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## **Critchfield Issues Statement Following the Death of Former Idaho Representative Linden Bateman**

(BOISE) – Superintendent of Public Instruction Debbie Critchfield issued the following statement after the death of former Idaho Representative Linden Bateman on Thursday, January 22. Bateman served five terms in the Idaho House of Representatives representing Districts 31 and 32 from 1977 – 1986 before going on to represent District 33 from 2010 – 2016. He also spent his career in the classroom as a high school teacher and has made significant contributions to Idaho’s educational communities:

*“Linden Bateman dedicated his life to public service, education, and preserving Idaho’s history. As both a longtime educator and former member of the Idaho Legislature, he brought a deep respect for learning into every role he held.*

*Linden understood the value of passing knowledge from one generation to the next. His advocacy for the teaching of cursive writing reflected his belief that students benefit from understanding where we have been as they prepare for where they are going.*

*Idaho’s educational community is stronger because of his contributions, and his legacy will continue to be felt in classrooms across our state. On behalf of the Idaho Department of Education, I extend my sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all those who were impacted by his life and service.” - Superintendent Debbie Critchfield*

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