing counties form small parts of only two other districts. Democrats have 61 out of 80 Assembly seats (76%). With the 1st district vote, only 40 Democrat votes would be needed (66% of the Democratic Caucus).

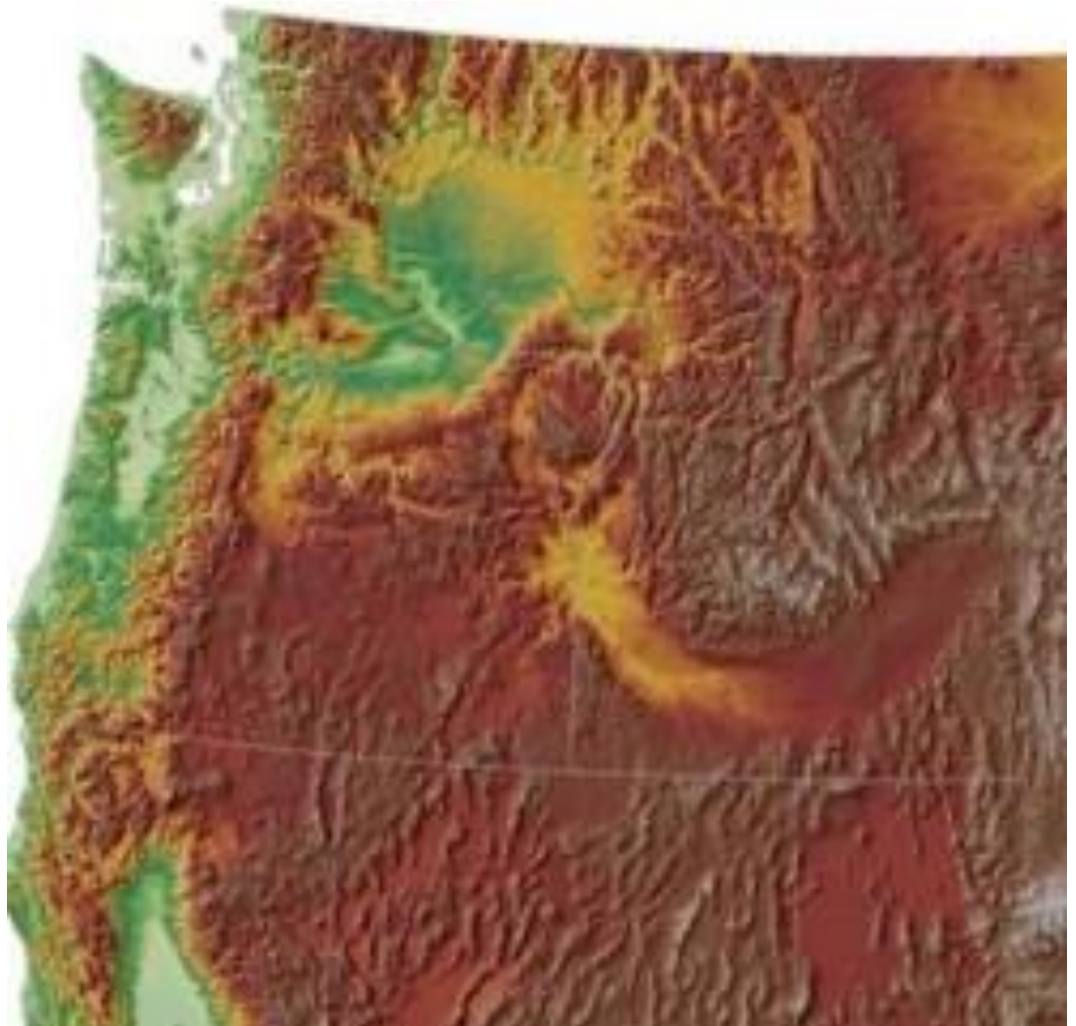
In the California State Senate, each senator supposedly “represents” an unbelievable large number of people: one million. Our departing counties form small parts of three districts, but not a significant part of any. The senate district covering the northeastern corner of California, District 1, is represented by Republican Brian Dahle, and he is a Lassen County Republican loyal to the departing counties. Democrats have 29 out of 40 Senate seats (73%). With Rep Dahle’s vote, only 20 Democrat votes would be needed (69% of the Democratic Caucus).

Why the Idaho Legislature is Likely to Approve This Border Revision

When we sent an email to Idaho state legislators, 10 wrote back in favor of the idea, including the Senate Majority Leader and the House Asst Majority Leader. Only a Democrat criticized it. The Governor of Idaho went on Fox News to welcome the idea:
www.corvallisadvocate.com/2020/idaho-governor-digs-rural-oregon-secession-movement-another-county-joins

1) **Financial:** This proposal makes the tax base of Idaho broader by increasing the land area of the state and increasing the population by 71%. If mining in one area declines, it may be increasing in another area.

The economy of southern/eastern Oregon and northernmost California would improve very dramatically under Idaho law, regulations, and courts. These areas are mountains and arid highlands, just like Idaho. Idaho law and governmental



focus is suitable to mining, logging, and agriculture, and it is business-friendly. As the economy improves, incomes and employment would increase, so that these areas would pay more than their share of a greater Idaho's tax burden.

This proposal would bring thousands of jobs to Idaho's capitol city, and to the locations of Idaho's public universities and colleges. The state government would gain economies of scale, as the population would increase by 71% to 2.9 million, making it almost half the population of the average US state. The Idaho public university system would gain Oregon Institute of Technology - Klamath Falls, Eastern Oregon University, and Southern Oregon University.

Coal and natural gas industries in the Rocky Mountains have an incentive to support this movement because state laws in Oregon, Washington, and California prevent the construction of a coal and natural gas ports needed for export to Asia. Idaho could invest in developing infrastructure at Coos Bay's ports, and then tax the use of the ports.

There is a significant need in Oregon for maritime import and export capabilities. A recent study conducted by the State of Oregon estimates that annually, the equivalent minimum of 38,170 40-foot containers of goods are exported from the mid and southern Willamette Valley, Southern Oregon, and the Oregon coast to the Ports of Seattle and Tacoma. This means Oregon goods must first travel out of state by truck or rail to reach international markets. Agricultural and natural resource based industries in Oregon are struggling to move their goods to world markets in a timely and cost-efficient manner...

Coos Bay's channel is ideally located on Oregon's southern coast. Our Port is one of the largest coastal deep-water channel from San Francisco to the Puget Sound. The navigation channel is just 15 miles long, taking only 2 hours to reach open ocean from river mile 15. The geographic location of the Port of Coos Bay is optimal for shipping to Asian and other international markets. Coos Bay has access to a comprehensive multimodal transportation network including convenient access to maritime, rail, air, and highway modes. The Port owns over 600 acres of greenfield, developable industrial lands on the North Spit alone, within both Free Trade and Enterprise Zones, and the North Bay Urban Renewal Agency boundary. <https://www.portofcoosbay.com/channel-deepening>

If Idaho's legislature is unconvinced, county governments in Oregon & California could offer to pay Idaho for the privilege of joining the state.

2) **Political:** 80% of Idaho state legislators are Republican. The Trump vote of greater Idaho would have been 60.3%, whereas Idaho only gave Trump 59.3%.

Idaho would have the satisfaction of freeing 1.2 million people from blue state law.

The Idaho Legislature currently has only 70 representatives and 35 senators. This number could be expanded so that the districts in Idaho would not need to be redrawn.

3) **Sovereignty:** Idaho would no longer be a land-locked state. It would be less dependent on Washington and Oregon for ocean trade. Also, the increase in population from the aforementioned counties would make Idaho more self-sufficient.

A recent Reuters poll shows that one third of Americans expect civil war in America within the next five years. No one knows the future, but everyone knows that political structures don't last forever. Indeed, in all history, only empires that include China or India have managed to maintain the allegiance of more people than the USA does.

After the election of Trump, some Portlanders filed a ballot initiative that would have Oregon secede from the US. In this case, Idaho's access to the Pacific via Columbia River locks would be dependent on good relations with a foreign country. This imperils the shipment of Idaho's wheat crop and many other bulk products, reducing the independence of action of the state. Having ports on the Pacific would reduce the cost of such a crisis.

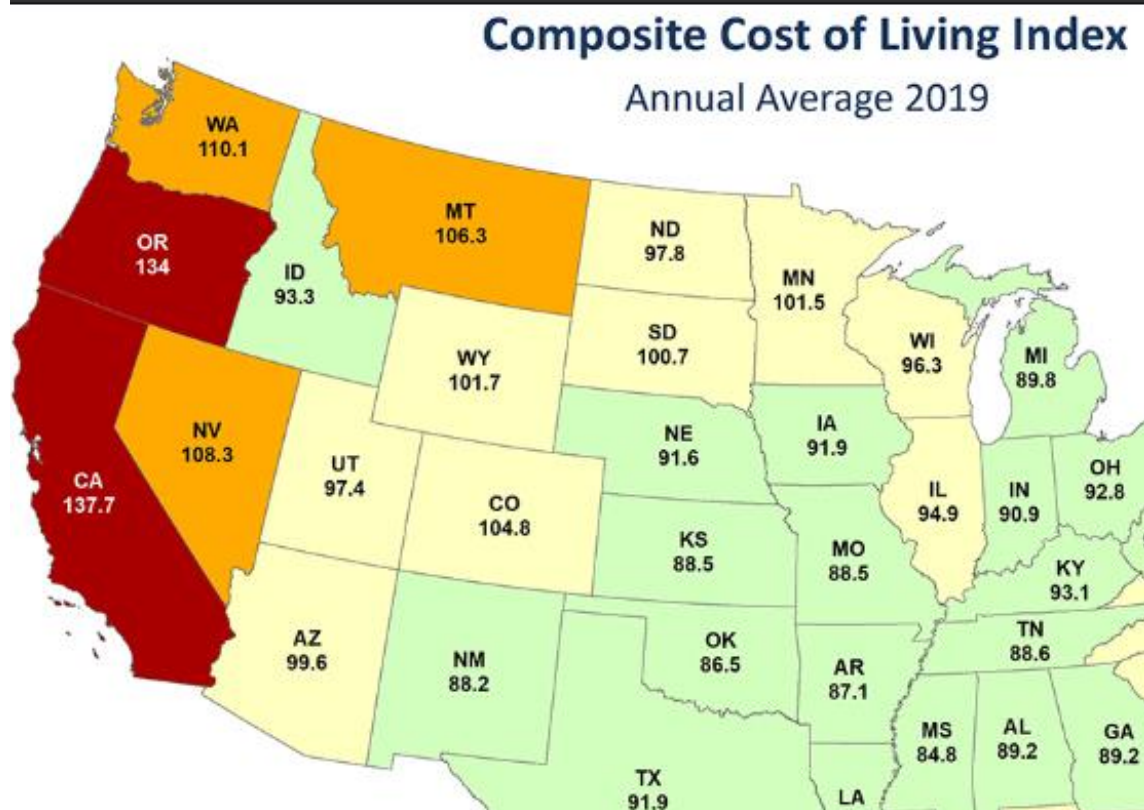
Southern Oregon has deep-water port on the Pacific at Coos Bay. Coos Bay already has a MLLW (mean lower low water) depth of 37 feet and can handle ships 500 feet in length. It can be dredged to greater depths. The locks on the Columbia River up to Lewiston, Idaho have a minimum depth of 15 feet, but may become useless if the federal government decides to follow a proposal to eliminate four dams on the Snake River.

