



**For Immediate Release**

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## **STATE BOARD STATEMENT ON JUDGE'S DISMISSAL OF ATTORNEY GENERAL RAUL LABRADOR'S LAWSUIT**

On January 30, 2024, Idaho Fourth District Court Judge Scott dismissed with prejudice Attorney General Raul Labrador's lawsuit against the Idaho State Board of Education. While this lawsuit against one of the Attorney General's own clients was an unfortunate use of taxpayer dollars, the State Board is pleased to have been vindicated by the Court.

The State Board also stands behind its Deputy Attorney General Jenifer Marcus who has provided exceptional advice and counsel to the Board for over a decade.

"We are very disciplined about following requirements established under Idaho's Open Meeting Law for executive sessions. As Judge Scott stated in his opinion, the Board of Regents of the University of Idaho (the State Board) reasonably believed it was in competition with other public agencies in other states to acquire the University of Phoenix. It is alarming to get sued by your own lawyer, Attorney General Labrador, for listening to the advice of his own staff. The Attorney General's lawsuit has taken an extraordinary amount of time and resources over the last seven months. Regardless, we are pleased the court recognized the State

Board followed the law. We are eager to put this unnecessary litigation behind us and will continue our pursuit of payment of legal fees by the Attorney General's Office. The State Board's focus remains on ensuring high quality educational opportunities for Idaho students," State Board President Dr. Linda Clark said.

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