# U.S. REPRESENTATIVE RAUL LABRADOR (R-ID)

Outgoing U.S. Representative Raul Labrador (R-ID-1) has been a member of the U.S. House since 2011. He previously served in the Idaho State House of Representatives. In 2018, he lost in the Idaho Republican gubernatorial primary to Lieutenant Governor Brad Little. Labrador is reportedly being considered for the position of Interior Secretary.

Key findings include:

**Labrador Supported Transferring Federal Lands Back to States.** Raul Labrador supported transferring federal lands to states and believed “at a minimum, the state should be managing all the lands under its jurisdiction.” In 2016, Labrador introduced a bill giving 4 million acres of national forest lands to the states for “locally managed forest demonstration projects.” He believed that state forests were much healthier than federal forests. In 2017, Labrador supported a rules package that would allow the federal government to transfer land without having to bill the state for lost revenue.

**Labrador Supported Trump’s National Monuments Review; Introduced Bill Requiring Congressional and State Approval of Future Monuments.** In April 2017, Labrador wrote that he was “pleased by President Trump’s decision to review the Antiquities Act,” but did not believe it went far enough. The following month, he introduced the National Monument Designation Transparency and Accountability Act, which required any future national monument designations to get Congressional and state approval. Labrador stated, “While President Obama set a new standard for executive overreach, presidents in both parties have overstepped…My bill protects multiple use of our lands by requiring support from local communities, user groups and state elected officials.”

**Labrador Supported Increased Oil and Gas Development on Public Lands.** According to his website, Labrador supported “policies to increase energy production in Idaho and make greater use of our natural resources” and would “continue to fight for legislation that removes federal roadblocks into energy development.” He also supported approval of the Keystone XL pipeline, opening of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas leasing, and increased offshore oil and gas exploration along the U.S. coast.

**Raul Labrador Believed Malheur Occupation Was “Peaceful” and “Civil Disobedience.”** In January 2016, the Malheur Wildlife Refuge was occupied by several gun-toting anti-government activists led by Ammon and Ryan Bundy. Labrador called the standoff “peaceful” and stated, “They’re trying to express their frustration. And I think civil disobedience has been something that for the most part the liberal media used to stand up for. But apparently there’s some exceptions to that.” Labrador further blamed the “takeover of the lands by the federal government…” for creating the conditions for the “peaceful takeover of an abandoned building…” Labrador hoped the standoff would give momentum to his land transfer bill. After a federal judge dismissed the charges against the Bundy Ranch participants, Labrador stated that she “did the right thing.”

**Labrador’s Top Donors Included Livestock and Agricultural Companies.** Over the course of his career, Labrador has received over $114,570 from the crop production and basic processing industry, $89,120 from the livestock industry, $52,250 from the forestry and forest products industry and $40,750 from the oil and gas industry. Labrador’s top individual donors include Koch Industries, Idaho Power, Tree Top Ranches, Berkshire Hathaway, and Agri Beef.

**Raul Labrador: “As A Policymaker, I Won't Be Guided By The Global Warming Propaganda Machine.”** In a February 2014 interview with NBC News, Labrador stated, “It’s interesting that about a decade ago there was a lot of talk about ‘global warming.’ Thirty years ago we were talking about ‘global cooling.’ Now all we hear about is ‘climate change.’ There has been evidence throughout history of cycles when the earth gets warmer and cycles when the earth gets colder. We should always be wise stewards of the earth and all of our natural resources. But as a policymaker, I won’t be guided by the global warming propaganda machine. Al Gore - we need you to return your Nobel Peace Prize!”

**Labrador Believed Endangered Species Act Hindered Economic and Infrastructure Development.** In March 2017, Labrador held a hearing on the Endangered Species Act’s “impediments to economic and infrastructure development.” In a separate speech, Labrador stated that ESA “severely hinders our nation’s ability to provide necessary public services and discourages investment in critical projects needed to boost our economy.”

**Labrador Considered a Public Lands Enemy.** Raul Labrador has consistently supported anti-public lands legislation, earning him a lifetime LCV score of 4 percent. The Center for Biological Diversity listed Labrador among their top 15 “public lands enemies” in 2017. Conservation groups cheered when he lost the Idaho Republican gubernatorial primary to a more pro-public lands candidate in 2018. Former Center for Western Priorities deputy director Greg Zimmerman tweeted that Labrador was “one of the most fiercely anti-conservation, anti-public lands members of Congress” and had “touched a third rail in Western politics by backing attempts to sell-off America’s public lands.”