Why Southern and Eastern Oregon and Northernmost California want Liberation

1) The economy of these counties would improve freed of state regulations, unfunded mandates, and taxes, as Idaho is more business friendly and suitable to rural areas. Idaho has more pro-work welfare programs that preserve state finances. Idaho has fewer pages of regulations than any other state in the US.

Cost of living would decrease because Idaho has less demanding laws and regulations on home building and businesses. According to the Missouri Dep. of Economic Development, Oregon's 2019 cost of living was 44% higher than Idaho's. California's was 48% higher. Red states have lower costs of living. Although Oregon's average personal income is higher than Idaho's, dividing by cost of living shows that Oregon's standard of living is lower. Idaho's

https://meric.mo.gov/data/cost-living-data-series



	Oregon	Idaho
Ave Personal Income per person per year	\$ 48,137	\$ 41,826
Annual state & local tax	\$ 3,971	\$ 3,242
Annual federal tax	\$ 4,034	\$ 3,010
after taxes	\$ 40,131	\$ 35,574
Cost of Living Index	1.31	0.94
Ave Standard of Living	\$30,588	\$37,764

Help move Oregon's border to make your county Idaho
Join: www.facebook.com/groups/GreaterIdaho



The red counties don't want the big-spending welfare state that Salem forces on them. They will be happy to have state spending like Idaho's.

Wages would increase. For the 93% of Oregon wage earners who make more than minimum wage, wages are set by market forces of supply and demand for labor in the local area, not by law. Demand for labor would increase because Idaho's law and regulations are more conducive to business and hiring. Only 2% of Idahoan workers earn minimum wage.

www.qualityinfo.org/-/oregon-s-minimum-wage-to-increase-each-year-through-2022

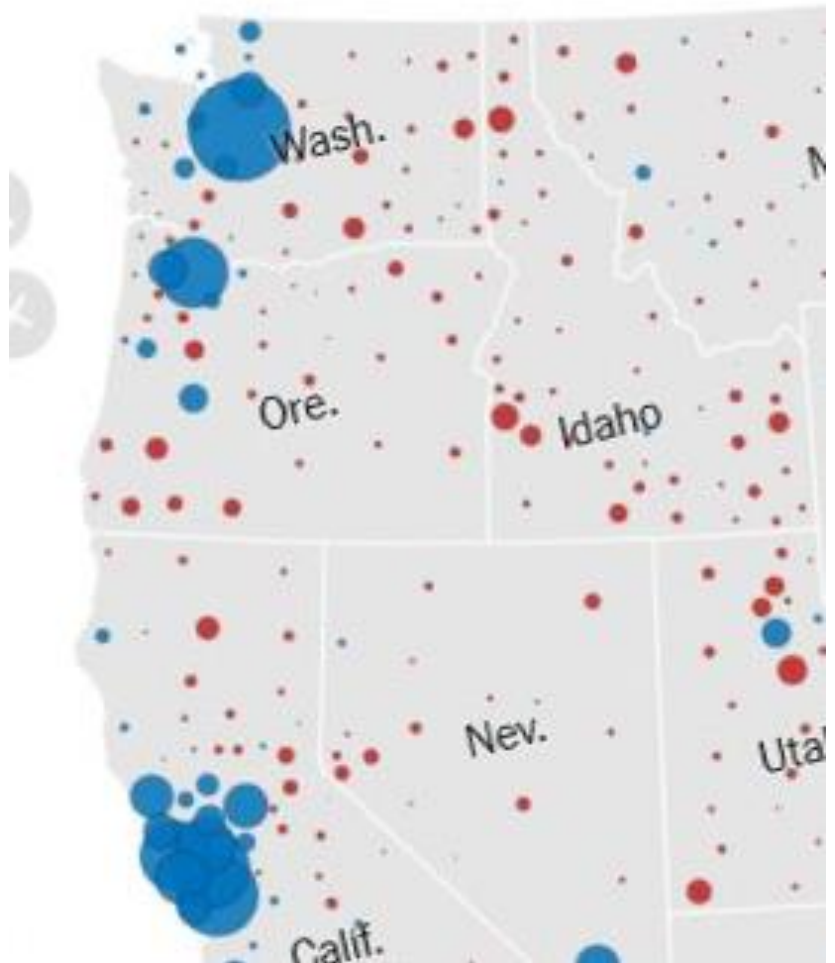
People are concerned about the fate of marijuana farmers in southern Oregon should state lines be moved. The reality is that most marijuana farmers in Oregon have given up on making a profit, and have stopped planting marijuana. Most have turned to hemp, which is not used as a drug but purely as a fiber. In 2019, Idaho's House passed a bill to legalize CBD with slight THC and hemp, and a similar bill may become law this year. CBD without detectible THC is already legal in Idaho.

- 2) The improved economy and the gun rights (being more conducive to rural living) would increase the value of land as more people would want to move in.

- 3) These areas agree with Idaho on culture-war issues and policy issues. As the philosophy of the Left has unmoored itself from Biblical morality, it will continue to move farther and farther from tradition, following feel-good fads wherever they lead.

These areas have given up on winning Oregon state-wide elections, as the last Republican governor was elected 38 years ago, in 1982. Oregon will continue to get worse on social issues because conservatives are outnumbered there. Druggies will be attracted to Oregon by the new drug law.

Idaho is one of the 4 most conservative states in the country, judging by the last two presidential elections. 80% of the Idaho Legislature is Republican.



- 4) Idaho enforces the law against rioters and other criminals. Idaho protects citizens.

- 5) Idaho allows forests to be managed to prevent destruction of housing from huge wildfires.

- 6) These areas would have a bigger voice in a state with smaller population. Oregon has 4.1 million people, California has 40 million, but southern Oregon plus Idaho would be 2.7 million. If California allows counties to leave, greater Idaho would have 2.9 million. California senators represent one million people, Oregon senators represent 138,000, whereas an Idaho senator represents 49,000.

Idaho will certainly undo the Democrat bias gerrymandered into the state legislative districts in southern and eastern Oregon.

7) If these counties became a part of a red state, liberals would be less likely to move there and conservatives would be more likely to move there.

We don't endorse the idea of trying to create a 51st state out of California because we believe the state legislature of California would not allow it under present conditions (because they don't want to add two Republican US Senators to the US Senate), but the following map shows how strongly northern California supported the State of Jefferson movement:



See also:

In our Facebook poll, 84% of 1300 voters were in favor of our proposal:

POLL: State legislators need to know if you want your area to become a part of Idaho.

Borders between states have been changed or redefined many times in US history. If a deal were made that both state legislatures pass, it would almost certainly become a reality. According to a peer-reviewed law journal, "Prior to 1921, 36 compacts between states were put into effect with the consent of Congress; virtually all of these settled boundaries between contiguous states."

The majority party in the Oregon legislature is expected to be willing to let "Trump-voting, low-income counties" to leave the state.

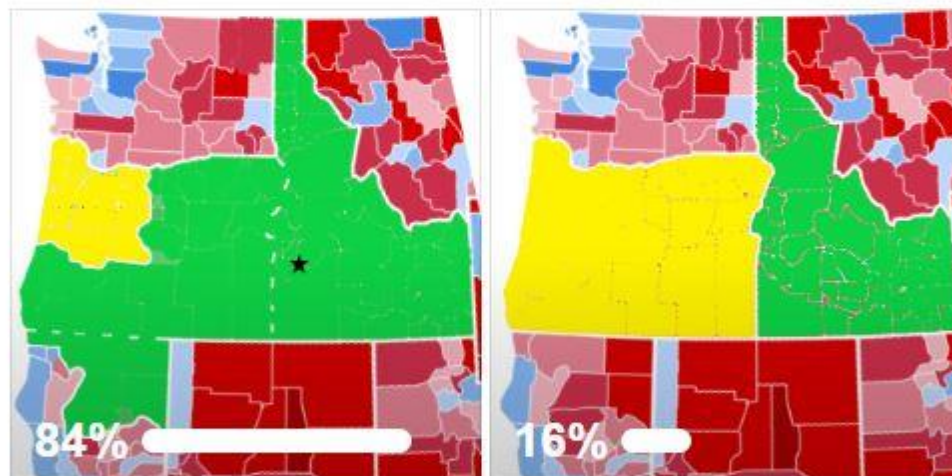
Most people in these green areas prefer Idaho law on the guns, the environment, and cultural issues.

If you live in the area of Oregon or California that we marked green, make your choice by clicking on the map that you prefer (this is a poll).

