# CHAD McCARTHY REPUBLICAN FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

House District 10 | Osage, Nowata and Washington Counties | Vote Tuesday, June 18th, 2024 | McCarthyForHouse.com | (918) 972-9326





### PAGE 2: The Simple Method for Grading Our Legislator

The important rule-of-thumb that quickly determines if our legislator is voting for the values of the district; or, is in a group a green-button pushers known as "The Lemmings."



## PAGE 3: The Best Method for Grading Our Legislator

A group of dedicated, grassroots Republicans, including the Vice-Chairman of the Oklahoma Republican Party, have provided an amazing service to the citizens of Oklahoma and House District 10 by carefully and conscientiously auditing all approved legislation from the 2023 session. Their findings are absolutely startling: our state rep is voting for Republican principles just 31% of the time.



### PAGE 8: The Plan to Track and Tax Every Mile That We Drive

In 2021, Judd Strom voted to move forward with the Orwellian plan to track every mile that we drive and charge us a tax for them. Now, the proponents of this plan are waiting until after the election to move to the next stage. That's why we must elect Chad McCarthy.

# What Is This Newspaper and Why Is It Important for You To Read It?

Chad McCarthy is providing local voters with an insider's perspective that's rarely exposed outside of the state capitol world.

ast year, a group of hardworking, regular grass-roots Oklahomans, led by the Vice-Chairman of the Republican Party, came together to perform the first-ever comprehensive audit of all approved legislation.

They painstakingly compared it with the principles in the state Republican Party platform.

The audit confirmed what they already suspected: most of our 'Republican' legislators have betrayed us.

This includes our three-term incumbent representative, Judd Strom, who voted in line with Republican principles just 31% of the time.

Chad McCarthy believes these incumbents, including Strom, have been co-opted by the thousands they receive from lobbyists, and they are representing special interests'

values, not the Republican values of House District 10.

After three long terms, it's clear that Judd Strom has had his chance to prove that he understands our dangerous times; but, he's clearly far out of touch, and now, it's time for us to elect someone who won't betray our values.

Chad McCarthy is personally distributing this newspaper to allow you to see and understand Strom's many bad votes and how they impact us.

This paper doesn't just list the bills; it explains why they are so very bad and will give you a unique, insider's insight that's rare outside of the Capitol.

These votes aren't being exposed by the media, and it's so very important for you to learn the truth. Chad McCarthy is asking you to take a few minutes to look over this paper and become educated about what is really going on.

This is probably unlike most any other 'campaign literature' you have ever received before in that it doesn't just contain a few



consultant-polled soundbites, but it really informs you, the reader and voter, of what you really need: substantive, meaningful inside information.

And, if you, like Chad McCarthy, are outraged by this violation of our trust, then he is asking for your vote on June 18th

He will not disappoint you.

Unlike Strom, he won't cast liberal votes, and also unlike Strom, he will NEVER take money from lobbyists or their employers, so you can count on him to stay true to his word to you.

# Chad McCarthy: A True Conservative's Vision for House District 10

Meet Chad McCarthy, the grassroots candidate stepping forward to challenge the threeterm incumbent and restore conservative values to the office of state representative.

Hather to six children, and husband to Heather for twenty-seven years, Chad and his wife are Oklahomans by choice.

Lifelong entrepreneurs and farmers, Chad and Heather lived across Middle America before planting roots in Washington County, Oklahoma. They chose Oklahoma for its conservative, freedom-loving values.

Their weathered farmhouse offers a picturesque view of registered beef cows.

Chad, holds a master's and a Ph.D. and has supported his family as a serial entrepreneur while church planting and pastoring.

He knows firsthand the blood, sweat, and tears that go into building a small business.

Having spent significant time living and volunteering outside the USA, Chad can give personal testimony to the value of constitutional representation and small government.



He has seen firsthand the crushing effects of corruption, liberalism, and socialism.

He has worked in once-prosperous nations whose economies were reduced to abject poverty in just a few short years.

Having walked the streets of cities in ruins and held the hands of impoverished parents barely able to feed their children, Chad can provide example after example of why sound government policy matters.

Standing for freedom requires the tireless pursuit of 'letting the people have a voice.'

An Oklahoman by choice, Chad believes Patrick Henry's clarion call, 'Give me liberty or give me death,' is a challenge we must heed today. If we don't stand for liberty, this liberty will be stripped away.

Historically, this erosion begins slowly, like the slow dripping of water. If left unchecked, this erosion picks up steam like an avalanche. His hope is that his children will experience as adults the same freedoms that made Oklahoma a great place to raise his family.

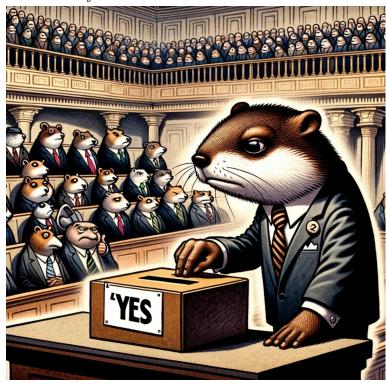
But such freedom comes with a cost. This cost requires everyday Americans to stand firm in the face of government overreach.

The three-term incumbent has repeatedly voted to increase

See McCarthy, Page 2

## The Best Rule of Thumb: How To Find Out if Your Legislator is One of 'The Speaker's Lemmings'

Simple rule of thumb voting test shows Judd Strom voting "Yes" 94% of the time.



understandably who Ldoesn't have time to follow each of the legislator's votes, here is the easiest method for quickly figuring out who the legislator is really working for.

Each year, the House of Representatives approves many bad bills-many of which are written by either the state bureaucracies, which are almost uniformly leftists and authoritarian, or by lobbyists and special interests many of whom are seeking to use the government's power and money to cash out for themselves.

In the following five pages of this publication, the reader will find an amazing, in-depth breakdown of the incumbent state representatives' votes and explanations for how these votes violated the Republican values that the legislator purports to represent.

This audit isn't easily administered.

It's the dedicated work product of hours of research, representing years of experience on the inside and knowledge of how understand the tricks or those who create these new

This type of audit requires reading through hundreds of pages of legislation—something many legislators haven't done, as they have cast their bad votes—and it requires having a developed, keen appreciation for and love of the vision of our nation's founding fathers and the vital importance of limiting government.

But, most busy voters simply don't have the means and methods for accomplishing this type of review, to fight through the talking points and figure out

f you are a busy voter if their lawmaker is being deceptive when he sends out his lobbyist-funded mailers and consultant polled-andtested "conservative" talking points.

> So, here is the absolute easiest, simplest rule of

When Democrats sponsored a bill on the house floor, excluding the votes that he missed, Strom voted for Democrat bills 94% of the time.

thumb for those of us who want to quickly determine if our legislator has been coopted by the system: "How often has he voted no?"

The legislator who rarely votes no is indicative of someone who is not focusing on the bills, perhaps isn't even reading them, is not researching the implications of the proposals, and is not attempting to weed out the bad proposals; but, is instead content to take the word of the lobbyists and the other co-opted legislators and simply vote for just about anything that comes across his desk.

In our case, an analysis of our three-term incumbent Judd Strom's voting record is absolutely indicting: in 2023, out of 1030 floor votes, Strom voted "no" just results in the enactment of 55 times. Strom actually missed far more votes, 86, than he voted no on, 55.

When he did vote, Strom voted "yes" 889 times, or 94% of the time.

