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Idaho House Republican Caucus Sets the Record Straight Against Former Treasurer's Allegations

BOISE, Idaho – The Idaho House of Representatives Republican Caucus is setting the record straight after former Treasurer Ron Crane made allegations against the legislative body this weekend, falsely stating that the legislature doctored documents regarding an expansion of House offices.

“We were shocked to see these allegations in the paper this weekend, they are absolutely ridiculous. We have all the original documents from his budget request of more than \$3.5 million to the House of Representatives and the Idaho Division of Financial Management (DFM). The numbers are there but it appears that when the budget was transferred to the Legislative Services Office their template was used, and Ron’s opinions were shortened, his intent was never altered nor was his financial request,” said Speaker Scott Bedke.

The Idaho House Caucus has never said that Crane supported the move, and his hesitation is clearly on the record in all the LSO documents. The House Caucus has been transparent in providing details of an understanding that took place more than a decade ago.

In 2008 during the Capitol renovation and restoration, legislative leadership at the time and former Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter struck a deal to eliminate the expense of adding a second level in the underground wings, reducing its

request of a needed 50,000 square feet of space down to 25,000 square feet. The negotiated compromise gave the Executive Branch control of the entire second floor and ceded the first, third, fourth and the garden level to the Legislative Branch.

Even though the statute was changed, House leadership allowed former Treasurer Crane the opportunity to continue to remain in his office on the first floor on a temporary basis or until his retirement.

Currently the Attorney General and Secretary of State hold ceremonial offices in the Capitol but much of their staff are in other state buildings. The Controller has completely relocated, as has the Idaho Supreme Court

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