# PUBLIC LANDS

**Raul Labrador Had a 4% Lifetime LCV Score.** [LCV Scorecard, accessed [12/19/18](http://scorecard.lcv.org/moc/raul-labrador)]

**Center for Biological Diversity Listed Labrador Among Top 15 “Public Lands Enemies” of 2017.** [CBD Press Release, [3/14/17](https://www.biologicaldiversity.org/news/press_releases/2017/public-lands-03-14-2017.php)]

**Former Center For Western Priorities Deputy Director Greg Zimmerman: “Raul Labrador Is One Of The Most Fiercely Anti-Conservation, Anti-Public Lands Members Of Congress.”** “Raul Labrador is one of the most fiercely anti-conservation, anti-public lands members of Congress. He lost the Idaho Republican primary for governor last night to @LtGovBradLittle who understands the importance of keeping public lands in public hands.” [Twitter, [5/16/18](https://twitter.com/GregorZimmer/status/996796399068106753)]

* **Greg Zimmerman: “Rep. Labrador Touched A Third Rail In Western Politics By Backing Attempts To Sell-Off America’s Public Lands. Now He’ll Get To Spend Some Time In The Political Wilderness.”** [Twitter, [5/16/18](https://twitter.com/GregorZimmer/status/996796399068106753)]

## Oil and Gas Drilling

**Raul Labrador: “I Support Policies To Increase Energy Production In Idaho And Make Greater Use Of Our Natural Resources.”** “I support policies to increase energy production in Idaho and make greater use of our natural resources. Right now, the federal government is blocking development of Idaho’s resources, depriving us one of the best ways to bolster our economy and create jobs. We need to empower Idaho’s communities and get government out of the way. As a member of the House Natural Resources Committee, I am fighting hard to pass legislation to do exactly that.”[Raul Labrador, accessed [12/19/18](https://labrador.house.gov/natural-resources-and-energy/)]

**Raul Labrador: “I Will Continue To Fight For Legislation That Removes Federal Roadblocks Into Energy Development, In Idaho And Across America.”** “I will continue to fight for legislation that removes federal roadblocks into energy development, in Idaho and across America. Affordable energy is critical to our economy, and making it more available should be one of our top priorities.” [Raul Labrador, accessed [12/19/18](https://labrador.house.gov/natural-resources-and-energy/)]

### Keystone XL

**Raul Labrador: “[President Obama] Also Promised To Expand Energy Production. Instead, He Blocked The Keystone XL Pipeline And Stalled Domestic Drilling.”** [Raul Labrador Press Release, [1/24/12](https://labrador.house.gov/press-releases/labrador-responds-to-state-of-the-union-address/)]

### Offshore Drilling

**Raul Labrador Cosponsored Bill to Reverse Offshore Drilling Ban.** “Rep. Dave Brat (R-Va.) introduced the Outer Continental Shelf Energy Access Now (OCEAN) Act. A companion bill was also introduced in the Senate by Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-La.). This legislation will reverse executive actions issued by the Obama administration to ban millions of acres of federal land from offshore drilling by exploiting the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA). The OCEAN Act would revise OCSLA and slightly modify the Antiquities Act to ensure they are no longer abused by overzealous presidents to block responsible offshore energy production. Later this week the Trump administration is expected to issue an executive action regarding these onerous restrictions… 21 Original Cosponsors: David B. McKinley P.E., Jody Hice, Tom McClintock, Doug LaMalfa, Mark Meadows, Trent Franks, Pete Olson, Gary Palmer, Garret Graves, Paul Gosar, Jeff Duncan, Bruce Westerman, Barry Loudermilk, David Rouzer, Andy Biggs, Raul Labrador, Steve Scalise, Michael C. Burgess, Brett Guthrie, Rob Wittman, and Doug Lamborn.” [Dave Brat Press Release, [4/26/17](https://brat.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=411)]

### ANWR

**Raul Labrador: “Rep. Labrador was at a hearing advocating to drill in ANWR. Increased domestic drilling would provide jobs & increase revenue to the treasury.”** [Twitter, [12/19/18](https://twitter.com/Raul_Labrador/status/116551719000875009)]

## National Monuments

**Labrador Cheered President Trump’s National Monuments Review.** “I am pleased by President Trump’s decision to review the Antiquities Act, which was used by his predecessors to designate national monuments without input from Congress or local communities. That’s why, in the last Congress, I introduced the National Monument Designation Transparency and Accountability Act, which would require Congressional approval and public input before restricting access to public lands in a proposed monument. When it comes to land in Idaho, Idahoans know best, and we appreciate a President who understands that. We need a legislative fix, and I look forward to working with President Trump on this issue.” [Facebook, [4/26/17](https://www.facebook.com/raul.r.labrador/posts/1608446382522269)]