Here's the group for keeping up to date on the effort to make this a reality: www.facebook.com/groups/GreaterIdaho

We need your activism to make this happen!

Follow this Facebook link for details: www.facebook.com/notes/peaceful-red-state-secession/southern-and-eastern-oregon-and-northernmost-california-can-become-a-part-of-ida/434694537103536



LET MY COUNTY JOIN IDAHO ☒ DON'T CHANGE ANYTHING ☐

This poll has ended.

1.3K Votes

9,880

People Reached

3,862

Engagements

Boost Unavailable

67

102 Comments 210 Shares



Like

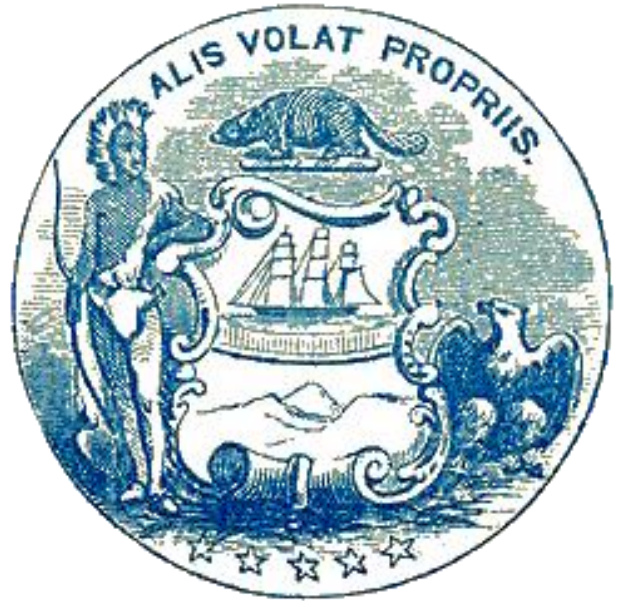


Comment



Share





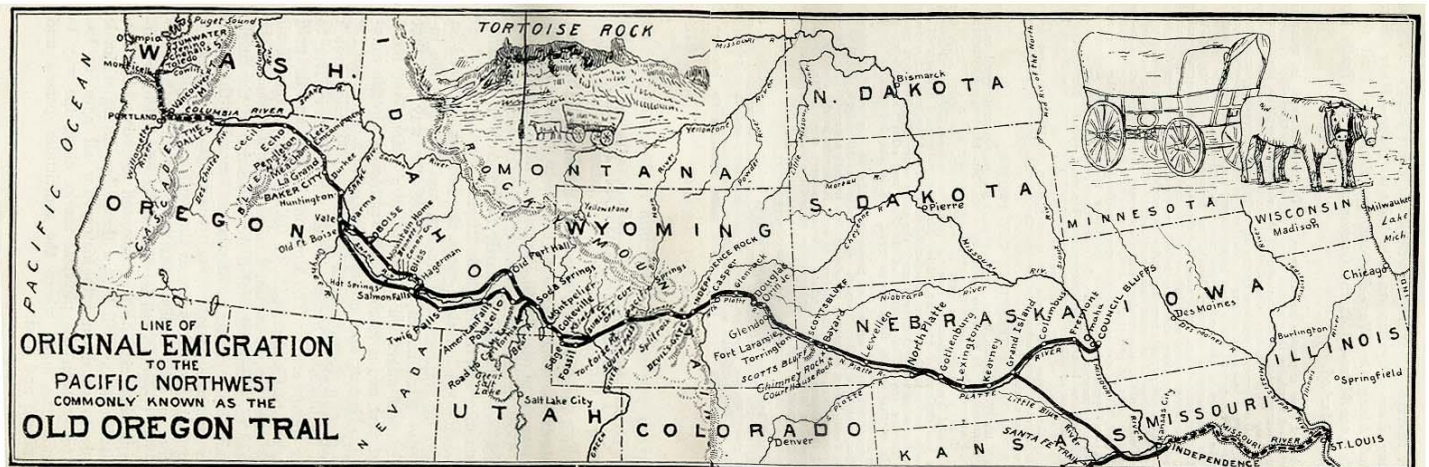
Oregon and Idaho have a common origin. They were a part of the same US territory from 1848 until Oregon became a state in 1859. Before that, they were both a part of the same independent nation, called the Provisional Government of Oregon, from 1841-1848. It was divided into four districts as shown.

Here's the seal of the Oregon Territory. The official motto means "she flies with her own

wings," reflecting the independent spirit of the people of the territory.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Provisional_Government_of_Oregon

Idaho was on the Oregon trail.



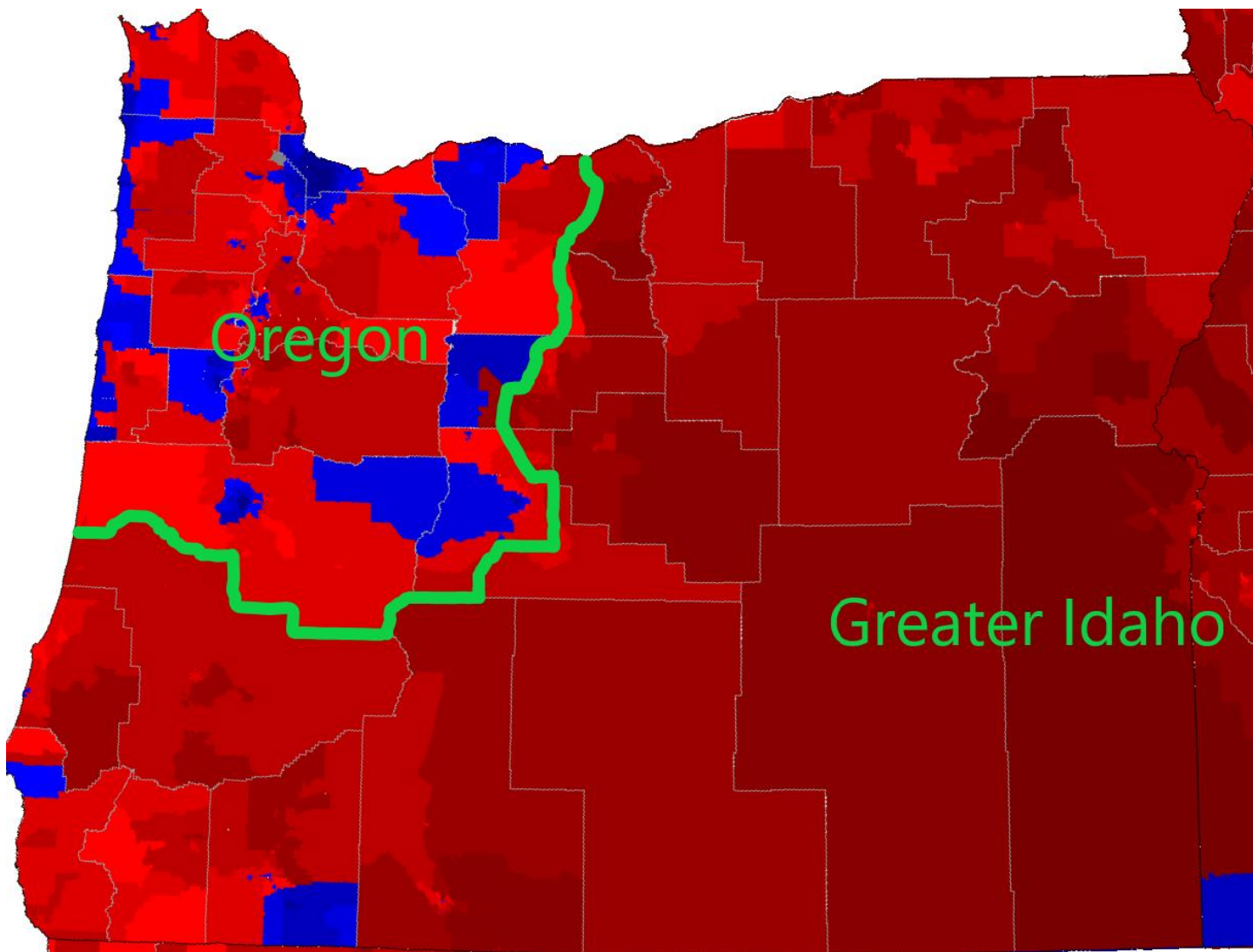
How Rural Oregon and Northernmost California Counties Would Pay Their Share of the State Debt

Since the per capita debt of the state government of California is \$11,680, and of Oregon is \$7574, the government of each departing county would take on its per capita share of its state debt as a part of this deal. However, because they would be as responsible as any other Idahoan for Idaho's \$3133 per capita debt in the future after joining Idaho, Idaho would compensate the government of each county \$3133 per capita. California counties would be left with a debt of $\$11680 - 3133 = \8547 per capita (Oregon counties $\$7574 - 3133 = \4441) which could be paid off with the issuance of county bonds, which could be paid off with a temporary county tax.

The cost of \$8547 or \$4441 should not be seen as a cost of switching governments. It is an already-existing debt that they would eventually have to pay even if they remain in their current states.

The \$3133 per capita cost to the State of Idaho is not really a loss to the State of Idaho, because the new Idahoan would become obligated to help pay for Idaho's pre-existing debt (\$3133 per capita) in return, along with other Idahoans.

