

## Press Release – Common Ground



*From*

### **COMMON GROUND – UNITED WE STAND**

#### **For Immediate Release**

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### **LAUNCHING COMMON GROUND – UNITED WE STAND: A COALITION OF CURRENT AND FORMER STATE LEGISLATORS FOCUSED ON COUNTERING EXTREMISM**

**Kimberly, Idaho:** Oregon State Representative Charlie Conrad (HD12) and Idaho State Representative Chenele Dixon (HD24) have launched *Common Ground – United We Stand*, a coalition of current and former state legislators, organizations, and citizens united in countering the actions of extremists who are weakening our democracy and creating divisions between Americans.

This grassroots effort fills a void in the public discourse with the pivotal and powerful voice of state legislators who are a key link between people and the public policy process. The political dysfunction caused by the actions of extremists negatively impacts the ability for governing legislators to work to improve people’s lives. *Common Ground* is non-partisan and policy agnostic, our focus is on encouraging elected officials to engage in compromise, collaboration, and cooperation to the benefit of their constituents. In short, people and country come before partisan politics. Ultimately it is up to the voters, so our work includes collaborating and supporting organizations focused on voter advocacy and education.

Rep. Chenele Dixon: *“I believe toxicity in our society is threatening our Republic and unless people re-learn how to have conversations, collaborate, and cooperate with one another, we are not going to make it as a society. I believe people have more that unites us than divides us and*

*we must find that common ground. I am committed to helping us have healthy dialogue, even with those with whom we may not agree, to find common ground and to move us forward as a country.”*

*Rep. Charlie Conrad: “One of the key reasons I ran in 2022 is because I wanted to moderate the hateful rhetoric and to be a reasoned, pragmatic voice focused on representing people. The recent primary results throughout Oregon and the actions extremists are taking in other states energized me to work with Chenele to counter them and do what I can to return government to the people. I am proud to be part of this unified effort. People are fed up with extremists and the dysfunction, now is the time to act. With support from voters, state legislators can be the buffer between extremists and a functioning government. Together we can focus on the conversations that matter, not personal attacks, lies, and mis/disinformation.”*