**Raul Labrador Introduced Bill Requiring Congressional and State Approval of National Monuments.** “Rep. Raúl Labrador, R-Idaho, today introduced H.R. 2284, a bill to reform the Antiquities Act to restrain unilateral presidential power. Labrador’s National Monument Designation Transparency and Accountability Act requires approval by Congress and any state with a proposed national monument before the President can formally designate a monument. The legislation also requires public input. The bill follows last week’s executive order by President Donald Trump directing Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke to review monuments designated since 1996 and recommend any necessary legislative or administrative changes. ‘I commend President Trump for highlighting excessive presidential power that ignores the states and the people closest to the land,’ Labrador said. ‘But we must change the law to achieve lasting reform. My bill requires public input and approval by lawmakers in the states and in Congress before putting more of our lands off limits.’” [Raul Labrador Press Release, [5/2/17](https://labrador.house.gov/press-releases/labrador-introduces-bill-requiring-state-congressional-signoff-on-national-monuments/#dialog)]

* **Raul Labrador: “While President Obama Set A New Standard For Executive Overreach, Presidents In Both Parties Have Overstepped…My Bill Protects Multiple Use Of Our Lands By Requiring Support From Local Communities, User Groups And State Elected Officials.”** [Raul Labrador Press Release, [5/2/17](https://labrador.house.gov/press-releases/labrador-introduces-bill-requiring-state-congressional-signoff-on-national-monuments/#dialog)]

## Land Seizure/Transfer Movement

**Raul Labrador: “I Believe We Will Find Local Control Superior To Management From Washington, D.C.”** “The panel also listened to Idaho Republican Raul Labrador pitch an alternative. It would let interested states take over management of at least 200,000 acres of national forest within their borders. ‘I believe we will find local control superior to management from Washington, D.C.,’ Labrador said. ‘The result will be more sustainable rural economies as well as improved stewardship of public lands.’ Labrador told the committee he was confident that under state management national forest lands would generate more revenue to fund county operations and be more widely thinned to reduce wildfire risk.” [Boise State Public Radio, [2/25/16](http://www.boisestatepublicradio.org/post/western-gop-congressmen-promote-transfer-federal-forests-states#stream/0)]

**Raul Labrador: Local Control Would Not Impact Outdoor Recreation.** “Labrador asserted that local control would not limit or restrict hunting and fishing access. The congressman, who represents western and northern Idaho, noted that more than 60 percent of his home state’s land base is currently in federal hands. Labrador gave credit to county commissioners from five rural Idaho counties for devising the concept for what his legislation calls ‘community forest demonstration areas.’ One of the county officials involved in meetings that began in 2011, Valley County Commissioner Gordon Cruickshank, was invited to testify to Congress Thursday.” [Boise State Public Radio, [2/25/16](http://www.boisestatepublicradio.org/post/western-gop-congressmen-promote-transfer-federal-forests-states#stream/0)]

**Raul Labrador: “At A Minimum, The State Should Be Managing All The Lands Under Its Jurisdiction.”** “State-owned forests, Labrador said, are healthier and better managed, have fewer wildfires and are better able to control them once they start. ‘All those lands, I think, give us a pretty good understanding of which entity should be managing the lands,’ he said. ‘At a minimum, the state should be managing all the lands under its jurisdiction.’ Labrador said all the options should be examined, including the possibility of transferring federally owned lands to the states, although he said that would be more difficult to accomplish than a change just to state management. The latter is what his Self-Sufficient Community Lands Act would do on a limited number of Forest Service-managed parcels. ‘That’s why we’re doing this pilot project,’ he said. ‘We can do it, and we can do it in a better way.’” [Idaho Statesman, [5/1/16](https://magicvalley.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/simpson-labrador-take-different-approaches-on-lands-issues/article_0c037193-6285-5f6f-901b-d98412b35f15.html)]

**Labrador Sponsored Bill Giving States 4 Million of National Forest Land.** “The House Natural Resources Committee approved Idaho Congressman Raul Labrador’s public lands bill on a 25-13 party-line vote Wednesday. The Self-Sufficient Community Lands Act would allow states to select as many as 4 million acres of national forest lands - about 2 percent of total U.S. Forest Service ownership - for locally managed forest demonstration projects. Revenues from timber harvests or other activities would pay for project operating costs; Labrador also submitted an amendment Wednesday to clarify that any profits would be split between the U.S. treasury and counties where the projects are located, with counties receiving 75 percent and the federal government getting the remainder. Each state could select a minimum of 200,000 acres for a pilot project; states that have at least 5 million acres of national forest land could select as many as 900,000 acres. An advisory committee appointed by the governor would be responsible for picking the land; wilderness areas and national monuments would be exempt from selection.” [Lewiston Morning Tribune, 6/16/16]