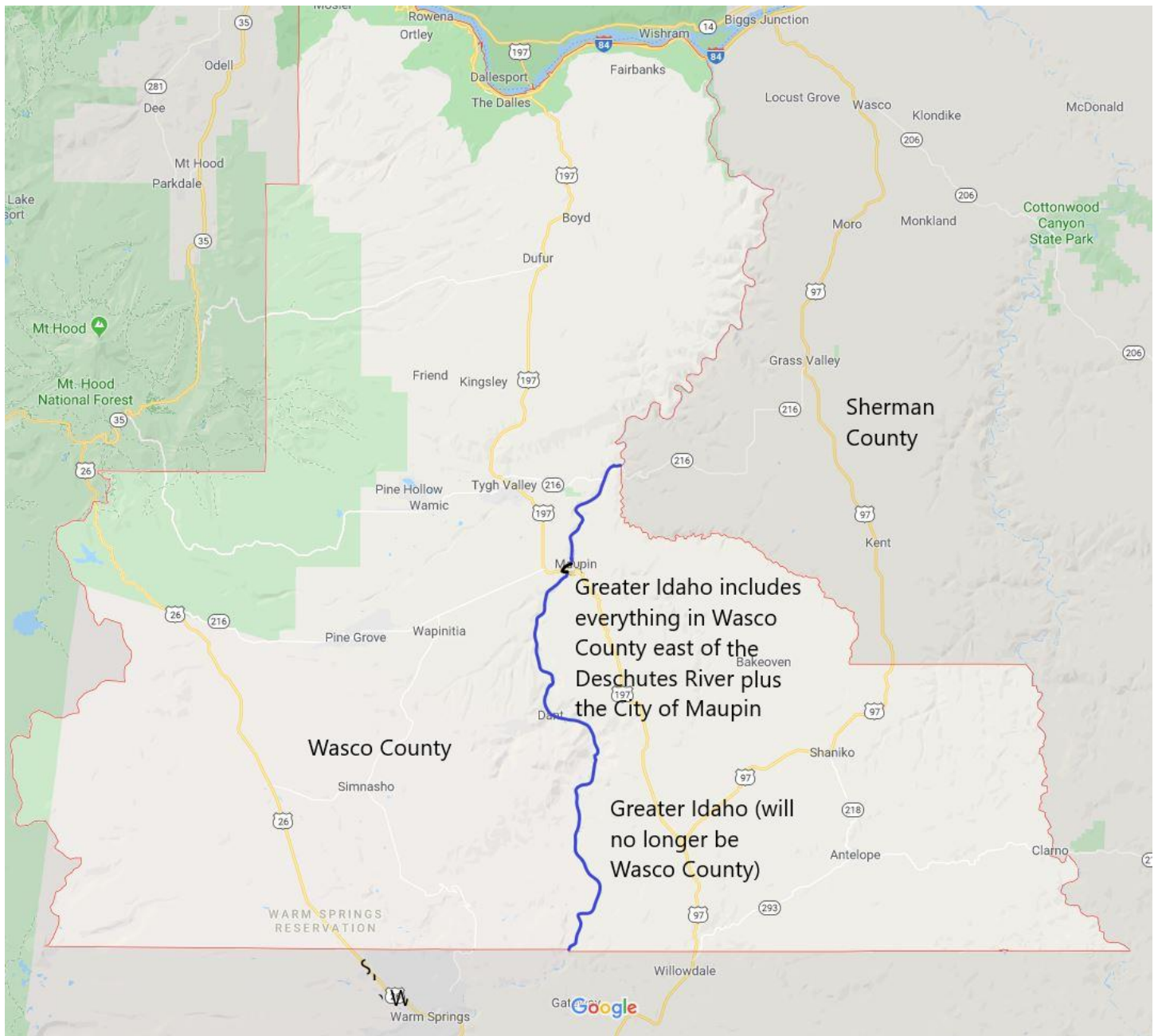
A similar approach can be taken to unfunded state government liabilities. For example, the Oregon retirement system for state and local employees, PERS, is estimated to be short of [\\$25 billion](#), or \$6952 per capita. The state (not local) portion of that can be compared to any state unfunded liabilities that Idaho might have.

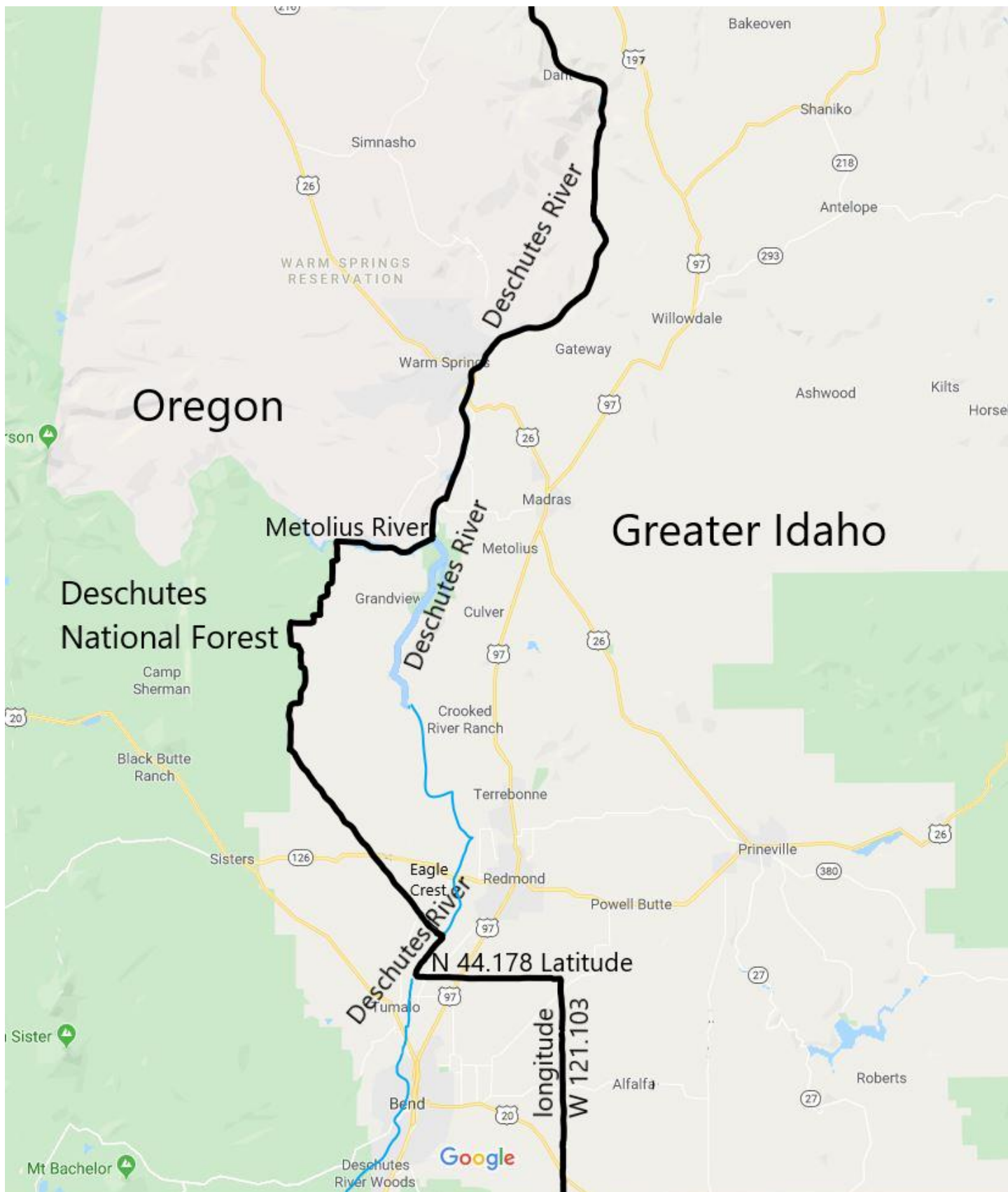


About the new location of Idaho border

Oregon

The counties we included are Baker, Coos, Crook, Curry, Douglas, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, and Wheeler. We also included portions of Wasco, Jefferson, and Deschutes counties as shown below.







We didn't include Trump-voting counties (or areas) that were less conservative than Idaho unless they were located in the middle of counties that were more conservative than Idaho. We believe this strategy is necessary to increase the chances that the Idaho Legislature will accept this proposal.

All of the Oregon counties included in greater Idaho that are east of the Cascade Range are more conservative than Idaho except Umatilla County. Averaged together, this group of counties east of the mountains gave 69.3% of its vote to Trump, whereas Idaho gave 59.3% to Trump. By including southwestern Oregon, Idaho would no longer be landlocked.

Counties are creations of the state and, historically, have often been split by acts of state legislatures. Legally, no approval from the counties involved is necessary.

What about Bend and The Dalles?

If you live near greater Idaho's boundaries, this proposal gives you the option of moving a few miles to experience freedom of Idaho law. And it gives you access to commute to work in the improving economy in greater Idaho.

In order for the whole group of counties to be accepted by the majority party of the Idaho Legislature, we have to offer a group of counties that won't weaken the very strong position of the Republican Party of Idaho. Bend, Warm Springs Reservation, and The Dalles would weaken that position because they don't vote as Republican as Idaho does, even though Republicans usually win elections in their counties.

Water Issues

The proposed border keeps the Willamette watershed in Oregon.



States commonly sign interstate agreements allotting each state a portion of the water available from a river. Breach of the agreement is handled in the federal court system. California is already a party to such an agreement for the Colorado River. Water quotas could be included in the interstate compact that enacts the border relocation.

Water sources for the city of Bend remain in Oregon (Powell Springs, Bridge Creek, and Tumalo Creek).