This in part explains why the Republican grassroots audit of Strom found that he voted in accordance with Republican principles just 31% of the time.

Bvrepeatedly voting "yes," Strom naturally voted for many of the bad bills that were sponsored by lobbyists and bureaucracies.

This high yes count qualifies Strom for inclusion in a group known as The Speaker's Lemmings.

The lemmings consists of a motley group of tepid, weak and lazy legislators who appear to have delegated their legislative authority to the lobbyists, bureaucrats and the Speaker of the House: i.e., these groups fight out it behind closed doors to decide legislation will which advance; then, if the allpowerful Speaker of the House allows a bill to reach the floor of the house, the lemmings will blindly vote for the bill regardless of whether the bill is a Republican or a Democrat proposal.

To that effect, when Democrats sponsored a bill on the house floor, excluding the votes that he missed, Strom voted for Democrat bills 94% of the time.

The lemmings group is also characterized by their love of the Capitol nightlife.

They often wine and dine with lobbyists and other politicians at night, funded on the lobbyists' dime.

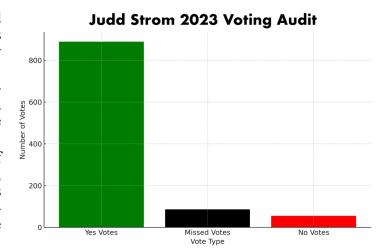
This allows the lobbyists to exert sway over the legislator, and it leaves the legislator much less time for actually reading the bills and knowing what they are voting on the next day.

And, especially at the end of the session, as the legislature has gotten into the habit of shucking bills (another bad habit that Chad Mc-Carthy will work change), there's a narrow window of time for legislators to actually read the legislation that's just been inserted into the shucked

State records show that Strom has attended more than 175 lobbyist-funded events, a sure indicator that he's likely a card-carrying lemming.

This lazy lawmaking many bad laws, and that's why, as the reader reviews the audit on the following pages of this publication, they will see so many shocking votes that are complete betrayals of our Republican values.

It's also why, so many voters have noticed how their legislators actual voting record doesn't match the values the legislator pur-



Pictured: The graph of Judd Strom's 2023 votes. The shocking audit reveals that Strom has missed votes much more frequently than he has voted no. As bills by liberal Democrats, shucked bills with minimal transparency, raising fees, sending government spending out of control, enacting DEI and more have flown off the House floor, Strom voted yes 94% of the time. In the words of one experienced observer, "If the Speaker of the House blew a leaf across Strom's desk, he would probably sign it."

ports to uphold when he is by Strom. back in his conservative district.

For example, on the back page of this publication, the reader will be shocked to learn that Strom has cast multiple votes that are bringing an Orwellian surveillance state to Oklahoma.

This includes the shocking, track and tax, pay-bythe-mile transportation plan that

**State records show that** Judd Strom has attended more than 175 lobbyistfunded events, a sure indicator that he's likely a card-carrying lemming.

would have the government track every mile that you drive and then taxing you for it.

In addition to the privacy implications, this is the environmentalists' statist dream, the ability increase your taxes if you drive too many miles and become "bad for the environment."

We don't know exactly why Strom voted for the plan; perhaps he never read the bill, and blindly voted "yes," or maybe he was under the influence of a special interest group or bureaucracy, whatever the reason, he betrayed our values by supporting a plan that is unquestionably not in the best interest of those he represents.

In contrast to Strom, Chad McCarthy will frequently cast a "No!" vote.

McCarthy will actually read the bills and will be very aware of the dangers that are tucked away in the pages and pages of new law that are routinely approved

And, we won't need to about McCarthy worry voting for liberal Democrat legislation. McCarthy will have the common sense to realize that if a bill is being sponsored by a liberal, it's probably not right for Oklahoma.

Neither will we need to worry about McCarthy being influenced by special interests.

On June 18th, we have the power to turn the tide, to choose a representative who embodies our ideals and vigorously defends our rights—while refusing to partake in even the appearance of conflict of interest.

#### **McCarthy**

Continued from Page 1

spending; voted in favor of hundreds of millions in corporate welfare; has been an advocate for taxing and tracking every mile Oklahomans drive; opposed legislation that ended procedural abortions; opposed legislation seeking address drag shows; and has even opposed getting rid of the punitive state grocery tax.

By contrast, Chad is committed to much smaller government and conservative principles.

By refusing all lobbyist money. Chad will be free to represent you, residents of House District 10.

Together, we can stand firm for principles of individual liberty freedom.

Standing together, we can continue making Oklahoma a frontrunner state in protecting individual rights and freedoms.

## **Scrutinizing Strom: Judd Strom's Votes Audited by Oklahoma** Republicans

Comprehensive audit indicates that Judd Strom votes according to the Oklahoma Republican platform just 31% of the time.

session, a group of Repub-Lican grassroots leaders, led by the Oklahoma Republican Party Vice-Chairman, came together and provided a comprehensive audit of the Legislature's votes in the last session.

These grassroots activists strongly suspected that many of our legislators are deceiving us. They are campaigning as conservatives, but once elected, they come under the influences of special interests and government and are governing as

The group sought to determine the following: Are Republican legislators voting in accordance with the Republican Platform? The group went through the votes and found approximately 100 votes where the right vote, according to the Republican Platform, was clear. They then assigned each lawmaker a point if they voted in accordance with the Platform.

Their audit contained the following shocking fact: Our state representative Judd Strom votes for

fter last year's legislative Republican values—just 31% of the time! You can find their audit at okgrassroots.com. It provided a great service to all Oklahomans and allows us to finally have a comprehensive list of the dangers that the media isn't paying attention to or exposing.

> What follows is a list of the votes from last year's session that starkly illustrate how time and again Judd Strom is egregiously violating our

> Chad McCarthy asks that you, the reader, take a few moments to review this list. It doesn't just list the votes, but it also explains them and why Strom's vote is so crucial.

> As you review this list, you can easily imagine, and understand the difference between McCarthy and Strom. On all of these issues, Mc-Carthy's vote will be the exact opposite of Strom's.

> If you find that you, like Chad, are shocked and saddened by Strom's frequent attacks on our values, then you will be happy with how Chad votes and represents you if he's elected on June 18th.

#### **Infringing on Our Constitutional Processes, Rights and Freedoms**

"In questions of power, let no more be heard of confidence in man, but bind him down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution."

- Thomas Jefferson

requently, the Legislature has **≺** shown a tendency to overlook the boundaries set by both the U.S. and State Constitutions. This oversight by legislators signifies a disregard for the guidelines laid down by the citizenry. Such actions show a lack of respect for the republican process that is foundational to our country's success.

Here, are just a few instances from the 2023 session that illustrate this trend.

#### **Censorship in Disguise? The** Alarming Implications of **Judd Strom's Vote on HB** 2172 Against Medical Free Speech

At first glance, House Bill 2172 appears to protect medical professionals from harassment; however, a true, thoughtful analysis reveals that it's a dangerous attack on free speech.

It creates a new jail sentence of up to six months and could be used to target those who justly criticize medical malpractice and/or the authoritarians who refuse to allow a patient to utilize their treatment of choice, such as the popular Ivermectin or other right-to-try treat-

Here's the problem: the condition for prosecution and conviction is based on the state of mind of the

"victim" and not the actual intent of the speaker In fact, the language is so broad that it could potentially apply to negative Yelp reviews or even social media posts.

These types of new laws could have an intimidating and chilling effect on public discourse.

