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Public Works for a Better Government

July 26, 2014

Honorable Ben Ysursa
Idaho Secretary of State
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0080

Dear Secretary Ysursa:

I would like to thank you for the **prompt and thorough response** by Deputy Secretary of State Miren E. Artiach to my Idaho Public Records Act request for documents concerning our posting of the Official Idaho Code on the Internet. As I've studied the materials, I am struck on the one hand by how much time you and the Idaho Code Commission have spent discussing the issue and on the other hand how little time anybody has spent discussing the issue with me. I am writing to you with two suggestions.

First, I'd like to reiterate my offer to come to Boise and discuss this issue directly with you or other members of the Idaho Code Commission. I understand we disagree on some important points, but I believe we are both sincere in our desire to make the laws available to citizens and I would hope that we could at least discuss the issues.

Second, I believe the State of Idaho has taken an extreme position on control over statutes, one not found in other states. I believe that if you look around and examine the federal court opinions about access to legal materials and survey how other states have dealt with the issue, you will come to the same conclusion.

My suggestion is that you ask some Idaho citizens to look at this issue. I know the University of Idaho Law School has an intellectual property class in January and asking the students to report to you on the status of restrictions over access to legal codes would be a great experience for the students and I believe it would be instructive for you as well.

I'm enclosing for your information **testimony I gave in January** before the House Judiciary Committee on the subject of edicts of government. As you'll see, I discussed the Idaho situation in my testimony.

Thank you for your consideration of my requests.

Sincerely yours,



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