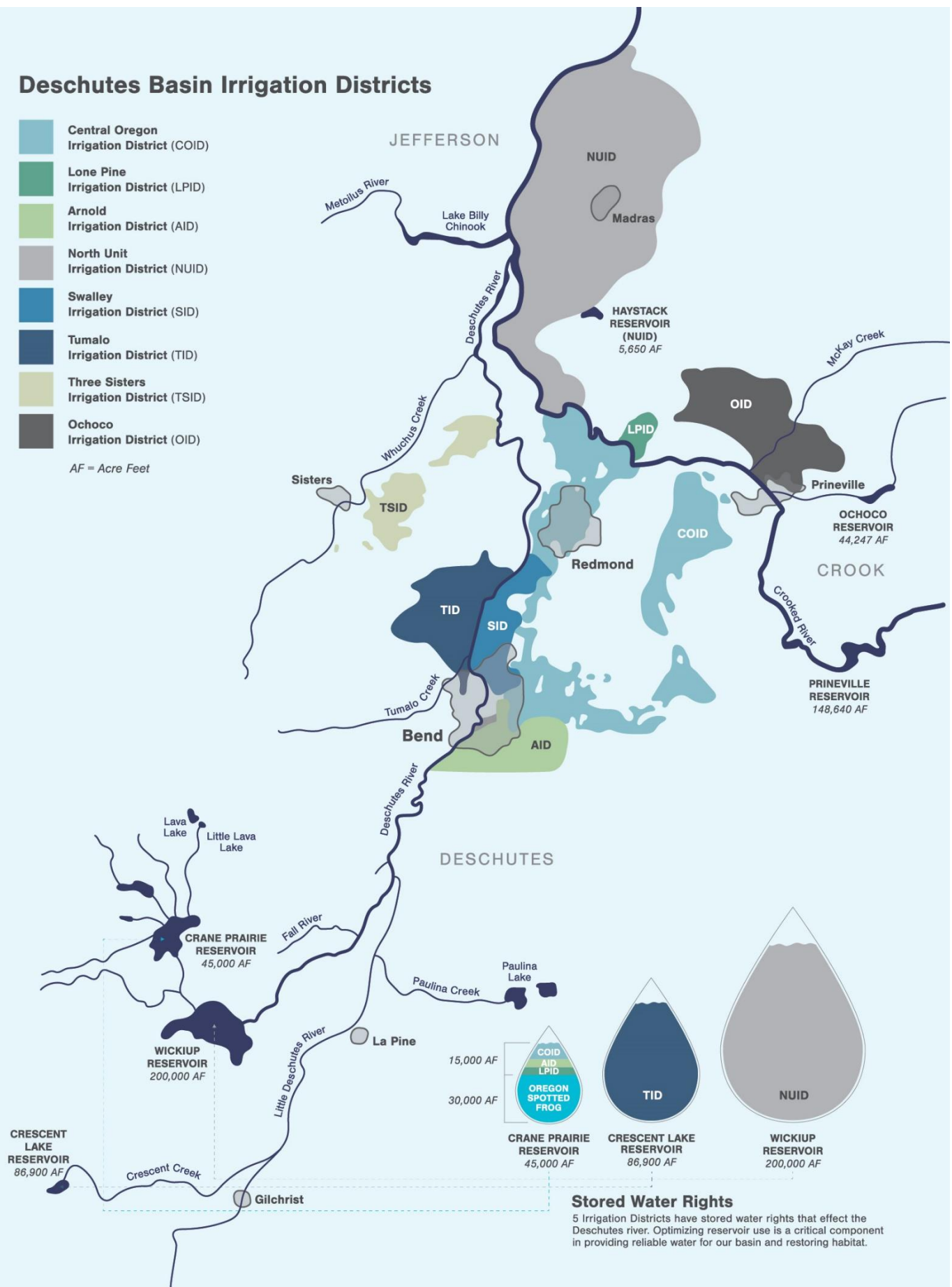
The area surrounding Bend has two irrigation districts (Central Oregon Irrigation District and Arnold Irrigation

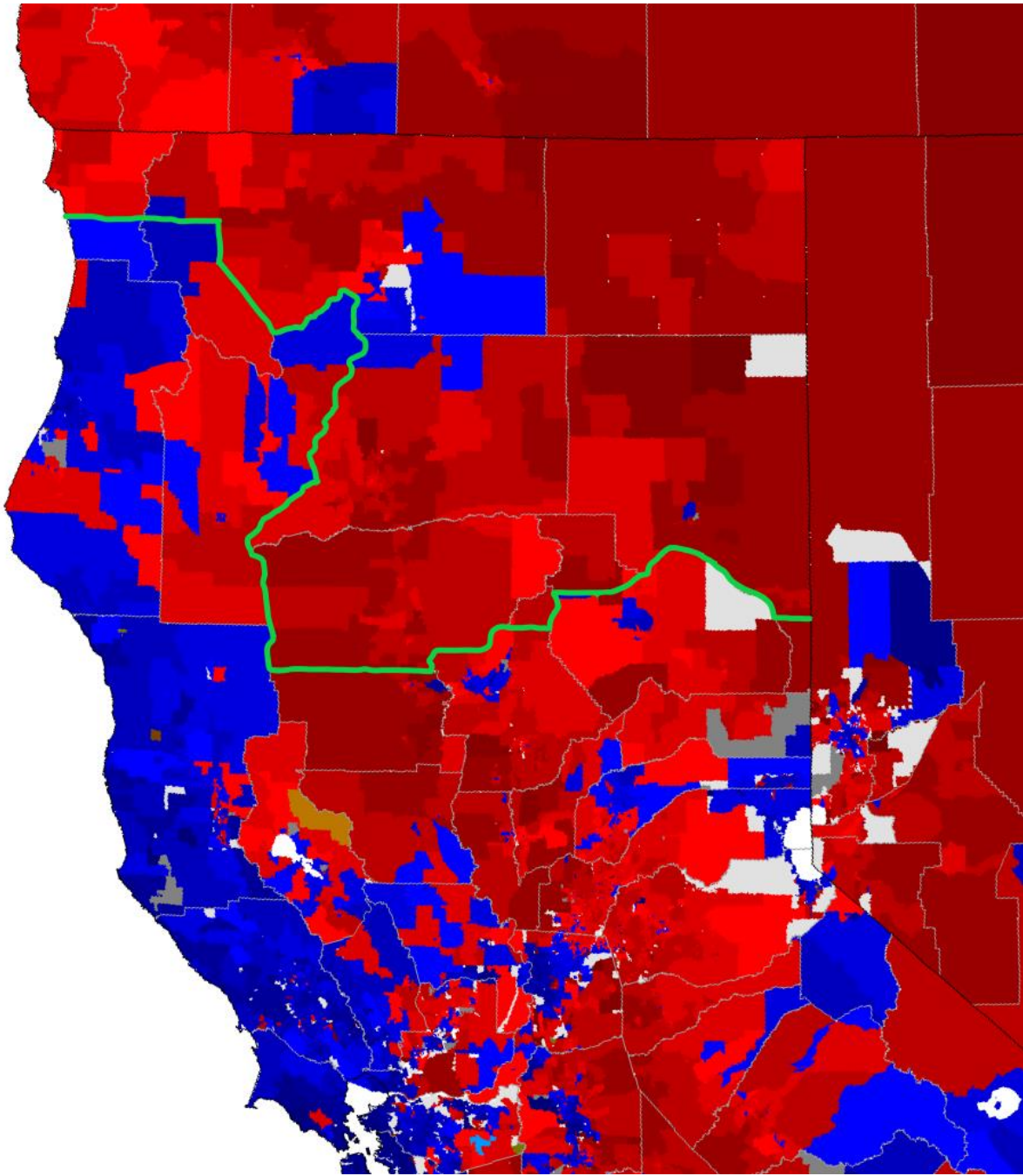
District) fed by water that, in winter, is stored in Crane Prairie Reservoir. To ease the concerns of Oregon, this reservoir should remain in Oregon, even though it also stores a small amount of water for irrigation districts that would become part of greater Idaho. This is the reservoir that stores water for the benefit of a species of spotted frog. Another irrigation district at Bend, Tumalo Irrigation District (TID), is fed by water stored in Crescent Lake. So Crescent Lake should be transferred from Klamath County to Lane County so that it can remain in Oregon. However, Wickiup Reservoir should become a part of greater Idaho, as its water is stored for the irrigation district that serves eastern Jefferson County.

Deschutes Basin Irrigation Districts

- Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID)
- Lone Pine Irrigation District (LPID)
- Arnold Irrigation District (AID)
- North Unit Irrigation District (NUID)
- Swalley Irrigation District (SID)
- Tumalo Irrigation District (TID)
- Three Sisters Irrigation District (TSID)
- Ochoco Irrigation District (OID)

AF = Acre Feet





California

Modoc and Lassen, in the northeastern corner of California are far more conservative than Idaho. They are dependent on state spending, as more than one thousand citizens work at a state prison there, out of a population of 40,000 (which includes 3100 prisoners). Taken alone as a group, their population is too small to warrant a border change. This prison is scheduled [to be closed](#) by June 30, 2022

Next to them are two counties, Shasta and Tehama, which contain Redding and Red Bluff, at the northern end of California's Central Valley. The northern tips of Plumas and Butte County should be included to improve connectivity between Tehama and Lassen counties. Siskiyou County should be added since it is sandwiched in between Shasta County and Oregon.

[Change the following paragraph for new map]

The six counties mentioned above, as a group, voted 63.4% for Trump, whereas Idaho voted 59.3%. Their per capita personal income (BEA PCPI) in 2017 was \$43,518, compared to Idaho's \$41,826. The average annual income of Idaho state employees, per Idaho resident, is \$1056. For these 6 counties, the same statistic is \$1680, which is \$624 higher. One might wrongly argue that these counties only have an adequate income because California state spending is higher there than Idaho state spending would be. But when averaged over 6 counties, the extra state spending is unnecessary because even if the extra \$624 is subtracted from the region's PCPI, the region still has more than Idaho's average income.

Anyway, it would be expected that greater Idaho would choose to use the prisons for greater Idaho's inmates, as the population of Idaho is growing rapidly, and more prisons will be needed. And after the state prison is closed in 2022, Lassen County residents will either find new jobs in the area or in another area.

Implementation of this Proposal:

The first phase is to move the Idaho/Oregon state border. The second phase is to move the new Idaho/California state border. Since there is no Idaho/California border at the moment, Phase 2 cannot begin until Phase 1 is complete.

There are two paths to implementation of Phase 1. We need to build the size of this movement either way. Path 1 is someone convinces Oregon state leadership (Willamette Valley Democrats) that this proposal benefits them and their constituency, and then they negotiate a deal with Idaho and pass appropriate legislation.

Path 2 is a state ballot initiative in Oregon, followed by a legislation passed in Idaho, followed by a plebiscite (vote) in Oregon. The draft of the state ballot initiative, if approved, will cause any Idaho legislation to go into effect if approved by a plebiscite (vote) of Oregonians one year after the initiative is approved. If Idaho passes legislation that is acceptable to Oregonian voters, the border change becomes law in Oregon without the need for approval from Oregon politicians, according to the text of our state initiative.