Even worse, in 2021, Strom supported the shocking HB 1007. It would have created a legal presumption that a statement appearing on a social media posting, attributed to a person, is in fact the statement of that individual.

In other words, when someone impersonates another on social media, the legal system will presume that the statement belongs to the person being impersonated until that person can prove his innocence. This flips the American legal concept of innocent until proven guilty on its head.

With these votes, Judd Strom clearly did not provide the needed thoughtful analysis befitting a state representative who represents our values and who has sworn to defend the Constitution.

Chad McCarthy believes the First Amendment is sacrosanct, and he will always side with the public's right to free speech and their right to seek the medical treatment that they believe is best for themselves.

This is just one example of legislation that might look good at first glance. However, a wise policy maker will realize the true danger of legislation that appears beneficial but will have far-reaching consequences once implemented in the real world, outside of the capitol bubble.

#### **HB 1236: Undermining Citi**zen Speech Protections: In a Frightening New Era of

#### Lawfare on Free Speech, **Judd Strom's Votes To** Weaken the Citizens Participation Act

Judd Strom was among only 36 House members who voted to override Governor Stitt's veto of the House Speaker's contentious alteration to the Oklahoma Citizens Participation Act, also known as the anti-SLAPP statute.

The Institute for Free Speech notes that 34 states, including Oklahoma currently uphold this vital protection for free speech. In 2014, the Oklahoma Legislature approved its version of this law unanimously, including the affirmative vote of the now-Speaker of the House.

This law is crucial in shielding individuals from litigation aimed primarily at suppressing, intimidating, or punishing them for their participation in free speech.

It safeguards ordinary citizens from the legal onslaughts of the affluent and influential who, while unlikely to succeed in court, use litigation to deter average individuals from exercising their speech rights.

Under the existing statute, when a deep-pocked special interests engages in such legal intimidation against someone practicing their free speech, association, or petition rights, the court mandates the affluent litigant to cover the defendant's legal expenses.

This provision prevents innocent individuals, asserting their constitutional rights, from being financially bullied into silence through

Yet, Strom's vote would have stripped the courts of the requirement to award legal damages to these unfairly targeted defendants.

Legislators with a high rate of missing votes can rightly be suspected of using this as a strategy to avoid accountability.

So why did Strom vote this way?

There's reason to believe that this seemingly inexplicable effort to weaken the Citizens Participation Act might have been a favor by the Speaker for a powerful, liberal special interest group from Oklahoma City that had sought to punish speech against COVID lockdowns.

Campaign finance records reveal that the Speaker, a significant political force, has been one of Strom's campaign donors.

This financial connection could shed light on why Strom was one of the mere 36 representatives who sided with the Speaker in attempting to overturn the Governor's

Fortunately, they fell short of the 68 votes required for the override.

#### Making a Joke of Article **Five: Strom's Dubious Dealings with the Tribes**

As the 2023 legislative session wrapped up, Judd Strom signed a document creating a call for an extraordinary session of the Oklahoma Legislature, a practice that was once rare and seen as an admission of legislative inefficiency.

norm now, and a means for influlawmakers to rapidly introduce and pass new bills, outside of the important protocol of the normal session.

The document Strom signed opened a Pandora's box of legislative mischief. The special session included HB 1005X, which Strom supported.

It stripped the Governor of his ability to negotiate better motor vehicle licensing compacts with the tribes.

This bill, not germane to the call of the special session, made a mockery of the state's Article Five Constitutional requirements which require legislation to be related to the call. Despite the Governor's veto, Strom voted for the override and it went into law.

Chad McCarthy, in contrast, advocates for the Legislature to adhere to the traditional standards of transparency and due process in regular sessions and believes there is rarely a good reason for a special session.

Unlike Strom, he will rejecting any funding from special interest groups, including the tribes, emphasizing his dedication to serving only the interests of the people of House District 10. McCarthy's approach aims to restore integrity and trust in the legislative process and to let those of us who live in House District 10 know that their representative works for them, not the special interests.

#### **Corporate Welfare: Giving Away the House** to the Special Interests **Groups**

"No man who depends on special laws for his prosperity was ever a patriot."

¬hough they have historically participated in these abuses, in recent months the Oklahoma Legislature has taken corporate welfare to all new, unprecedented levels. What follows are some examples of recent votes that clearly illustrate the difference between Chad McCarthy, someone who won't take money from the special interests, and who won't support welfare for corporations, and Judd Strom, a politician who has taken many thousands of dollars in contributions and hundreds more in personal gifts.

This is only a sampling of these votes. With limited transparency, and little time for public review, corporate welfare votes now occur with great frequency in today's Legislature, an adequate description of which would become too lengthy to publish here.

#### **Strom Endorses Millions for** The Pro-CCP NBA: An Insult to Our Nation and to **House District 10's Tax**payers Who Will Foot the Bill!

Not just once, but twice (SB 604 and SB 13X), Judd Strom voted to extend the state's substantial, multimillion dollar subsidy to the National Basketball Association's Thunder organization.

The Thunder has become a These sessions have become the leading entertainment choice for the Oklahoma City elite, and the capitol crowd, reminiscent of the Colosseum's role in ancient Rome, and it's the local taxpayers who are bearing the cost.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA 59th Oklahoma Legislature (2023)

MAY 1 6 2023 OKLAHOMA SECRETARY

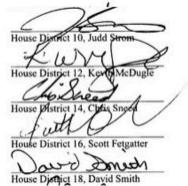
**FILED** 

#### SPECIAL SESSION CALL

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 27A of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma, the Legislature may be called into special session by a written call signed by two-thirds of the members of the Senate and by two-thirds of the members of the House of Representatives. When the call is filed with the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and with the Speaker of the House of Representatives, they must convene a special session; and

#### MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

I, the undersigned Representative, do hereby agree to the purpose of the call described herein for the legislature to convene in special session pursuant to Section 27A of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma



Pictured: The document Judd Strom signed called for a special session. It was this document that opened Pandora's box, forming part of a cunning strategy that largely excluded the Governor from the budget process. This approach allowed the Legislature to 'unconstitutionally' renew tribal compacts.

The Thunder is among the foremost recipients of corporate welfare in Oklahoma, receiving taxpayer funds despite not being in financial need.

During the period of these subsidies, the Thunder's valuation has skyrocketed. Forbes reports the team's value has now exceeded three billion dollars, up from less than one billion when the subsidies were initially allocated by legislators. Despite this, Strom backed another 15 years of hefty subsidies, redirecting millions from us, the taxpayers, to the wealthy team owners.

Chad McCarthy believes it's insulting to suggest that House District 10 residents should subsidize the Oklahoma City sports team.

This is compounded by the pro-CCP NBA's repeatedly sowing of the racial discord that is tearing our nation apart.

And, the fact that all Thunder players knelt during our nation's national anthem. McCarthy argues that Strom, through these votes, has dishonored our nation and the values we hold dear.

#### Strom's Silver Screen Subsidy: Strom Votes for A 166% Spike In Taxpayer-**Funded Giveaway to The Movie Industry**

Every year, Oklahoma allocates millions from taxpayer funds to subsidize film producers who utilize state goods and services.

The rules are remarkably lax; in one program, even Amazon purchases qualify for subsidies because of their distribution center in Oklahoma. Despite this, in 2023, Strom voted for HB 1362, which sought to increase the annual film industry subsidy cap from \$30 million to \$80 million — a jaw-dropping 166%

When this proposal did not succeed, Strom supported HB 2459, aiming for a 50% increase in the base amount of the film subsidy; unfortunately, that bill was approved.

