

REVIEWED

**Candidate Statement**

**Name:** Louis R. Archuleta

**Running for:** Idaho House District 28 Seat B

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SECRETARY OF STATE  
STATE OF IDAHO

**Biography:** I am a former space shuttle engineer and I care deeply about education in Idaho. My lifetime of experience makes me uniquely qualified for the Idaho Legislature. Send me to Boise and I will fix education!

**LEADERSHIP & POLITICAL EXPERIENCE**

I am a former vice-chair of the Bannock County Democratic Party & lifelong Democrat. I am a former chairman of the Pocatello Parks and Recreation Board. I am a current member of the LEAD (Latino Economic and Development) Board. I lobbied the EPA with a safer cleanup plan for the FMC Superfund site. I was a founding member of Occupy Pocatello. I was a founding member of the Hispanic Caucus 3BP.

**FORMER SPACE SHUTTLE ENGINEER**

I played a major role in the development and construction of the launch complex at VAFB (Vandenberg Air Force Base). I used my unique perspective and ideas to solve major issues on the launch complex project, while saving time and money along the way.

**PROFESSIONAL & WORK EXPERIENCE**

I have 45 years of drafting & design experience. I was an instructor for the YES (Young Explorers in Space) Camp at Idaho State University for 9 years. I successfully mentored Shoshone-Bannock High School students to get 5 student experiments launched into space.

**FAMILY**

I grew up in Pocatello & Boise Idaho. I am a widower with 4 biological children, 3 step children, 22 grandchildren, & 6 great-grandchildren.

**NATIVE & HISPANIC HERITAGE**

My Great-Great Grandfather was Chief Arimo of the Shoshone Tribe. I am an enrolled member of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe. I am a LEAD (Latino Economic and Development) Board member. The Archuleta family came to America in 1592 from Spain. Founding member of the Hispanic Caucus 3BP.

**Priority Issues:**

**EDUCATION**

I have, and will continue to, get input from Idaho educators. Why? Because they know what works & what doesn't. My life has shown me the value of a solid education. I want Idaho students to be the best and brightest in the country. I want to: Increase teacher and staff pay. Increase education funding by rededicating the sales tax to education (its original purpose). Make extracurricular activities affordable. Reduce college tuition and costs by 1/2. Increase AP & Dual Enrollment opportunities.

**HEALTHCARE**

We must close the gap to provide coverage to all Idahoans, including disabled veterans & senior citizens. Healthcare should be a right for all despite economic circumstance. Closing the Medicaid gap in Idaho

will bring up to \$700 million in federal funds into the state. Closing the gap is not only the right thing to do for the people of Idaho, it is also the right thing to do for Idaho's budget.

#### TAXES & THE MIDDLE CLASS

Reducing the tax burden on the middle class benefits everyone. Currently the top 10% pays less state taxes than any other bracket. We must fix this. Raising the minimum wage would benefit everyone in Idaho. Increasing the spending power of the low income earners creates more buying power that can be used at local businesses & reduces dependency on government programs.

#### PUBLIC LANDS

Publicly owned lands belong to all of us. We cannot allow the state to take control of our public lands and sell them to the highest bidder. I will oppose any legislation that takes public lands away from the federal land systems and transfers it to the state. Additionally, the state may not have the right to take over public lands because the treaties signed with the tribes of Idaho guarantees that Idaho public lands will be protected forever.