

SENATOR ED LONG WRONG ON THE FACTS ... AGAIN

From The Governor's Office

■(OKLAHOMA CITY) Governor Frank Keating's recent appointment to the State Board of Education, David Jared, withdrew his nomination this morning a spokesperson for the governor said. "Mr. Jared decided over the weekend that his confirmation was not realistic because of statements made to his sponsoring Senator last week. It's just unfortunate that Senator Ed Long is more interested in playing politics and acting as the chief assassin for the liberal Democrat controlled education establishment than seeking the truth," John Cox, Deputy Press Secretary for the governor said.

"Senator Long has never expressed concern directly to the governor or anyone on the governor's staff over this appointment. In this instance if the senator would have taken the time to call our office this morning he would have known that Mr. Jared had withdrawn hours before the senator commissioned his press release. Instead he chose to manipulate the appointment process through the media. This is no way for the Chairman of the Senate Education Committee to represent his constituents. Unfortunately Senator Long is a regressive member of the State Senate and is accustomed to acting in this manner," Cox said.

LEGISLATIVE PROCESS FAILS OKLAHOMANS, WEBB SAYS; TAXPAYER PROTECTION MEASURE 'DIES IN THE DARK'

From House Media

■(OKLAHOMA CITY) State Rep. Dan Webb said he "has had it with liberal lawmakers who put the interests of big government over those of the people they were elected to represent."

Webb, an Oklahoma City Republican, made that comment in response to action by the Senate Finance Committee to kill **House Joint Resolution 1066** without even the courtesy of a complete hearing. The committee took the action on the motion of Sen. Don Williams, D-Balko.

The measure, which was sponsored by Webb and Sen. Frank Shurden, D-Henryetta, would have given Oklahoma voters the option to place in the state constitution a provision that would protect taxpayers from the federal government and the Internal Revenue Service.

Under the amendment, the state government would challenge in the US Supreme Court any attempt by the federal government to place a lien on any homestead to pay for unpaid federal taxes.

The House of Representatives passed the measure on an overwhelming 82-11 vote earlier this month. Webb said representatives agreed with several constitutional scholars that the 10th Amendment to the US Constitution gives states the right to protect citizens in such a manner.

"I thought we were 'state' lawmakers here," Webb said. "Nevertheless, that committee, at the behest of one liberal senator, voted to shrink from Oklahoma's responsibility to protect its citizens from a federal government that is out of control."

The lawmaker said he presumes Williams, the Finance Committee and the "liberal Democrat leadership in the Senate" believe the federal government ought to run roughshod over both the state government and its citizens.

"Frankly, someone ought to remind them that Oklahomans do not share their view that big government needs to be bigger," Webb said. "The people of Oklahoma against lost in the dark corridors of the state capitol because Senate Democrats just do not get it."

Webb, a vocal critic of the legislature's committee process, says the liberal Democrat leadership in both the House and the Senate use their committees to smother good legislation without public knowledge or scrutiny. Republicans often complain Democrat leaders often target GOP-sponsored bills to "die in the dark."

(Continued)