* **Labrador Believed People Were Misinterpreting His Bill To Create State Management Pilot Program; Believed State Forests Were Much Healthier Than Federal Forests.** “The only negative Labrador said he is getting is from the people who are misrepresenting what the bill does. He said there is a group of people saying the bill is designed to sell off the federal lands. ‘There are two lies that they are telling people. A group of people are saying we want to sell off our federal lands and there is no truth to that at all,’ he said. ‘And No. 2 they say that we are going to take away the treasures of Idaho.’ Labrador said the bill specifically exempts national monuments and parks. ‘It’s sometimes funny when people say these things. Did they even read the bill?’ Labrador said. ‘Read the legislation. It specifically excludes these national monuments.’ Labrador said the thrust of the bill is to create a pilot project where not more than four million acres of the 196 million acres of federal land can be managed by the states, with the exception of fire management. The congressman said all of the data irrefutably shows Idaho’s forest lands are much healthier than the federal lands in Idaho. Labrador said the local people managing the federal forests in Idaho are trying to do a good job, but their hands are tied with federal regulations and lawsuits. Labrador’s bill would transfer the management of some federal lands into the state’s timber management practices, where some of the cumbersome federal regulations no longer apply.” [The Coeur D'alene Press, 4/1/16]
* **Zinke Strongly Opposed Labrador’s Bill.** “The federal government is never going to hand over millions of acres of lands to the Western states. If you had any doubts, consider how Montana Congressman Ryan Zinke - President-elect Donald Trump’s nominee to head up the Department of Interior - spent his summer. On June 15, the House Resources Committee was marking up Alaska Congressman Don Young’s State National Forest Management Act. It sought to transfer as much as 2 million acres of U.S. Forest Service land to state ownership. Idaho 1st District Congressman Raul Labrador voted for it. But Zinke not only opposed the measure; he took pains to make certain everyone at home knew it. ‘I’m starting to wonder how many times I have to tell these guys in leadership I’m not going to allow Montana’s public lands to be sold or given away,’ Zinke said. Zinke piled on. The Young bill, he said, added ‘insult to injury,’ by failing to include any guarantees that exchanged lands would remain in public ownership. ‘Two million acres is a lot, even in Montana,’ he said. ‘That’s the Flathead National Forest, poof, gone. Lolo National Forest, gone. We use our land for hunting, fishing, hiking and to create jobs. Our outdoor economy is a billion-dollar economic engine for the state that creates jobs. The federal government needs to do a much better job of managing our resources, but the sale or transfer of our land is an extreme proposal and I won’t tolerate it.’” [Lewiston Morning Tribune, 12/22/16]

**Labrador Supported Rules Package That Eased Selling of Federal Lands.** “Conservation groups are sounding the alarm over an obscure rule change made by U.S. House Republicans that they say makes it easier to transfer or sell federal land. While setting the ground rules for the 115th Congress, Republicans included language that eliminates budgetary costs associated with public land transfers. The move means that any legislation in the House that proposes to transfer or sell public land would not have to meet the same standards as other legislation when it comes to potential costs to the federal government. The Congressional Budget Office examines all legislation to see if its passage would increase the federal deficit. Because federal land tends to have the ability to produce income through activities like logging, grazing or mining, transferring ownership of it technically robs the government of future income potential and counts as a cost. According to House rules, such costs - however modest - must be offset through new revenue like taxes or through spending reductions. So legislation that includes costs has a more difficult path to passage… The rules package also was supported by Rep. Raul Labrador, R-Idaho, Rep. Mike Simpson, R-Idaho and Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, R-Wash.” [Lewiston Morning Tribune, 1/6/17]

### Bundy

**Raul Labrador: Malheur Occupation Was Civil Disobedience; Attacked “Liberal Media” for Coverage.** “A leading House conservative on Wednesday defended the armed protesters occupying a federal wildlife refuge in Oregon as a display of ‘peaceful’ civil disobedience. Rep. Raúl Labrador’s (R-Idaho) comments stood in contrast to those of many Republicans who have condemned the protests that began Saturday night at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. Labrador, a founding member of the conservative House Freedom Caucus, accused the media of being less sympathetic to protests started by conservatives and people who advocate for the right to bear arms. ‘They’re trying to express their frustration. And I think civil disobedience has been something that for the most part the liberal media used to stand up for. But apparently there’s some exceptions to that,’ Labrador said at a Conversations with Conservatives event on Capitol Hill hosted by the Heritage Foundation.” [The Hill, [1/6/16](https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/264951-gop-lawmaker-oregon-armed-protests-are-civil-disobedience)]

