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## PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OF EMPLOYEES

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Purpose:

To establish policy outlining acceptable partisan political activities of University employees.

Additional Authority:

Idaho Code §67-5311

Scope:

Applies to all university employees.

Responsible Party:

Division of Human Resources, 426-1616

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### POLICY

I. Policy Statement

Boise State University respects the right and responsibility of employees as individual citizens to engage in local, state, and national politics. However, because the University is a nonpartisan entity, its faculty, staff, and administrations must observe the guidelines in this policy.

II. Guidelines

- A. Promoting or Opposing Partisan Candidates: University employees should not engage in the promotion of or opposition to the candidacy of individual partisan candidates on campus during regular university working hours or at official university functions.
- B. Teaching Faculty: Teaching faculty should avoid the promotion of or opposition to any particular candidate (local, state, or national) in their instructional responsibilities.
- C. Prohibited Use of University Resources: No university clerical or secretarial assistance should be used with respect to partisan political activity, nor should printing or reproducing services be used for such activity. Supplies, materials, equipment, telephones, and the university mail service, paid for by the citizens of Idaho, should likewise not be used to promote or oppose a political candidate or organization.

- D. Employees as Candidates and University Facilities: The physical facilities of the university, including the Student Union, Stadium, and Pavilion should not be used by candidates who are employees of the university, except as they are used by candidates who are non-employees. The university adheres to the "rent the hall" principle and the facilities are available to any candidate for public office of any party. Employees of Boise State should adhere to the same policies that affect non-employees in terms of the use of all campus facilities for partisan political activities. Such rentals may be arranged through the appropriate facility administrator in accordance with university policy.
- E. Employees as Elected Officials: University employees who are elected to state office will, with State Board approval, take a leave of absence from their institutional responsibilities the day before the Legislature convenes and will be placed back on official duty the day after the session adjourns. This leave is without pay. During the period of leave, the individual will not be related to the university nor will the office or university resources be used by the individual.