It's a new film subsidy program that Strom initially voted to create in 2021 (SB 608). It was especially notable because what appears to be an unprecedented codification of behind-the-scenes, political dealmaking, this bill actually contained an enacting provision that made the bill's implementation completely dependent on the enactment of a completely non-related second bill.

At a time when the average resident in House District 10 is grappling with the challenges of inflation, it is astonishing that our State Representative is playing these games and is endeavoring to dramatically ramp up subsidies to the film industry.

Chad McCarthy stands against this notion.

He believes that the already prosperous Hollywood industry doesn't need to siphon off taxpayer money.

McCarthy advocates for removing the film industry from government welfare and insists on its financial independence. His stance is clear: he will always oppose such misuse of public funds.

#### **Corporate Welfare on Steroids: Strom Signs off On** Mega-Multi Million Dollar Giveaways To Woke, DEI, **Green Technology Compa-**

As the Joe Biden administration mortgaged our nation's future by wasting billions into unproven "green technologies," Judd Strom and the Oklahoma Legislature has joined in.

In their eagerness to benefit from the 'green revolution,' with the attention span and gravitas of a teenager scrolling on TikTok, they've haphazardly careened from one shucked bill to another, rapidly gutting bills and dumping in multigiveaways with million-dollar sometimes less than 24 hours of public transparency.

scale of these giveaways is unprecedented in the history of our porate welfare. state.

In 2022, Strom voted for HB 4455. In size and scope, its likely the largest corporate welfare giveaway in state history. It allocated a staggering \$698 million to an "unnamed" corporation.

Reporters revealed that this giveaway was intended for the multinational, 'woke' Panasonic corporation to build a green technology factory in Pryor. Worse, its contents were made public at 2:28 PM on April 18th, and The House gave final approval the following morning at 11:43 AM.

This represented an unconscionable breach of public trust and transparency, making a mockery of the Constitution's requirement for three public readings on three separate days.

This bill opened the floodgates for the new era of woke corporate welfare on steroids.

In 2023, Strom doubled down by voting for SB 1177 and SB 1179, allocating \$180 million to Enel North America, another 'woke', DEI-touting corporation Massachusetts; this time to put a green manufacturing plant in Inola.

Once again, history repeated itself as the Legislature rushed the bill, providing only a few days of transparency before its final passage.

Perhaps even more shocking, early in the 2023 session, the House Appropriations Chairman brought SB 1176 to the House floor.

This bill enabled the Germanybased Volkswagen Corporation to potentially claim hundreds of millions of dollars. When a member of the House attempted to raise questions about the bill, the House Appropriations Chairman abruptly cut off all debate.

So out of control, and thin skinned, are those who are giving away millions of our dollars, that they won't even take questions in public or entertain honest debate.

Despite this alarming turn of events, Strom still voted in favor of the bill, dealing a severe blow to the Legislature's decorum, credibility, and any semblance of open debate.

Chad McCarthy knows that in a free market, these 'woke', green corporations should be forced to become self-sufficient without relying on government subsidies. Government funding enables poorly run, DEI-promoting, green corporations to dodge the consequences of their flawed policies, unfairly placing the burden on Oklahoma taxpayers who don't have the power to leverage these same types of benefits for themselves.

These corporations, once they take over our Oklahoma towns, will significantly alter the town's conservative values.

In essence, Oklahoma's leaders are using taxpayer money in ways that undermine the very principles of those taxpayers.

Over time, this could transition Described as a new era of "woke Oklahoma into a purple state and corporate welfare on steroids," the McCarthy is resolute in his opposition to this and all forms of cor-

> Additionally, McCarthy is a strong proponent of public transparency and will insist that legislative proposals undergo a thorough and normal vetting process, including weeks of public scrutiny, before any final decisions are made.

He sees the current legislative tactics, characterized by a lack of focus, poor planning, and rushed public discourse, as destroying the integrity of the legislative process.

When Strom votes for these actions, he's destroying the culture of due process.

For McCarthy, this approach has reduced the legislative process to a farce, and a mockery of serious governance.

He is committed to reinstating trust, common sense, and a mature approach in the Legislature.

#### Strom's Subsidy Saga Continues: Sending Our Taxpayer Dollars on a Training

Judd Strom 's vote for House Bill 2457, would have granted 19 select industry sectors the right to apply for taxpayer-funded reimbursefor employee training ments programs.

These sectors ranged from pharmaceutical companies to public polling firms. Fortunately, the bill, though it cleared the House, was not approved by the Senate.

incident This highlights significant concern: government officials, like Strom, potentially manipulating market dynamics by favoring certain businesses over others.

Such actions can lead to an environment susceptible to corruption, where specific industries are incentivized to re-elect politicians like Strom in order to get this benefit for themselves.

Chad McCarthy believes in the same, level, free market for all. He does not support the corporate welfare bills, frequently supported by Strom, to give a benefit to a politically favored industry or company.

#### The Ongoing Assault on Government Integrity, Transparency and Good Process.

"When the people fear the government, there is tyranny. When the government fears the people, there is liberty."

#### - Thomas Jefferson

ver the course of the last 10 years, the Oklahoma Legislature has unleashed an allout assault on open processes, public transparency, and efficiency in

In his five years in office, Strom has endorsed many of these regressive measures, harking back to days past. The following votes occurred just in the 2023 session alone.

Take Action Projects Legislative Scorecard

#### **Crossing the Line: Strom Supports Political Control** Over Police in HB 1144

With his backing of House Bill 1144, Strom voted to place a police officer under the control of the Speaker of the House.

Entrusting politicians with direct oversight of law enforcement personnel is a troubling policy. It risks replicating the same kinds of abuses seen in other political arenas, as exemplified by incidents involving former U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and the Capitol Police. Such a policy blurs the essential distinction between political functions and law enforcement, creating a potential for conflict of interest and misuse of authority.

#### **Reversing Reforms: Strom's Loopholes and His Role in Fleet Management Setbacks**

When the Republicans gained control of the House in 2005, they encountered a disorganized and expensive state fleet management

They set about reforming the system. As a rule, state fleet cars should be centrally managed to avoid unnecessary redundancy and bureaucratic empire-building, and nearly all state cars should be marked.

Regrettably, Strom and other legislators have seemingly lost sight of these crucial reforms.

In 2023, Strom supported House Bill 2253, introducing a loophole for allowing unmarked cars used by the new Attorney General and his department.

This wasn't Strom first fleet management loophole; in 2021, with his vote on Senate Bill 76, he voted to exempt the entire state military department from the fleet management program—a program, that amongst many other important safeguards, identifies the underutilized vehicles that are costing the taxpayer through lack of use.

Strom's loopholes represent a step back to a pre-reform time of waste and chaos thus underscoring the need for new legislators ready to confront overreaching bureaucrats and close gaps in fleet management protocols.

#### **Unchecked Authority: Strom's Votes Pave Way for** "Imperial Speakership"

Strom's vote for HB 2696 illustrates a concerning trend of transferring power from the collective decision-making of the House of Representatives to the singular authority of the House Speaker.

This bill, which he supported, enabled the Speaker to autonomously direct state audits, a responsibility that traditionally lies with the entire House via resolutions.

This shift not only consolidates power but also reduces accountability and transparency by bypassing the need for a collective decision of the House through a recorded vote on a resolution, by which the public can hold the legislator accountable if the power of the

auditor is misused.