* **Raul Labrador: “You Have All That Frustration Happening With The Takeover Of The Lands By The Federal Government, With The Unjust Sentence, And You Have Just The Frustration That They Feel The Federal Government Is Not Listening To Them Anymore…And That’s What Leads To What So Far Has Been A Peaceful Takeover Of An Abandoned Building, By The Way.”** [The Hill, [1/6/16](https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/264951-gop-lawmaker-oregon-armed-protests-are-civil-disobedience)]

**Raul Labrador: “At Least We Should Agree That The Protesters Should Leave The Federal Property Peacefully And Will Have To Face The Consequences Of Their Actions. I Hope And Pray That The Protesters And Law Enforcement Quickly Reach A Peaceful Conclusion.”** “I have called the protesters’ actions civil disobedience. Some have objected to this characterization, but I will leave it to Henry David Thoreau and the other great philosophers throughout history to have this debate, not to the liberal hacks of the Idaho and Washington media. At least we should agree that the protesters should leave the federal property peacefully and will have to face the consequences of their actions. I hope and pray that the protesters and law enforcement quickly reach a peaceful conclusion.” [Idaho Statesman, [1/12/18](https://www.idahostatesman.com/opinion/readers-opinion/article54377815.html)]

* **Raul Labrador: “Westerners Are Well Aware That Onerous Federal Land Management Has Stripped Hardworking Americans Of The Ability To Profit From The Fruits Of Their Labor.”** [Idaho Statesman, [1/12/18](https://www.idahostatesman.com/opinion/readers-opinion/article54377815.html)]
* **Raul Labrador: “Inadequate Land Management Has Contributed To Devastating Wildfires.”** [Idaho Statesman, [1/12/18](https://www.idahostatesman.com/opinion/readers-opinion/article54377815.html)]
* **Raul Labrador: “I Expect Momentum To Build For My Bill To Allow Local Officials To Manage Up To 2 Percent Of U.S. Forest Service Lands As Pilot Projects, As Well As Other Reforms To Restore Public Lands To Health And Productivity.”** [Idaho Statesman, [1/12/18](https://www.idahostatesman.com/opinion/readers-opinion/article54377815.html)]
* **Raul Labrador: “One Day, I Hope We’ll Look Back At The Events In Oregon And See Them As An Important Step Toward Restoring Balance In Federal Land Management And Criminal Sentencing Practices.”** [Idaho Statesman, [1/12/18](https://www.idahostatesman.com/opinion/readers-opinion/article54377815.html)]

**Raul Labrador Believed “Miscarriage of Justice [Was] Being Committed” With Prosecution of Bundy Ranch Standoff Participants.** “In a letter earlier this month, U.S. Rep. Raul Labrador warned of ‘a strong possibility that a miscarriage of justice is being committed’ in the prosecutions of Idaho men for their role in a 2014 standoff. The Idaho Republican’s letter to U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions followed a similar letter in late August in which Idaho lawmakers asked Sessions to halt or ease back on the cases against Ammon Bundy, of Emmett; Eric Parker, of Hailey; Scott Drexler, of Challis; and Todd Engel, of Boundary County.” [Idaho Statesman, [11/29/17](https://www.idahostatesman.com/news/politics-government/state-politics/article176082011.html)]

**Labrador Cheered Pardon of Ranchers Whose Imprisonment Sparked Malheur Occupation.** “Idaho 1st District GOP Rep. Raul Labrador took to Twitter Tuesday afternoon to praise President Trump’s decision to pardon Dwight and Steven Hammond, the Oregon ranchers who were convicted of arson in 2012 and whose imprisonment sparked an armed takeover of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in 2016.” [Idaho Press, [7/11/18](https://www.idahopress.com/eyeonboise/rep-labrador-takes-to-twitter-to-laud-malheur-ranchers-pardon/article_3a7c23b2-ea81-5656-9acf-feb9c59b7af9.html)]