Unlike Oregon and California, Idaho's borders are defined by state constitution. Either path requires Idaho to amend its state constitution. This is accomplished by a 2/3 vote in both houses of the Idaho Legislature. Finally, any interstate compact requires the consent of Congress.

Either path requires that we show that rural Oregonians are motivated and favor this proposal. Our organization called "greater Idaho" is preparing to file citizen's initiatives to put a question about moving state borders on the 2020 ballot in several Oregon counties. The purpose of this ballot question is to prove that the voters of these Oregon counties want the border moved. A county initiative provides momentum for Path 1 and Path 2.

Next Steps

If we get enough valid signatures on our official petition for a county, greater Idaho will be on the Nov 3, 2020 ballot in that county. We need volunteers to collect signatures for our county ballot initiatives. Join "greater Idaho": www.facebook.com/groups/GreaterIdaho and visit our website www.greateridaho.org Send us your email address to get on our mailing list. Mention "greater Idaho" in your request. Our email address is: admin@greateridaho.org

To collect signatures, join a local group:

Move Oregon's Border: Northern Oregon www.facebook.com/groups/MoveOregonsBorderNorth

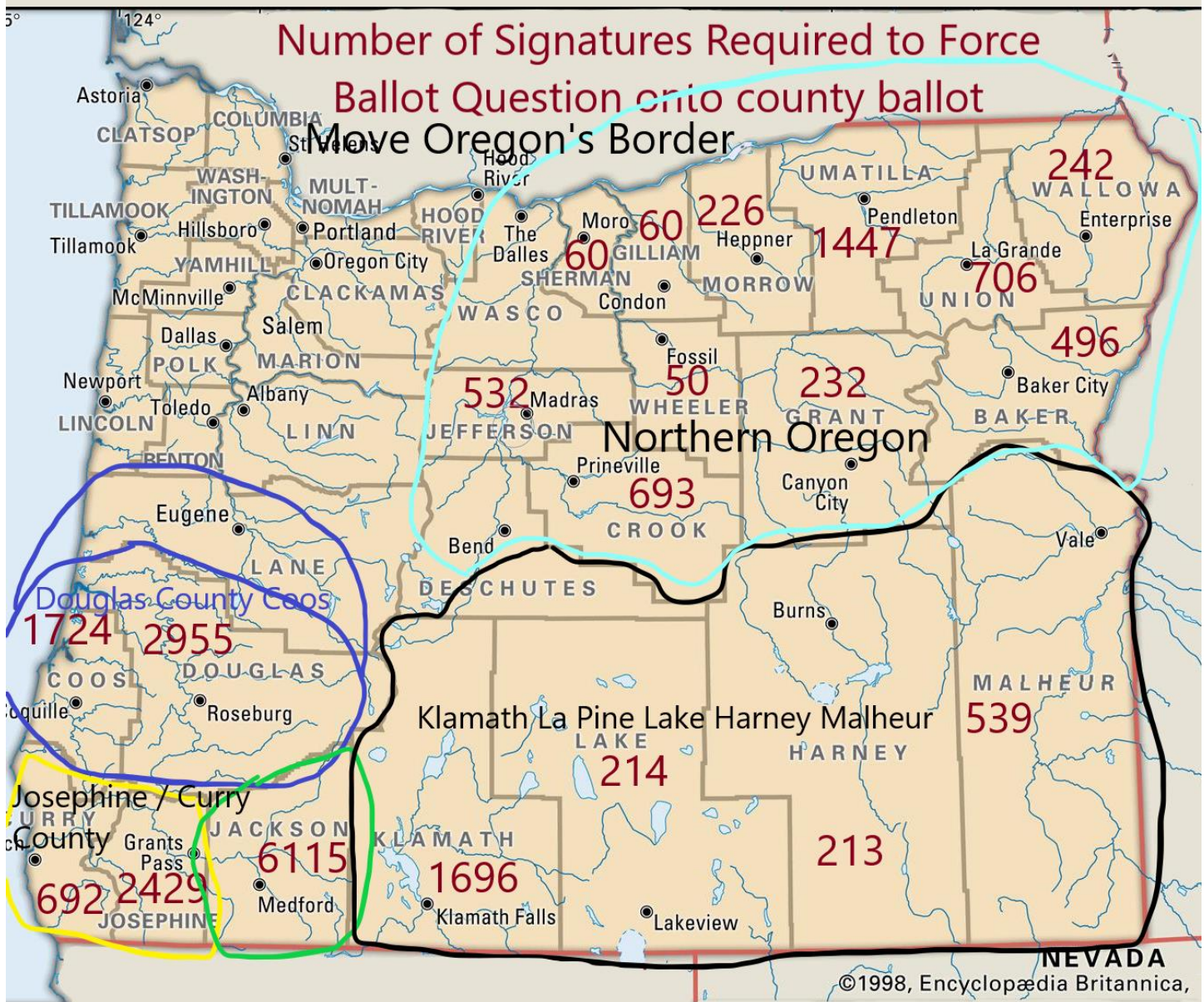
Move Oregon's Border: Klamath La Pine Lake Harney Malheur
www.facebook.com/groups/MoveOregonsBorderKlamath

Move Oregon's Border: Jackson County www.facebook.com/groups/MoveOregonsBorderJackson

Move Oregon's Border: Coos Douglas Counties www.facebook.com/groups/MoveOregonsBorderDouglas

Move Oregon's Border: Josephine Curry County www.facebook.com/groups/MoveOregonsBorderJoCo

New local Greater Idaho facebook groups for working together to get Greater Idaho on the ballot in each area



We also need donors so that we can pay to get an argument in favor of these county ballot initiatives into voter pamphlets.

Ask your county Board of Commissioners to put our question on their ballot by "referral" so that we don't have to gather signatures in your county to force it onto the ballot. Send them a link to this proposal: www.greateridaho.org/the_downloads/2019/main/Greater_Idaho_Proposal.pdf

The following is a model that your county commissioners could use:

Notice of Measure Election

County

SEL 801

rev 01/18: ORS 250.035, 250.041,
250.175, 254.103, 254.465

Notice		
Date of Notice	Name of County or Counties Lake County	Date of Election Nov 3, 2020
Final Ballot Title The following is the final ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the county's voters. The ballot title notice has been published and the ballot title challenge process has been completed.		
Caption 10 words which reasonably identifies the subject of the measure. Relocating border to make Lake County a county of Idaho		
Question 20 words which plainly phrases the chief purpose of the measure. Should Lake County Commissioners advocate for the Idaho border to be relocated to make Lake County a county of Idaho?		
Summary 175 words which concisely and impartially summarizes the measure and its major effect. <p>This advisory question will indicate to Lake County government and to the State whether Lake County voters approve of the idea of making Lake County a part of Idaho. If this measure is disapproved, and similar measures in other counties are disapproved, Oregon is unlikely to move the border. If this measure is approved, state legislators would be more likely to negotiate a border relocation with Idaho. The area involved could include southern, eastern, and central Oregon.</p> <p>If the border of Idaho were moved, Lake County residents would be subject to Idaho tax rates, which are, on average, lower than Oregon tax rates. Idaho has fewer pages of state regulations than any other state. Without Oregon regulations, taxes, and unfunded mandates in Lake County, the economy of Lake County would improve.</p> <p>Lake County would be subject to Idaho state law, which is quite different from Oregon law on firearms, crime, abortion, home schooling, the control of predator wildlife, and cultural issues. Idaho does not give driver's licenses to illegal aliens or allow sanctuary cities.</p>		

Share the message of this proposal by creating memes and sharing in Facebook, Facebook groups, and Instagram. This is important because legislators tend to follow public opinion rather than leading public opinion.

You can attend county fairs and other public events to publicize this with a sign, a t-shirt, brochures, or even a table. You can purchase our decal and bumper stickers for your car.

Next, contact Republican state legislators in southern and eastern Oregon and ask them to read this proposal and then explain it to the Democrat state leadership. Call them, send Facebook messages, email them, and ask to meet with them. You can contact more than just your own legislators. We hope that Oregon Democrat state leadership will hear about this proposal, appreciate it, and then reach out to Idaho state leadership to negotiate an interstate compact. If they negotiate a deal, they can introduce a bill in each legislature and pass it. Obviously Oregon and Idaho have to agree before California can take action.

Contacting any Democrat state legislator in Oregon might help get this idea to Oregon state leadership. Contacting Idaho legislators could help too, if Idaho leadership is willing to reach out to Oregon leadership about this.