Strom's effort to concentrate power is a trend.

In 2021, as the political landscape shifted with Jim Inhofe's potential departure from the U.S. Senate, Strom's voted for HB 2173.

The bill would have empowered the Speaker with the extraordinary authority to nominate a senatorial replacement, a significant deviation from established norms and a tremendous amount of power for someone who is elected by less than 1/100th of the electorate to have. Although the Senate halted its progression, Strom's support helped it narrowly pass in the House.

Another instance of Strom's alignment with power consolidation occurred with his vote for HR 1001 on January 5th, 2021.

This change in House Rules granted the Speaker's appointees the unilateral power to enter amendments to strike the title and enacting clause of a bill; these are required to be part of the bill if the bill is to remain Constitutionally compliant.

Such a concentration of power completely undermines the legislative process, making House members increasingly subservient to the powerful Speaker and his lieutenants.

Echoing Lord Acton's observation, "Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts solutely," these examples highlight a dangerous pattern of power centralization in the Legislature. Inside sources describe this as evolving into an 'Imperial Speakership,' fostering a dark culture of fear and conformity, detrimental to independent thought and innovation, while bolstering the influence of state bureaucrats and special interests that are aligned with the Speaker—at the expense of the run-of-the-mill legislator who, though elected by the people, if he doesn't toe the line, can be put on ice and marginalized.

#### SB 677: Judd Strom Doesn't Think You Deserve to Know the Address of Those Who **Want Your Vote**

This bill, supported by Strom, prohibits the public from knowing the address a candidate lists on his declaration of candidacy form. It's yet another arrogant move by an elite class of politicians who seem to think they can keep their addresses secret from those they are trying to represent.

In 2021, Strom voted against a proposal that would have required candidates to disclose how long they had been part of the political party they purport to represent. That transparency proposal was defeated and now, with the passage of SB 677, the voters now have even less transparency over candidates than before.

#### Strom's Sunset Law Sidestep: A Blow to Bureaucratic Accountability

Before Judd Strom became a State Representative, former Oklahoma Labor Commissioner and conservative grassroots leader, Mark Costello, thoroughly investigated and exposed the shocking inefLAW & PRINCIPLES

#### OKLAHOMA DEMOCRATS PRAISE REPUBLICANS' VETO **OVERRIDE**

About Articles Events

Ray Carter | June 12, 2023



The Oklahoma House of Representatives has voted to override Gov. Kevin Stitt's veto of legislation that would automatically renew existing state-tribal compacts that provide special breaks on the cost of car tags to Oklahomans based, to a large degree, on the owner's race

House Bill 1005X would automatically renew any state-tribal compact regarding moto rehicle licensing or registration and license tags, preventing the governor from renegoti the compacts to address concerns about fairness by applying fees equally to all similarly

Stitt vetoed HB 1005X, saving the agreements should be renegotiated.

"In clear violation of Oklahoma's fundamental and statutory law. Enrolled House Bill 1005X purports to extend a single motor vehicle licensing compact without any regard for whether the decade old compact is a fair deal for the State moving forward," Stitt wrote in his veto

Pictured: Headlines from the OCPA take note of the Democrats joy at Judd Strom's successful override of Governor's veto of an 'unconstitutional' extension of tribal compacts—without negotiation. Democrats have routinely joined with Strom on many of his veto override votes.

OCPA's spokesperson stated: "With today's vote, it is now clear that the number-one issue for voters to consider when they cast ballots next year will be whether a candidate supports having a state with one set of rules for all Oklahomans, or a state where different rules apply based on a citizen's heritage and physical location."

ficiencies of the Construction employment system. Industries Board.

Now, Strom and his crew have voted for HB 2556, to completely exempt this agency from the state's critical Sunset Law.

Sunset Laws are vital as they require the Legislature to reassess an agency's existence periodically; without renewal, an agency ceases to exist, ensuring bureaucratic accountability. However, Strom and the Construction Industries Board circumvented this accountability by removing the board from the law's scope.

This is a shocking and significant abdication of legislative responsibility, undermining legislative efforts to hold bureaucracies accountable.

It also sets a precedent that could embolden other agencies to attempt similar exclusions.

This bill only passed the House by two votes.

Had Strom and one other representative changed their vote, it would have been defeated.

Chad McCarthy, upholding a core tenet of Republican policy-making, is committed to maintaining bureaucratic accountability. If elected on June 18th, he plans to sponsor legislation to reinstate the board under the Sunset Law and reassert legislative oversight over the bureaucracy.

#### HB 2854: Backtracking on **Progress: Strom's Effort to Undo Republican Retire**ment Reforms

A few years ago, Republican legislators in Oklahoma transitioned the largest state employee retirement plan from an antiquated defined benefit system to a modern defined contribution plan, aligning with free-market standards.

However, in 2023, Strom, alongside many current House members, surprisingly sought to revert this crucial change.

Their attempt ultimately failed, but it revealed Strom's inclination towards outdated, fiscal, "golden cage" strategies that trap state workers into a socialist-type

This move by Strom and the radical leftist ideologues in the House was rightly seen by fiscal conservatives as a shocking step back, potentially endangering the state's financial stability—and a policy reversal that would have been unimaginable by Republicans just a few short years ago.

#### **Higher Education's Leg**islative Privilege: Strom's **Vote Shields Higher Ed from Key Government Land Ownership Law**

Strom voted for SB 316, exempting Oklahoma's Higher Education institutions from having to follow the important Oklahoma State Government Asset Reduction and Cost Savings Program law.

This important law seeks to prevent the government from buying and owning land that it does not need. There's simply no justification for giving Higher Ed a pass, while still applying this law to the rest of government; however, capitol insiders know the truth: Higher Education carries a lot of influence in the Legislature and that influence allows them to get special treatment

Chad McCarthy won't be swayed by this treatment. He won't take items of value from the Higher Ed lobbyists and, unlike Strom, he will hold his own and say "No!" whenever Higher Ed tries to get legislation like this approved.

McCarthy will represent the people; not government stitutions!

#### **Secret Voter Class: Strom's** Vote and the Threat to **Election Transparency**

Strom's vote for SB 418 continues the disturbing trend of creating a new "secret class" of voters, in this case election board officials, whose addresses are withheld from the public purview of voter registration

If this trend continues, as it inevitably it will, it will complicate general citizen efforts to audit and analyze Oklahoma's election data

and will build distrust in the integrity of the state's elections.

Strom clearly hasn't learned the lessons of the 2020 elections cycle: a lack of transparency rightly causes the public to distrust the system.

#### Ignoring Reagan's Warning: Strom Backs Growth of State Bureaucracy

In the past, legislative Republicans worked to reduce state government bureaucracies.

However, this commitment seems to have faded with legislators like Strom, who clearly lack a definitive strategy to downsize the administrative state. Instead of focusing on minimizing government size, there's an evident shift towards expansion without a clear vision for reduction.

Illustrating this trend, Strom backed SB 622, establishing a new bureaucratic entity, Service Oklahoma, as an independent agency rather than maintaining it within the state's central services agency. This move signifies yet another layer added to the state government's bureaucratic structure.

Strom would have done well to pay attention to the wisdom of President Reagan who said: "Government programs, once launched, never disappear. Actually, a government bureau is the nearest thing to eternal life we'll ever see on this earth."

Strom's approval of new government entities extends beyond SB 622.