**Labrador Believed Judge “Did the Right Thing in Dismissing the [Bundy] Case.”** “Labrador’s statement: ‘Today Judge Navarro left no doubt that federal prosecutors violated fundamental principles in our system of justice, finding that the government ‘violated due process rights’ and deeming that conduct ‘outrageous.’ The prosecution’s willful withholding of evidence favorable to the defense – including records of surveillance and a blistering internal report revealing misconduct and bias in the Bureau of Land Management – is abhorrent. ‘Judge Navarro did the right thing in dismissing the case, but we must also take steps to ensure that such prosecutorial misconduct isn’t repeated. We must reaffirm that civil liberties are absolutely fundamental to our constitutional form of government.’ In September Labrador wrote Attorney General Jeff Sessions, urging him to review a letter signed by 53 current and former members of the Idaho Legislature expressing serious concerns about the treatment of four Idahoans in ‘The Bunkerville Stand Off’ trials. ‘There is a strong possibility that a miscarriage of justice is being committed,’ wrote Labrador, who also asked Sessions to ensure that defendants be treated fairly.” [Raul Labrador, [1/8/18](https://labrador.house.gov/press-releases/labrador-reacts-to-judge-dismissing-charges-in-bundy-case/)]

## Wildfire

**Labrador Supported Bills for Quicker Removal of Dead and Dying Trees and End Fire Borrowing.** “I am supporting three bills to prevent catastrophic fires, improve forest health and reform the way we pay for firefighting. Last year, the House passed Rep. Bruce Westerman’s Resilient Federal Forests Act to cut fire risk and restore burned-over lands. Critically, the bill speeds the salvage of timber before it spoils after catastrophic events by streamlining environmental reviews. The bill provides for reforestation and swifter approval of projects reducing hazardous fuels, including removal of trees sickened by insects and disease. It also expedites projects protecting watersheds and wildlife. I am the author of another bill, the Self-Sufficient Community Lands Act, which was approved by the House Natural Resources Committee in July. My bill will permit up to 2 percent of the 193 million acres in the National Forest System to be managed at the state and local level. These lands would remain in federal ownership. The bill was sparked by my conversations with county commissioners in Idaho, who want the chance to prove that the people living amidst the forests can do a better job than those in Washington, D.C. A third bill authored by my Idaho colleagues Rep. Mike Simpson and Sen. Mike Crapo has bipartisan support. The Wildfire Disaster Funding Act treats catastrophic fires like other natural disasters, rather than require the Forest Service to borrow from other accounts to pay firefighting costs in busy fire years. That will help the Forest Service fulfill its management responsibilities to make our forests more resilient and healthy. Of course, we can’t stop all wildfires. But our forests are vital for our economy, recreation, clean water, wildlife and much more. We must take reasonable steps to protect the natural heritage that makes the West so special and keep Idaho the greatest place to live in America.” [Idaho Falls Post Register, 9/13/16]

# CLIMATE CHANGE

**Raul Labrador: “But As A Policymaker, I Won't Be Guided By The Global Warming Propaganda Machine.”** “It’s interesting that about a decade ago there was a lot of talk about ‘global warming.’ Thirty years ago we were talking about ‘global cooling.’ Now all we hear about is ‘climate change.’ There has been evidence throughout history of cycles when the earth gets warmer and cycles when the earth gets colder. We should always be wise stewards of the earth and all of our natural resources. But as a policymaker, I won’t be guided by the global warming propaganda machine. Al Gore - we need you to return your Nobel Peace Prize!” [NBC News, [2/13/14](https://www.nbcnews.com/meet-the-press/10-questions-rep-raul-labrador-r-id-n29051)]

# WILDLIFE

## Endangered Species

**Labrador Help Hearing on “Dysfunctional” Endangered Species Act.** “Last March the House Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, part of the House Natural Resources Committee, held a hearing on what were described as the ESA’s ‘impediments to economic and infrastructure development.’ Representative Labrador chaired the hearing, and opened it by calling the ESA ‘dysfunctional.’ (Labrador’s office did not respond to requests for comment.) The subcommittee heard testimony from the general manager of the Idaho-based Hecla Mining Company, Douglas Stiles, who claimed that the ESA had held up one of Hecla’s mining projects for close to 30 years. Stiles said the act’s requirements were ‘complicated, expensive, and time-consuming’ and an obstacle to ‘bringing much needed economic development to rural America.’ Labrador noted that the project in question, the Rock Creek silver and copper mine, in Sanders County, Montana, ‘would have generated many local jobs and benefits to rural Montana’ but was ‘held up’ by the Fish and Wildlife Service’s ‘shifting requirements.’” [National Geographic, [5/19/17](https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2017/05/endangered_speciesact/)]

