

F.A.Q.

Will the Oregon Legislature let the counties go?

Oregon's state government is funded primarily by income taxes, so Portland pays much more than its per-capita share of the state. Every medium-income or low-income county that leaves the state helps Oregon's state budget. SurveyUSA did a poll of 1068 voters of northwestern Oregon and found that only 3% are willing to pay the cost of having eastern & southern Oregon in their state.

Also, letting these counties go will end the gridlock in the Oregon Legislature caused by denial of quorum by eastern Oregon legislators.

The polling showed that Oregonians feel it is wrong to hold counties against their will.

Why not make a new state? We don't think the Oregon Legislature would let rural Oregon become a state because that would add Republicans to the US Senate.

Is this legal? State borders have been moved many times in US history. The Oregon / Washington border was relocated slightly in 1958. Months after West Virginia joined the Union, Berkeley County and then Jefferson County switched states.

Learn more at greateridaho.org

Citizens for Greater Idaho

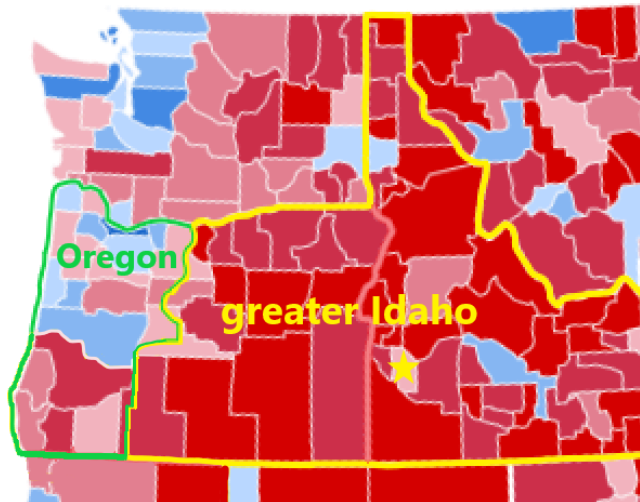
PO Box 1073, La Pine, OR 97739

Idahoans poll strongly in favor of Greater Idaho

Idahoan voters in favor of moving the Oregon/Idaho border outnumber Idahoan voters who are opposed by 1.4 to 1, according to a poll of 1100 Idahoan voters by top-rated Trafalgar Group in October 2021. 51% were in favor, 35% opposed, and 14% undecided.

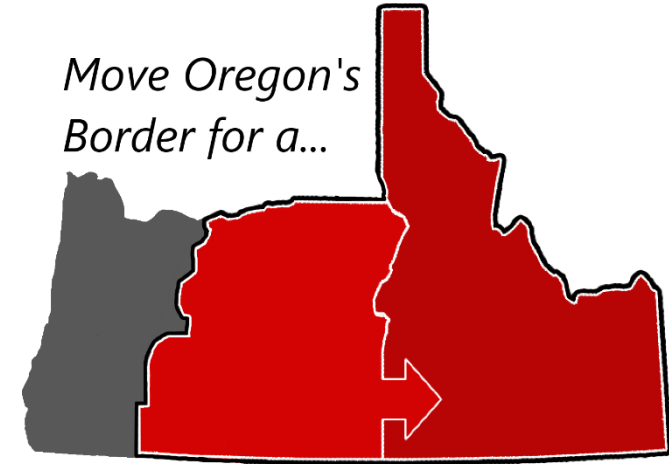
Among Idahoans who had voted in a recent Republican primary, 2.3 times as many were in favor as opposed: 59% were in favor, 26% opposed, and 15% undecided.

In addition, when asked about adding counties that are "very similar to Idaho in voting patterns, and would help the state financially," Idahoan voters in favor outnumbered voters opposed by two to one, and Republican primary voters in favor outnumbered those opposed almost four to one. Visit greateridaho.org/news for a link to the source.



Join forces with rural Oregon counties to make a greater Idaho

Move Oregon's Border for a...



GREATER IDAHO

Better Together

- ✓ Frees 380,000 people from blue-state law
- ✓ Maintains rural values in the Idaho Legislature
- ✓ Pushes blue-state law farther away
- ✓ Idahoans poll strongly in favor of Greater Idaho

How to move the Oregon / Idaho border

Step 1: Eastern Oregonians collect signatures to put a measure on their county ballot, or they convince county commissioners to put a question on that ballot.

Step 2: Counties vote, to prove to state legislators that rural Oregon wants to join Idaho.

11 of 15 counties there have voted in favor so far, and more will vote soon.

Step 3: Idaho Legislature holds hearings.

Our first hearing was April 12, 2021.

Step 4: Oregon and Idaho Legislatures pass a “memorial” or resolution to invite each other to consider the issue.

Step 5: Oregon & Idaho leaders negotiate.

Step 6: State legislatures ratify an interstate compact that sets the terms of the border relocation, such as which assets and liabilities become Idaho’s.

Step 7: Optionally, the compact authorizes a plebiscite (vote) for eastern Oregon voters as a whole to consent to, or veto, the compact.

Step 8: Congress approves the interstate compact and amends acts of admission of both states.

How does Greater Idaho benefit Idahoans?

1. Idaho would have the satisfaction of freeing more than 380,000 rural Oregonian refugees from stifling blue-state law, and potentially more if the project spreads to other nearby areas.
2. **MAINTAINS RURAL VALUES IN THE IDAHO LEGISLATURE:** Like the majority of Idaho residents, the people of these rural Oregon counties value faith, family, and self-reliance. In the last eight years, eastern Oregon has voted against hard drugs, and against marijuana legalization. These counties voted 75% Republican in the 2022 US House races – Idaho voted 67% Republican.
3. **HELPS STATE BUDGET:** The residents of eastern Oregon currently have the same average income as those in Idaho. Under Idaho’s lower taxes and regulation, the economy of these eastern Oregon counties will surge, providing a big benefit to Idaho’s budget. A very thorough 2023 economic analysis funded by the Claremont Institute proved that eastern & southern Oregon would be a net financial benefit to Idaho of \$170 million annually, and that’s an underestimate.
4. **ROOM TO GROW:** Currently, many people are moving to Idaho to gain political refuge from blue states. Adding a large part of Oregon to Idaho will take pressure off Idaho’s housing market by giving new people more locations to choose from. It will reduce the growth in traffic and reduce the loss of Idaho farmland to suburban housing by dispersing the influx of people.
5. **PUSHES OREGON LAW FARTHER AWAY** from Idaho’s population centers: In 2020 Oregon decriminalized hard drugs, making hard drugs easily available to residents of Treasure Valley. Moving the Oregon/Idaho border further away from Idaho population centers will reduce the ease of access and convenience of these dangerous products to those who might be tempted by them.