Send them a link to this proposal:

www.greateridaho.org/the_downloads/2020/main/Greater_Idaho_Proposal.pdf

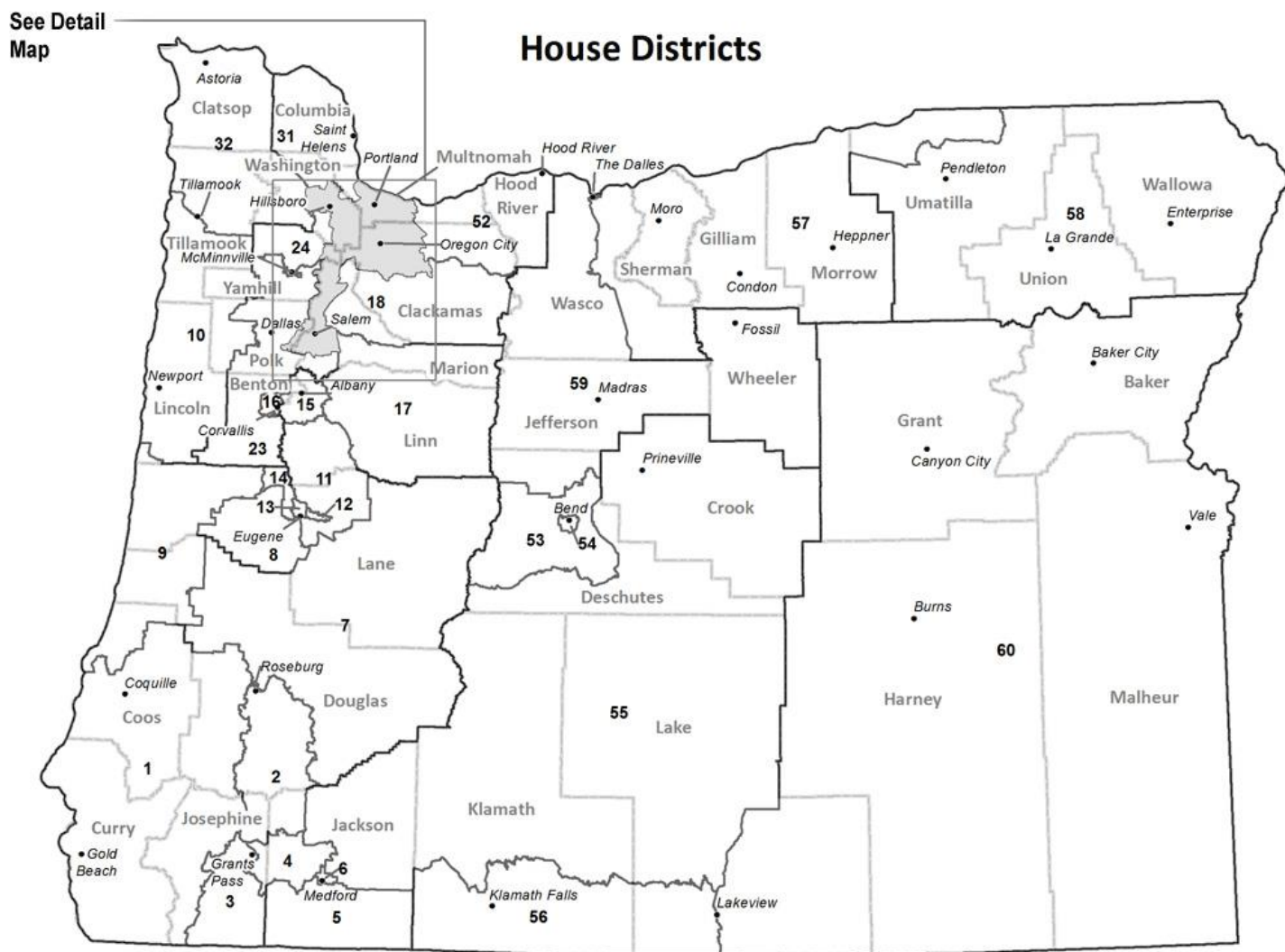
Let us know by private message what legislators say to you about the idea.

Find your legislator (but reach out to others too):

Oregon: <https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/FindYourLegislator/leg-districts.html>

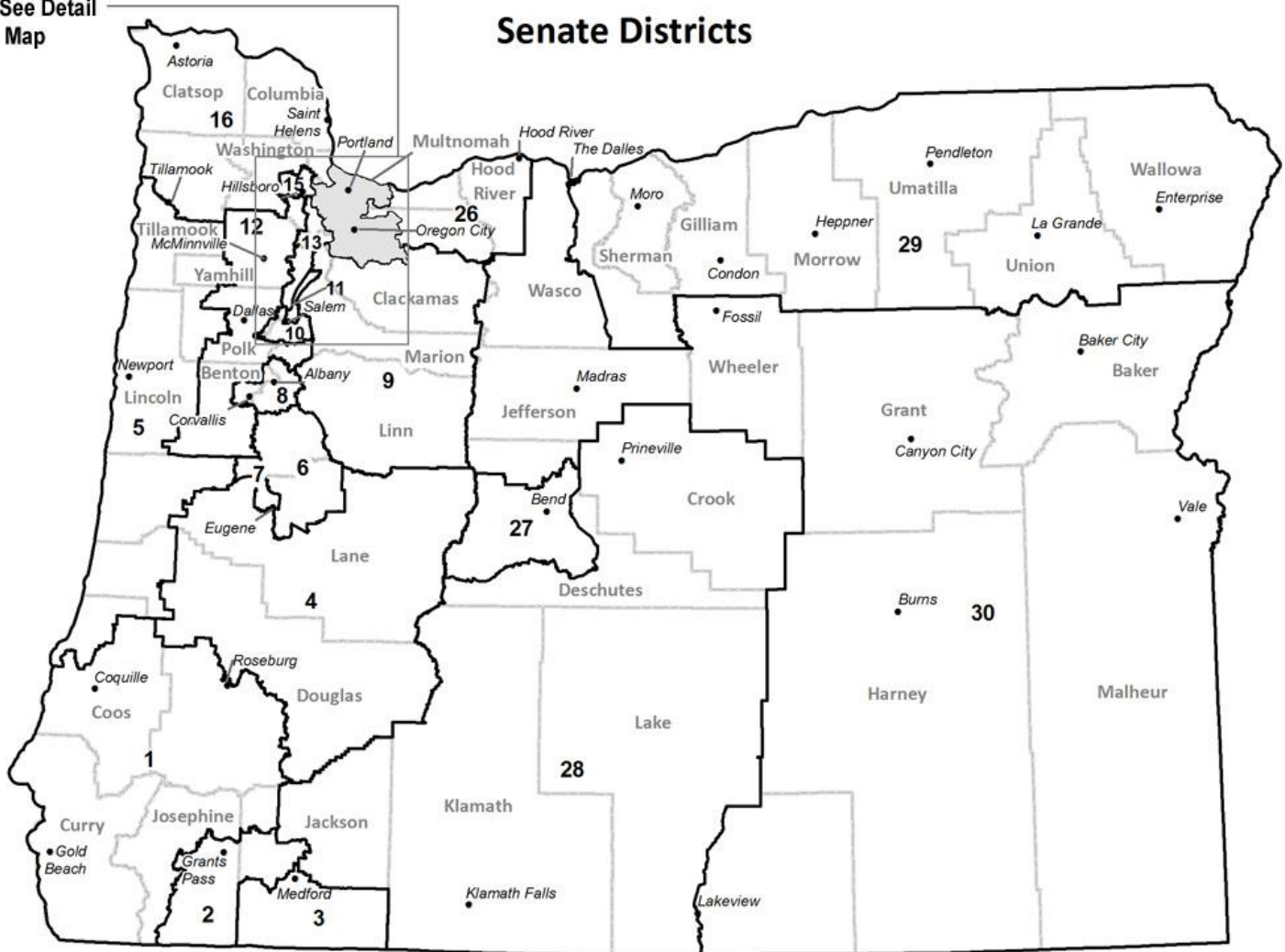
Idaho: <https://legislature.idaho.gov/legislators/whosmylegislator/>

California: www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators_and_districts/legislators/your_legislator.html



See Detail
Map

Senate Districts



Call Oregon reps using this phone list:

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/house/Pages/RepresentativesDistrict.aspx>

Oregon Republican Representatives in departing counties:

Rep.DavidBrockSmith@oregonlegislature.gov; Rep.GaryLeif@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.CarlWilson@oregonlegislature.gov; Rep.DuaneStark@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.KimWallan@oregonlegislature.gov; Rep.CedricHayden@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.MikeMcLane@oregonlegislature.gov; Rep.EWernerReschke@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.GregSmith@oregonlegislature.gov; Rep.GregBarreto@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.DanielBonham@oregonlegislature.gov; Rep.LynnFindley@oregonlegislature.gov

Oregon Republican Senators in departing counties:

Sen.HermanBaertschiger@oregonlegislature.gov; Sen.DennisLinthicum@oregonlegislature.gov;
Sen.BillHansell@oregonlegislature.gov; Sen.CliffBentz@oregonlegislature.gov;
Sen.DallasHeard@oregonlegislature.gov

Oregon Democrat Representatives in remaining counties:

Rep.PaulHolvey@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.CaddyMcKeown@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.DavidGomberg@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.MartyWilde@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.JohnLively@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.NancyNathanson@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.JulieFahey@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.DanRayfield@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.PaulEvans@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.BrianClem@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.TeresaAlonsoLeon@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.CourtneyNeron@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.SheriSchouten@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.JeffBarker@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.SusanMcClain@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.JaneenSollman@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.BradWitt@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.TiffanyMitchell@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.MitchGreenlick@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.KenHelm@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.MargaretDoherty@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.JenniferWilliamson@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.RachelPrusak@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.AndreaSalinas@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.MarkMeek@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.KarinPower@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.RobNosse@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.TawnaSanchez@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.TinaKotek@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.BarbaraSmithWarner@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.AlissaKenyGuyer@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.DiegoHernandez@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.JeffReardon@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.ChrisGorsek@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.CarlaPiluso@oregonlegislature.gov;Rep.JanelleBynum@oregonlegislature.gov;
Rep.AnnaWilliams@oregonlegislature.gov

Oregon Democrat Senators in remaining counties:

Sen.FloydProzanski@oregonlegislature.gov;Sen.ArnieRoblan@oregonlegislature.gov;
Sen.LeeBeyer@oregonlegislature.gov;Sen.JamesManning@oregonlegislature.gov;
Sen.SaraGelser@oregonlegislature.gov;Sen.PeterCourtney@oregonlegislature.gov;
Sen.MarkHass@oregonlegislature.gov;Sen.ChuckRiley@oregonlegislature.gov;
Sen.BetsyJohnson@oregonlegislature.gov;Sen.ElizabethSteinerHayward@oregonlegislature.gov;
Sen.GinnyBurdick@oregonlegislature.gov;Sen.RobWagner@oregonlegislature.gov;
Sen.KathleenTaylor@oregonlegislature.gov;Sen.LewFrederick@oregonlegislature.gov;
Sen.MichaelDembrow@oregonlegislature.gov;Sen.ShemiaFagan@oregonlegislature.gov;
Sen.LaurieMonnesAnderson@oregonlegislature.gov

Oregon Senate **leadership:** www.oregonlegislature.gov/senatedemocrats/Pages/leadership.aspx

Oregon House leadership:

House Speaker Tina Kotek Democrat - District 44 - N/NE Portland

Capitol Phone: 503-986-1200 District Phone: 503-286-0558

Capitol Address: 900 Court St. NE, Rm. 269 Salem, Oregon 97301

Email: Rep.TinaKotek@oregonlegislature.gov Website: <http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/kotek>

House Majority Leader Jennifer Williamson Democrat - District 36 - Portland Capitol Phone: 503-986-1436 Email: Rep.JenniferWilliamson@oregonlegislature.gov
Website: <http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/williamson>

Speaker Pro-Tem Rep Paul Holvey Democrat - District 08 – Eugene
Capitol Phone: 503-986-1408 District Phone: 541-344-5636 Email:
Rep.PaulHolvey@oregonlegislature.gov Website: <http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/holvey>

Washington State Should Become One State Consisting of Two Districts

Although the Washington state legislature would not be willing to give US Senate seats to a new state, it would benefit from an idea that was introduced as a bill for New York. The Washington Constitution could be revised so that Washington would remain a single state for federal elections, but two states for state and local issues. Each district would have its own governor, legislature, law, taxes, budget, and courts. There would be no governance at the state level, only at the district level and below (except to define congressional district boundaries and other minor tasks in coordinating with the federal government).