**Labrador: “[ESA] Severely Hinders Our Nation’s Ability To Provide Necessary Public Services And Discourages Investment In Critical Projects Needed To Boost Our Economy.”** “Idaho Republican Representative Raul Labrador, a member of the ultraconservative Freedom Caucus, said in a recent speech that the ESA ‘severely hinders our nation’s ability to provide necessary public services and discourages investment in critical projects needed to boost our economy.’ Since 1973 six federal circuit courts have considered and rejected challenges to the ESA’s constitutionality, leaving the law intact. In Congress there have been scores of attempts to weaken it by little cuts.” [National Geographic, [5/19/17](https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2017/05/endangered_speciesact/)]

## Sage Grouse

**Labrador Added Provision to NDAA Automatically Renewing Grazing Rights.** “Language to help ranchers protect their grazing privileges - which some environmentalists say could put the sage grouse on the Endangered Species List - got added to an 11th-hour defense bill, prompting a war of words this week. But the officials at the Department of Interior in charge of both grazing and sage grouse protections said Friday that the proposal by Rep. Raul Labrador, R-Idaho, would not have the unintended consequence of listing the grouse. Congress passed the National Defense Authorization Act 300-119 on Thursday. Labrador, R-Idaho, added a provision that would automatically renew grazing permits that ranchers hold on public lands. The provision would restore a policy in place since the 1990s that was struck down this year by an Idaho federal judge, who said grazing leases needed more environmental review. Labrador, who actually voted against the bill, says the automatic renewal protects ranchers who might lose their grazing rights waiting for bureaucrats to perform the reviews. His language was passed by the House as a stand-alone bill earlier this year. But the provision caught the eye of some environmentalists. Todd Tucci, an attorney with the Boise-based Advocates for the West and other conservation groups, said Thursday that the bill could lead to the listing of sage grouse - either by the Department of Interior or a federal judge - because the BLM’s lack of money could mean grazing permits would not get the conservation measures needed to protect sage grouse until funds come years later. That’s a red herring, said Labrador. ‘Now that the bill is about to become law, they employ an 11th-hour scare tactic to kill it,’ he said. ‘If these groups truly believed the result would be listing of the sage grouse - a goal they support - they would be celebrating its passage.’” [The Idaho Statesman, 12/6/14]

**Labrador Happy Obama Administration Did Not List Sage Grouse.** “Rep. Raul Labrador, R-Idaho, issued the following statement in response to today’s decision by the Obama Administration on the greater sage grouse: ‘I welcome the Administration’s decision against listing the greater sage grouse. A listing would have immediately wreaked economic havoc across the West. However, the accompanying imposition of new federal management plans undermines much of the good work done at the state level. ‘Governors, private property owners and other stakeholders have spent years crafting plans that protect habitat while allowing the development of natural resources, sustainable use of rangeland and recreational access. Unless an overreaching federal government respects the wisdom of state-level conservation efforts, the sage grouse won’t recover and the new federal restrictions will undermine local economies.’” [Raul Labrador Press Release, 9/22/15]

**Labrador Applauded Trump Administration Decision to Review Sage Grouse Policies.** “Rep. Raúl Labrador (R-ID) applauded today’s decision by Secretary of Interior Ryan Zinke to enact a 60-day review of sage grouse policies. In 2015, the Obama Administration released a plan to restrict land use in 11 states, including Idaho, to manage the sage grouse. The plan ignored the work of states like Idaho to manage and conserve the bird, which would have allowed more local input and control. Under the Obama Administration plan, the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service would prevent mineral production, energy development, grazing and other activities on 10 million acres of the bird’s habitat. Secretary Zinke’s Secretarial Order directs a working group to provide recommendations on future sage grouse policies that considers local economic growth and job creation.” [Labrador Press Release, [6/8/17](https://labrador.house.gov/press-releases/labrador-applauds-trump-administration-action-on-sage-grouse/)]

* **Raul Labrador: “I Applaud Secretary Zinke For Bringing Common Sense To This Very Important Issue For Idaho. I Strongly Opposed The Obama Administration’s Restrictions On Land Use Because Of Their Potentially Disastrous Impact On Idaho’s Economy, And I’m Pleased The Trump Administration Has Taken A New Approach That Will Better Incorporate The Concerns Of Western Stakeholders.”** “I applaud Secretary Zinke for bringing common sense to this very important issue for Idaho. I strongly opposed the Obama Administration’s restrictions on land use because of their potentially disastrous impact on Idaho’s economy, and I’m pleased the Trump Administration has taken a new approach that will better incorporate the concerns of Western stakeholders. When it comes to responsible land use, the best decisions are made by those closest to the ground, and that’s especially true in Idaho. Secretary Zinke’s Secretarial Order is a smart and necessary action that will protect Idaho jobs and our economic future. I look forward to continuing to work with the Secretary, my colleagues, and Idaho stakeholders on a long-term solution.” [Labrador Press Release, [6/8/17](https://labrador.house.gov/press-releases/labrador-applauds-trump-administration-action-on-sage-grouse/)]