His 2023 government-growing votes also include forming the 25-person Semi Quicentennial Commission (HB 1776), estimated to cost \$1.2 million, and the Floor Drought Management Task Force (HB 2293), lacking a sunset date and with functions overlapping those of existing entities.

## **Creating New Regulations**

"The government solution to a problem is usually as bad as the problem."

#### - Milton Friedman

Straying far, far from the Republican mantra of, "the government that governs the least, governs the best," Strom routinely supports new government regulations, often times on mom and pop or solopreneurs who are just trying to make a living.

Examples from 2023 include HB 1079 where Strom tried to requiring delivery services to enter into a legal agreement before being allowed to run pick ups or else risk a fine from The Corporation Commission.

Another example includes HB 2010, requiring boaters to affix a carbon monoxide sticker to their boat—or be guilty of a misdemeanor.

And, Strom supported HB 2852, which, if enacted, would have created seven new pages of new law regulating fuel suppliers, a new felony of up to five years and up to 25K in new fines.

It was approved in the House but did not go beyond that point. So, notwithstanding Strom's support, it will not be going into law.

By contrast, Chad McCarthy believes there are already too many laws and he will oppose these types of new intrusions.

#### Giving The Green Light to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

#### – John Adams

ost Oklahoma legislators know that they must publicly oppose the woke, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) standards that are destroying our nation.

Many even campaign against it. But while doing this, many legislators, including Judd Strom, are quietly approving legislation that ties Oklahoma's laws to national DEI standards.

These are especially dangerous laws. Because they adopt DEI 'by reference,' it's difficult for the casual reader to understand what the proposal is really doing since they don't openly declare the tie to DEI.

As State Representative, Chad McCarthy will carefully study the bills; he's determined that he won't be tricked into voting for nationalizing woke standards, no matter how tricky the legislation.

#### Woke Under the Radar: Judd Strom's Stealthy Support for DEI

In 2023, Strom voted for HB 1386; this bill requires Oklahoma's Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) organization to abide by national standards.

These standards include a prominent DEI component, acknowledging the existence of 'implicit bias.' If Strom gets his way, it means court-appointed advocates must potentially account for the destructive, fictional 'implicit bias' theology when making child welfare decisions.

As woke politics continue to infiltrate the social worker space, Strom is pouring gas on the fire.

Strom didn't stop there.

He also voted for HB 2723, sponsored by one of the Legislature's liberal Democrats.

HB 2723 locked Oklahoma into the Interstate Licensed Professional Counselors Compact.

This monstrous bill's 42 pages of new law gave a national association the right to create rules affecting Oklahoma's counselors.

Documentation already shows the national organization requiring 'Social and Cultural Diversity' education, and ex-officio board membership includes the American Counseling Association (ACA), who have committed more than one million dollars of funding towards the group and are publishers of 'Pronouns 101.'

This publication declares, 'You can also make a point to share your

## THE OKLAHOMAN

EDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023 | OKLAHOMAN.COM

ART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Lawmakers advance nearly \$13 billion budget, largest in Oklahoma history



The Senate appropriations and budget committee meets Tuesday at the Oklahoma Capitol.

DOUG HOKE/THE OKLAHOMAN

Dale Denwalt
The Oklahoman
USA TODAY NETWORK

Oklahoma's largest-ever state budget, representing nearly \$13 billion in appropriations, has advanced from committee in the final week of the 2023 legislative session

The agreement between legislative leaders includes nearly \$4 billion for the Oklahoma State Department of Education, a 24.8% increase over last years appropriation. It also includes increases for higher education and CareerTech in-

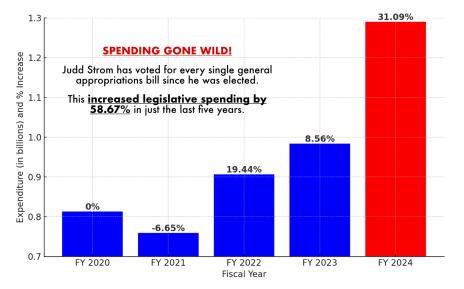
stitutions.

The budget bill increases spending at the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, which manages the state's Medicaid program, by more than 18%.

Half a billion dollars will be earmarked for immediate and future renovation of state buildings through the newly created Legacy Capital Financing Act. The purpose of the act is to let agencies avoid having to secure outside financing for construction projects.

Instead, agencies would seel

See BUDGET, Page 2A



pronouns publicly in places like PICTURED, top and right:
Headlines from The Oklahoman and U.S. News provide some insight into the historic spending approved by Judd Strom without the Governor's consent or approval.
PICTURED, middle: a graph showing legislative spending over the past five years of Judd Strom's term. Strom has voted 'Yes' on all the general appropriations bills, which have increased legislative

spending by 58.67%. your email signature, video conference name, social media profiles, name tags, or wherever else you see fit.'

One can easily imagine the nottoo-distant future where Oklahoma counselors are forced by the national organization's standards to declare and recognize their and their clients' pronouns as part of standard business practices, or face discipline or loss of licensure.

It gets worse, in 2021, in a committee vote, Strom voted for HB 1835.

That bill, sponsored by a liberal Democrat, would have allowed the state to strip the license of those who were not following the ACA's standards.

Those standards require the promotion of "social justice". Essentially, had Strom had his way, Oklahoma licensees would have likely had to choose between promoting social justice or giving up their jobs.

Fortunately, after this issue was exposed by Dr. Everett Piper, a grassroots movement emerged and even though Strom and the committee had approved the bill, it became toxic and didn't go any further.

#### SB 36X: As Ryan Walters Declares War on Woke, the Legislature and Judd Strom Declared War on Walters.

With this bill, a coalition of liberal Republicans and Democrats boxed Walters into his predecessor, DemoGOP-Led Oklahoma Legislatur...

GOP-Led Oklahoma Legislature Agrees on Largest-Ever Budget With Little Input From Governor

Q 🚇

**USNews** 

Republican leaders in Oklahoma unveiled the largestever budget proposal this week, although it's not clear the governor will support the plan

crat Joy Hofmeister's budget.

It required Walters to implement Hofmeister's big-spending, wasteful federal money spending plan from the Biden education department.

It's quite ironic that a "Republican" legislature would tie a Republican officeholder to the federal grant policies of his Democratic predecessor.

This includes a federal grant that requires the development of a mental health app, which could easily be used by woke government employees to push students into the destructive confines of genderswitch affirmation care.

#### Joining in on Out-Of-Control Government Spending

"Nothing is easier than the expenditure of public money. It does not appear to belong to anybody.

The temptation is overwhelming to bestow it on somebody."

- Calvin Coolidge

f there's anything that best defines Judd Strom and the legis-Lators over the past years, it's their propensity for uncontrolled, completely unchecked, out-of-control spending.

#### **Strom's Spending Surge: A** Path to Oklahoma's Fiscal **Precipice**

Strom has voted for every general appropriations bill since his election five years ago.

In those five years, those bills have increased spending from \$8.1 billion to \$12.9 billion; in other words, in his time in office, Strom has grown legislative spending by 58.67%.

In 2023, Strom supported House Bill 1004X, the largest of the large spending bills; it's an eye-popping general appropriations bill with a 31.09% increase in spending. The spending was too much for the Governor, who refused to sign it, meaning it went into law without his signature.

He said: "Through House Bill 1004X, the Legislature has spent 12.96 billion dollars in taxpayer money. The problem is that the Legislature has relied upon one-time revenue to support recurring expenditures that exceed recurring revenues by roughly \$220 million. They have also drawn down the state's savings from about \$6.2 billion to \$4.2 billion. Because this approach is neither sustainable nor fiscally wise, I have not signed House Bill 1004X. Nevertheless, subject to objections to the unique process by which the bill made its way to my desk, the bill will become law without my signature."