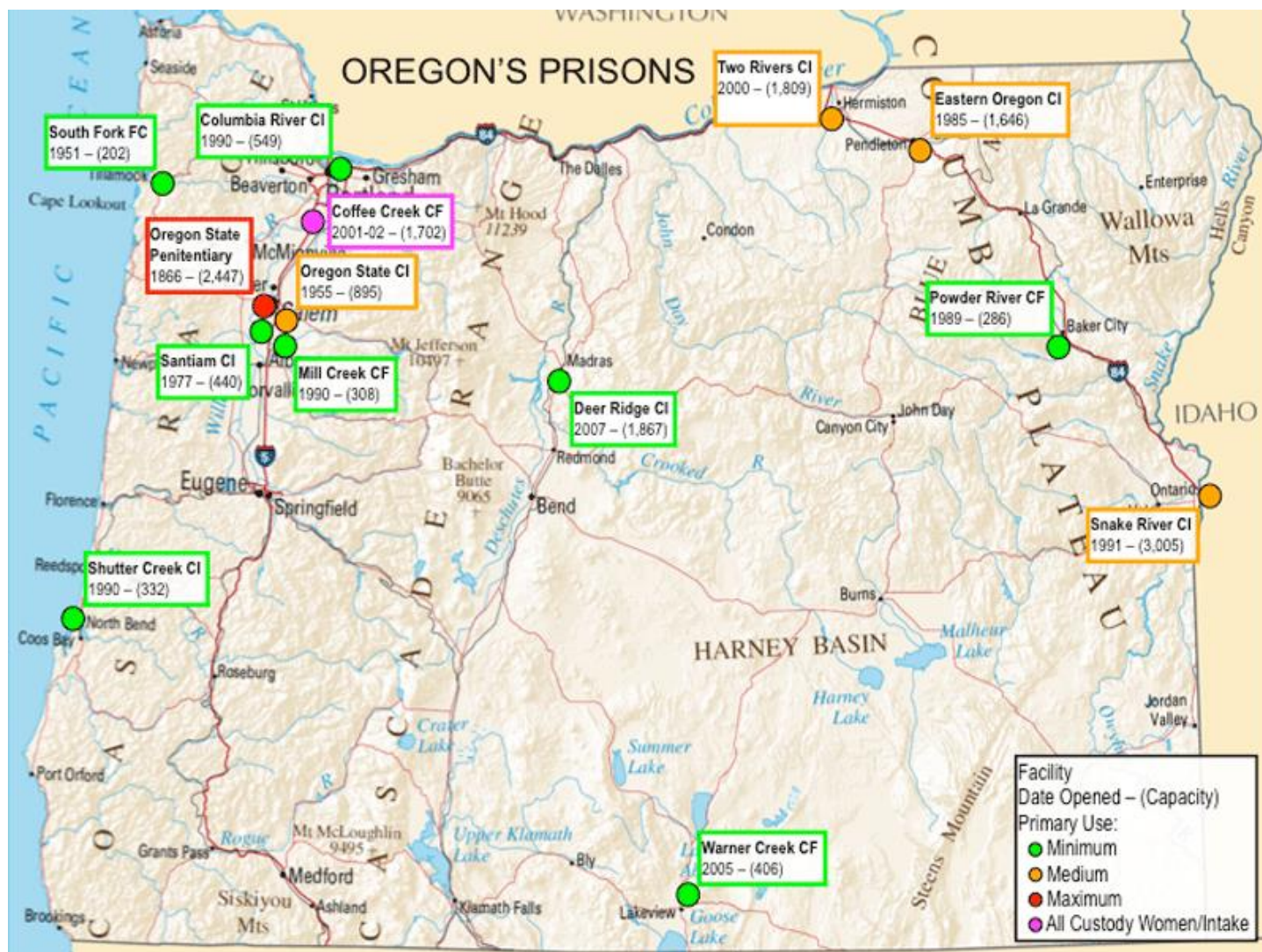
Democrats in the current legislature should want to vote for this because Washington would be glad to have low-income Trump-voting counties out of their budgets and out of their district elections. This proposal doesn't prevent the later creation of a new state; it just bides time until conditions change to make that more likely to be approved. And creating district autonomy could be a stepping stone to statehood.

Here is the document analyzing this possibility: <https://redstatesecession.org/washington-state-should-become-one-state-consisting-of-two-totally-independent-districts>

DATA:

County	total	Trump Vo	Hillary Votes	16 Cl	Trump	Populatio	Per capita	cost	standar	state	state
	vote			%	Hillary		Personal	of	of	&local	prison
	2016			Trump	ratio	Bureau of E	Income	living	living	tax	as %
	presidential			Vote			BEA			walleth	of pop
						2017	2017			2018	
California	1.4E+07	4483810		31.6%		39536653	59796			\$5,663	0.29%
remainder of CA	1.4E+07	4389793		0.313		39181461	59944		59944		
Oregon	2001336	782403	1002136	39.1%	0.78	4142776	48137	1.31	36690	\$3,971	0.38%
NW Oregon	1593344	534342	878021	33.5%	0.61	3287155	50006				
Idaho	690255	409055	189765	59.3%	2.16	1716943	41826	0.94	44401	\$3,242	
Greater Idaho	1246570	751133	356810	60.3%	2.11	2927756	41777				
Washington	3317019	1221747		36.8%		7405743	57896	1.39	41742	\$4,747	
									1.2102		
S/E OR	407992	248061	124115	60.8%	2.00	855621	41248	1.31	31439		1.09%
Baker County, Oregon	8779	6218	1797	70.8%	3.46	16054	39026				
Coos County, Oregon	31032	17865	10167	57.6%	1.76	63888	41802				
Crook County, Oregon	12172	8511	2637	69.9%	3.23	23123	38366				
Curry County, Oregon	12611	7212	4300	57.2%	1.68	22669	41099				
Rural Deschutes (Redmo	23049	17514	5536	76.0%	3.16	48900	50955				
Douglas County, Oregon	53521	34582	14096	64.6%	2.45	109405	38752				
Gilliam County, Oregon	1019	671	239	65.8%	2.81	1855	47614				
Grant County, Oregon	4340	3210	739	74.0%	4.34	7190	39797				
Harney County, Oregon	3974	2912	683	73.3%	4.26	7289	38177				
Jackson County, Oregon	109327	53870	44447	49.3%	1.21	217479	44360				
Jefferson County plus 6C	8318	5540	2514	66.6%	2.20	21600	31543				
Josephine County, Orego	44560	26923	13453	60.4%	2.00	86352	38896				
Klamath County, Oregon	30507	20435	7210	67.0%	2.83	66935	38446				
Lake County, Oregon	3930	3022	639	76.9%	4.73	7863	38091				
Malheur County, Oregon	10435	7194	2246	68.9%	3.20	30480	30231				
Morrow County, Oregon	4167	2721	1017	65.3%	2.68	11166	40309				
Sherman County, Orego	1017	732	202	72.0%	3.62	1758	48609				
Umatilla County, Oregon	27082	17059	7673	63.0%	2.22	76985	37964				
Union County, Oregon	12968	8431	3249	65.0%	2.59	26222	38301				
Wallowa County, Oregon	4366	2848	1116	65.2%	2.55	7051	42926				
Wheeler County, Oregon	818	591	155	72.2%	3.81	1357	34414				
6 county	148323	94017	42930	63.4%	2.19	355192	43518	1.39	31376		1.50%
Modoc County, Californi	3788	2696	877	71.2%	3.07	8859	45338				
Lassen County, Californi	10524	7574	2224	72.0%	3.41	31163	40739				9.95%
Tehama County, Californ	23908	15494	6809	64.8%	2.28	63926	40016				
Shasta County, California	80053	51778	22301	64.7%	2.32	179921	44691				
Del Norte County, Califo	9558	5134	3485	53.7%	1.47	27470	39390				8.15%
Siskiyou County, Californ	20492	11341	7234	55.3%	1.57	43853	43735				
plus a small amount of Plumas											
S/E OR + 6 county	556315	342078	167045	61.5%	2.05	1210813	41707				
ID + S/E OR	1098247	657116	313880	59.8%		2572564	41536				
diff from Idaho	407992	248061		0.6%		855,621	-290				
% compared to Idaho	59%	61%				50%	-0.7%				

The image below shows where Oregon prisons are located. The data above was adjusted so that Southern Oregon was not penalized for having more than its share of prisoners without income. The cost of living of these prisoners is covered by the state, and most of them come from the big cities. As mentioned above, prisoners from northwestern Oregon are the financial responsibility of northwestern Oregon. The prisons at Coos Bay and Lakeview are scheduled to be closed in the governor's budget.



This document is revision 22, revised completely Aug 2020 and then modified with several updates after that.