# CAMPAIGN FINANCE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **U.S. Rep. Raul Labrador Top Industry Donations (2011-2018)** | |
| **Industry** | **Total Received** |
| Leadership PACs | $156,764 |
| Retired | $136,617 |
| Crop Production & Basic Processing | $114,577 |
| Electronics Mfg & Equip | $93,465 |
| Real Estate | $89,401 |
| Livestock | $89,122 |
| Lawyers/Law Firms | $84,498 |
| Insurance | $63,968 |
| Misc Finance | $62,950 |
| Lobbyists | $58,701 |
| Forestry & Forest Products | $52,250 |
| Republican/Conservative | $46,917 |
| Automotive | $45,650 |
| Candidate Committees | $44,750 |
| Special Trade Contractors | $44,149 |
| General Contractors | $42,500 |
| Electric Utilities | $42,450 |
| Commercial Banks | $41,850 |
| Misc Manufacturing & Distributing | $41,600 |
| Oil & Gas | $40,750 |

[OpenSecrets, accessed [12/19/18](https://www.opensecrets.org/members-of-congress/industries?cid=N00031377&cycle=CAREER)]

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **U.S. Rep. Raul Labrador Top Sector Donations (2011-2018)** | | | |
| **Sector** | **Individuals** | **PACs** | **Total** |
| Agribusiness | $132,499 | $319,149 | $319,149 |
| Communications/Electronics | $66,915 | $155,415 | $155,415 |
| Construction | $86,949 | $132,949 | $132,949 |
| Defense | $9,750 | $27,250 | $27,250 |
| Energy & Natural Resources | $59,575 | $132,825 | $132,825 |
| Finance, Insurance & Real Estate | $201,861 | $312,711 | $312,711 |
| Health | $41,260 | $54,260 | $54,260 |
| Lawyers & Lobbyists | $114,199 | $143,199 | $143,199 |
| Transportation | $33,850 | $105,850 | $105,850 |
| Misc Business | $135,994 | $201,994 | $201,994 |
| Labor | $0 | $1,000 | $1,000 |
| Ideological/Single-Issue | $49,550 | $296,683 | $296,683 |
| Other | $167,364 | $168,364 | $168,364 |

[OpenSecrets, accessed [12/19/18](https://www.opensecrets.org/members-of-congress/industries?cid=N00031377&cycle=CAREER)]

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **U.S. Rep. Raul Labrador Top Individual Donations (2011-2018)** | | | |
| **Contributor** | **PACs** | **Individuals** | **Individuals** |
| LCF Enterprises | $0 | $40,600 | $40,600 |
| Auld Investments | $0 | $35,200 | $35,200 |
| Scentsy | $0 | $34,800 | $34,800 |
| Koch Industries | $30,000 | $0 | $30,000 |
| Debest Plumbing | $0 | $29,699 | $29,699 |
| Idaho Power | $13,500 | $14,700 | $28,200 |
| National Auto Dealers Assn | $27,000 | $0 | $27,000 |
| Alscott Inc | $0 | $26,200 | $26,200 |
| Tree Top Ranches | $0 | $25,900 | $25,900 |
| Berkshire Hathaway | $24,000 | $1,600 | $25,600 |
| Every Republican is Crucial PAC | $25,000 | $0 | $25,000 |
| Freedom Fund | $25,000 | $0 | $25,000 |
| Agri Beef | $0 | $22,100 | $22,100 |
| New York Life Insurance | $21,100 | $250 | $21,350 |
| American Bankers Assn | $21,000 | $0 | $21,000 |
| Anheuser-Busch | $21,000 | $0 | $21,000 |
| AT&T Inc | $21,000 | $0 | $21,000 |
| Melaleuca Inc | $0 | $20,000 | $20,000 |
| Longview Partners Investment | $0 | $19,800 | $19,800 |
| House Freedom Fund | $5,000 | $13,500 | $18,500 |

[OpenSecrets, accessed [12/18/18](https://www.opensecrets.org/members-of-congress/contributors?cid=N00031377&cycle=CAREER&type=I)]