Those unique circumstances involved the Legislature taking the procedurally tricky step of calling a new, special session, a document which Strom signed, so that the Legislature could override the Governor's veto.

Essentially, this excluded the fiscally conservative Governor from the budget process, and allowed Strom and the Legislature to completely indulge in their extravagance, completely unchecked by a sober presence.

Just a few month's later, in January of 2024, Stitt's warning proved prescient when in a special presentation to the Legislature, the Legislative Office of Financial Transparency and Moody's Analytics Team presented a report stating: "For anything more than a mild downturn, the State would not be positioned to offset much of the impact with its current reserves.

All of this spending is setting up the state for fiscal disaster. The effects of the free COVID money and loose monetary policy are finally ending, and increased state revenue inflows have stagnated, but Strom's spending commitments remain and will be on the books for-

Strom's years of budget insanity now dangle over the state like a literal sword of Damocles, and if history is a guide, the legislators are likely to return to the days of 2018 when they enacted massive tax hikes to make up for their previous years of creating recurring expenses funded with income from one-time revenues.

Strom's spending spree hasn't been limited to just the general appropriations bills.

Time and again, when a new bigspending bill rolls out, those behind the new spending can count on Strom's support.

Examples from just 2023 alone include:

#### HB 1030X: A government program to "leverage private capital" for startups.

This type of government-controlled investment in the private sector is picking the winners and losers of the free market and creates a completely inappropriate, statemanaged economy. It would be funded by 13.75 million dollars of our taxpayer dollars from the GA bill.

#### HB 1031X: A new government program for channeling massive funds to low-to-no interest homebuilding loans.

As average Oklahomans struggle with Bidenflation, this bill aims to dump another 109 million dollars of taxpayer funds into a governmentmanaged spending program with all of the inherent consequences and inefficiencies of a government-led spending effort.

#### HB 2860: Creates a large pay raise for statewide elected offi-

This bill serves as a striking example of the astonishingly tone-deaf nature of this year's legislative session and Republican legislative leaders at large. In the midst of rampant Bidenflation, which is mercilessly squeezing the wallets of hardworking taxpayers, the Legislature has the audacity to push for substantial pay raises for statewide officials.

With a fiscal impact of nearly a half million per year, it's simply inexcusable.

#### HB 2931: Dumps another 10 Council's account, to "address the negative economic impacts of the pandemic."

It's a case-in-point demonstration of how government has abused the COVID spending for things that are clearly not health policy-related.

SB 28X: 48 million dollars to Higher-Ed for faculty pay raises. As many Oklahoma Higher-Ed institutions continue to destroy our future generations with the toxic poison of DEI, Strom has seen to it that they will be compensated richly—and we will all pay for it.

#### SB 31X: 18 million dollars to the Pop Culture Museum in Tulsa.

Another example of how Strom makes us all pay for a targeted earmark that's likely some group or politician's pet project.

#### **Raising Fees on The Common Man**

"The problem is not that people are taxed too little, the problem is that government spends too much."

#### Ronald Reagan

f Storm's penchant for spending new money is matched by any Lother, his frequent it's predilection for signing off on new fee increases.

In a year when state government increased allocations by more than 30%, not a one of these fee increases were necessary.

Government had plenty of money to somehow cover any needed ex-

Examples of Strom's 2023 fee increase and new tax request authorization votes include:

#### HB 1460: This removes the cap on the per-bushel rate charged by the Wheat Association.

Until now, they were capped at 2 cents per bushel. This bill didn't just raise the cap: it completely eliminated it!

#### HB 1590: This creates a 66% increase in the 911 fee increase paid by cell phone.

increased as recently as 2017.

One estimate suggests the total cost of the newest increase could be 30 million dollars per year on the taxpayers as they attempt to pay their cellphone bills; it even applies new fees to landline phones.

In a year when the State Legislature increased spending by three billion dollars, it's hard to imagine that they would also increase our cell phone's 911 fee by 66%.

This the perfect case-in-point case that illustrates the uncontrollable greed of government; greed that's made possible by Strom's vote of support.

Ironically, the fee increase could have an unintended effect. State cell government owns many

For example, the Department of Public Safety has 2,010 cell phones. This means, the Department will have to pay \$12,060.00 in new fees—to the government.

This is the type of absurdity that's occurring in Judd Strom's wacky world of increased fees and unconmillion dollars into the Art trolled spending: government raising fees, to itself.

#### HB 2173: The state currently assess a fee on every 100 pounds of raw Grade A milk produced in Oklahoma.

This bill directed the Department of Agriculture to double that fee. Fortunately, as of the time of this publication, and notwithstanding Strom's support, it hasn't been approved by the Senate.

#### HB 1967: This creates vet another new potential sales tax authorization.

Strom voted to allow for a 1% sales tax for EMSs. All across the state, sales tax levies continue to rise and The Legislature, over the years, has authorized new sales tax

This has a compounding effect and in some communities sales tax rates now approach or exceed 10%

with absolutely no sign of slowing.

It's not Strom's first vote for new tax authorizations.

In 2022, Strom voted for HB 2046. It authorized some Higher Education entities to try to establish new property tax districts; thus, potentially putting some of the state's Higher Education entities into the property tax business.

This bad policy was vetoed by the Governor. Strom voted to override the veto.

In 2020, Strom voted for HB 2046; it authorized government to seek up to 5 new mills of property taxes for a public safety district—a clear attempt to shift municipal operational expenses to ad valorem, which has always been prohibited by Oklahoma law. That bill failed. But, that didn't stop Strom: In 2021, he voted for SB 838 to create these same tax districts. That bill won approval, and now there's a risk that property taxes will increase to pay for operational expenses.

#### HB 2141: This bill attempted to increase 30 different fees on the barbering and cosmetology industry.

After Strom and the House approved it, it was exposed in the Senate where it was overwhelming The fee had already been defeated, only receiving the votes of 12 Senators.

#### **HB 1955: Refusing to Give** The Common Man a Break

Even though he was raising fees, giving away millions to the state's affluent special interests via corporate welfare and putting government spending on steroids, Strom couldn't bring himself to give the average taxpayer a break.

When he was presented with House Bill 1955, a bill that would have eliminated the state's portion of sales taxes on groceries, Strom was just one of only seven representatives to vote against it.

The bill later got caught up in legislative politics and Strom got his way: no break for the common man.

This bill actually had a positive impact on state spending in that it would have saved the Tax Commission nearly \$100,000 because they wouldn't need to collect the tax any

#### It's Time for a Change

"A vote is like a rifle: its usefulness depends upon the character of the user."

#### - Theodore Roosevelt

Upon reviewing this audit, it's clear that Strom is not only failing to stand strong against the leftist forces attacking everything we value, but he is also actively supporting those forces in their efforts to forever change our nation.

Considering that the above votes are from the 2023 session, one can only begin to imagine the damage Strom has done to our state and its future during his five years of repeatedly voting against our values.

We can't allow this to continue. As Strom seeks re-election for a total of eight years in office, we must end the insanity.

We must make a change. That change will occur by voting for Chad McCarthy on June 18th.

# Oklahoma Republican Legislators Approving the Surveillance State

'Red' Oklahoma with it's easily influenced legislators and opaque legislative process presents leftist special interests and dark money groups with an especially tantalizing target.

