

## FOR RELEASE FEBRUARY 16, 2022, 3PM MST Boise Teacher Soñia Galaviz Declares Candidacy for Idaho House of Representatives

Boise, Idaho, February 16, 2022--- Decorated veteran teacher and public education advocate Dr. Soñia Galaviz announced today she is entering the race for the Idaho House of Representatives, District 16 Seat A. She filed paperwork with the Secretary of State appointing her campaign treasurer, former Boise School District Superintendent Dr. Don Coberly.

Drawing on a record of distinguished service, including nearly 20 years as a classroom teacher with a specialty in STEM education, Galaviz says her primary focus as a legislator will be Idaho's children and defending the strong, statewide, public education system enshrined in Idaho's Constitution.

"My entire life is a testament to the transformative power of public education, and I am a fierce defender of every child's right to learn. Idaho's public schools need fierce defenders more than ever, and I'm up for that challenge," said Galaviz on Wednesday.

"Our state's constitution makes an essential promise to every child and family, no matter their zip code or background: a free, fair, public education," Galaviz explained. "Idaho's future is only as strong as our collective commitment to educating our children, and I have faith we can find consensus around fully funding our schools. There's just too much at stake for anything less."

Originally from Idaho's Panhandle, Galaviz has earned three degrees from Boise State University: she received her BA in Elementary Education with an emphasis in bilingual education and English as a second language in 2002, her Master's in Education Curriculum and Instruction in 2005, and her Doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction in 2020. Last year, she was proud to be recognized by BSU's Distinguished Alumni Award.

She also serves the community as a trustee on many boards, including Idaho Council of Teachers of Mathematics Board of Trustees, the Boise City Library Board of Trustees, and the Discovery Center of Idaho Educational Advisory Board.

When asked about his support of her campaign, Dr. Coberley said, "Soñia will bring to the House an exceptional background on education issues. She is recognized as an advocate for kids, and understands the impact of poverty on learning. Soñia is also extraordinarily skilled at working as part of a team, and listening to the ideas of others. She will be an outstanding legislator."

Galaviz resides in Garden City, and is parent to two grown children. Learn more at her website: soniagalaviz.com. ###