Oklahoma's 'Republican' Legislature has been signing off on some unthinkable surveillance state

They range from creating the pilot program for an Orwellian pay-by-the-mile, track-and-tax road 'user fee,' to the centralization of our medical records.

Many would have assumed these measures couldn't happen in 'red' Oklahoma; but in the fight to save our nation! here's the problem:

Oklahoma's legislators have

ver the past few years, proven to be extremely susceptible to money and special interest influence. This makes them some of the most inviting targets in the nation because if leftist groups can flex their money muscle and win policy approvals in Oklahoma, they can then go to other states and say, 'See, red Oklahoma has done this, so it is acceptable to do it here as well.'

This puts us at ground zero

There's really only one solution to this danger:

Elect principled representa-

1. demonstrate an understanding of what is at stake,

and 2. who will refuse to accept money from lobbyists or the groups that hire the lobbyists—a move which inoculates them from much of the influence of leftist special interest

Chad McCarthy will refuse this money, and he will always vote against the surveillance state. At a time when our liberties are in such danger, we can't take a risk. We can't continue with the status quo, and on June 18th, we must vote for change.

Debate on proposed pay-per-mile tax: a threat to privacy, says Oklahoma rep.

new pay-per-mile tax proposal as Representative Tom Gann files House Bill 2970 to halt any future advancement of the Road User

**Pictured: Recent headlines** 

from News 8 Tulsa regard-

resentative Tom Gann and

his work to stop track-and-

tax before they can move to

ing on Oklahoma Rep-

the next stage of imple-

The state wants the next

stage to go into effect in

2025, after the election

when Judd Strom, if re-

vote for the program.

elected, could once again

lecting the travel data of Okla-

June 7, 2022: An Oregon leg-

islative committee approves

making Oregon's tax-by-the-

Like Oklahoma, Oregon's

mentation.

homa motorists.

Oklahoma's controversial track-and-tax program is on the ballot on June 18th, Judd Strom has voted to support it, Chad McCarthy will fight it.

rn 2021, with Judd Strom's vote, the **▲**Oklahoma Legislature created a new government task force and transportation program.

Their House Bill 1712 empowered a task force to move forward with a pilot program to track and tax participants for every mile driven on Oklahoma roads. This program envisioned the use of many different Orwellian tracking technologies to track motorists.

Those who read the bill, and were paying attention, immediately knew the absolutely terrifying new Pandora's box of horrific possibilities this opened

As President Reagan said, "The nearest thing to eternal life we will ever see on this earth is a government program," and once the state bureaucracy was allowed to get behind this program and move it forward, it would be very hard to put the brakes on and shut it back down.

One can now easily imagine the not-too-distant future when government trackers determine that you are driving too much and need to pay a higher permile tax if you wish to continue driving because you are "hurting the environment."

And those in the know could look to the State of Oregon, where they created have since started advancing legislation to make participation program mandatory.

After Judd Strom voted to open Pandora's box and create the new government program, the task force enthusiastically took to the work of hiring a woke, outof-state firm to conduct the pilot.

As expected, their final report contained glowing descriptions about the possibilities of the trackand-tax and encouraged the state to take the program to the next stage: voluntary participation by the general population.

But here's the tricky part: they are waiting until after the election before spon-



Pictured: A DPS contractor on the side of the Interstate conducting automated surveillance. If track-and-tax goes into law, similar technologies will likely be used against Oklahoma motorists.

soring the legislation to move to the next stage. which means that if Judd Strom is re-elected, he can again vote for the program and hope that the voters forget before another election rolls around.

This is why your vote is so important and why you could make a big difference. There are just a few races on the ballot on June 18th.

This means there will probably be a low turnout, and your vote, along with the votes of your family and friends, could make the difference.

McCarthy's win over Strom will be seen as a voter rejection of trackand-tax.

Other legislators may see this as a turning of the tide and upon seeing Strom's defeat, they are likely to flip-flop.

This will place McCarthy in a powerful position to debate against and defeat a similar pilot initiative but the proposal when it comes before the Legislature in

> "Those who have studied history know this will end badly," explains McCarthy. "It's easy to imagine, at the end of the day, when carried out to its fullest extent, only the affluent will be able to afford to travel as this becomes a leftist, Agenda 2030 tool for forcing rural residents into the cities where they will be forced to use mass transit next to a homeless person who is on a fentanyl high—all in the name of 'saving' the environment.

We have to end this insanity now. With your help, we can prove Orwell wrong and keep 2025 from becoming 1984."

#### **Moving Quickly:** Oklahoma **Transportation** Officials Moving **Full Speed Ahead** with the Track-and-Tax Road User Fee

The timeline of recent events as Oklahoma rapidly enacts the first steps for transitioning to the pay-bythe-mile track and tax plan.

November, 2020: Oklahoma motorists take notice of a mobile enforcement trailer working I-35.

It's believed to be working for the Department of Public Safety. It conducts test scans of motorists from the side of the interstate.

In the future, it's this scanning technology that's likely to be used to track our travel and charge per-mile

March 26, 2021: Fox News host Laura Ingraham tweets her response to comments from Biden Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg's CNBC inter-

In that interview Buttigieg stated that a new "miles travelled" tax "shows a lot of promise." In her response, Ingraham points out how this tax will hurt the poor and middle class.

April 27, 2021: Judd Strom and The Oklahoma House of Representatives give their approval to House Bill 1712. The bill creates a new state government entity called the Road User Charge Task Force and authorizes it to enact Oklahoma's pilot program for collecting travel data and charging motorists a tax for every mile traveled.

**November 15, 2021**: Joe Biden signs his \$1.2 trillion dollar infrastructure plan. Section 13002 of the plan sets aside federal funding for the new tax-by-the-mile program and gives Buttigieg authority to establish a per-mile fee.

March 3, 2022: Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) purchasing documents show that ODOT has applied for federal money and will make use of bluetooth readers and automated license plate scanners to collect motorists' data.

The documents also demonstrate that the Department is hiring a consultant to evaluate "best practices for gaining public acceptance" for the program through "tailoring different messaging to different demographics."

Put simply, the state will use our own hard earned money we pay in taxes to manipulate us into giving in and accepting the new tax-by-the-mile, trackand-tax surveillance proposal.

March 28, 2022: The *Road* User Charge Task Force officially authorizes ODOT officials to enter into negotiations with a large, out-of-state firm to oversee the program.

A review of that firm's social media accounts show that it is a woke firm with numerous race and gender-based post-

Our state officials are literally putting an out-of-state, woke organization in charge of col-

track-and-tax originally started as a pilot program. December, 2023: The Okla-

mile plan mandatory.

homa Task Force calls on the Legislature to take the Oklahoma program to the next level but wants to wait until 2025, AFTER the elections are over.

#### **Government Digital Currency Proposal Approved by House** Committee

ast year, Tucker Carlson interviewed South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem.

She described how she had just vetoed a bill that would pave the way for a federal

government-controlled central digital currency, with all of its inherent and far reaching Orwellian implications.

grassroots researcher to check Oklahoma's legislation.

He discovered that the powerful Speaker of the Oklahoma House had already won committee approval for the

The word started to get out, enact the surveillance state in Oklahoma.

## same legislation, House Bill

and the bill hasn't moved since. That interview inspired a But, this shows the absolute necessity of us always electing individuals like Chad Mc-Carthy who will be vigilant in watching for and getting the word out about the efforts to