

Williams won't seek another Senate term

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Sen. J. Marsden Williams, R-
Idaho Falls, announced late Friday
afternoon he would not seek a 10th
term.

Michael D. Crapo, Idaho Falls
attorney, said Saturday he would
try to replace Williams.

The Senate, racing to a Saturday
adjournment, took time out to
honor Williams late Friday after-
noon.

"It's been 18 years now and two
heart attacks later," the Idaho Falls
Republican told the Senate on Fri-
day. "I feel like maybe I'm pushing
my luck ... We've decided we will
not run again for the Senate."

Williams and his wife Phyllis,
who, like other legislative wives,
has filled in for her husband in the
Legislature, got several standing
ovations.

Williams is Senate majority cau-
cus chairman.

Williams, 67, told The Post-Reg-
ister he had been planning on run-
ning again until this week, deciding
after consultation with his family
that he would relinquish the posi-
tion.

He has been Senate majority
caucus chairman two terms, and
before that chairman of the
Resources and Environment Com-
mittee 16 years. He also was a
member of the Joint Finance-
Appropriation Committee for 12
years and sat on the Senate State
Affairs Committee.

"It has been a choice experience
and I have made some choice
friends," he said.

His father, Elmer Williams, had
previously served in the Senate six
terms, four of them as the Senate

president pro tem.

Williams said he plans to spend
much of his time operating a farm
at Milo, northeast of Idaho Falls.

Crapo, 32, said he had talked
with Williams Friday afternoon as
the Legislative District 29 chair-
man, and decided he will run for
the position.

He is an Idaho Falls native, a
graduate of Idaho Falls High
School and Brigham Young Uni-
versity and a graduate cum laude
with a juris doctor law degree at
Harvard University.

He served as law clerk with a
U.S. appeals judge in California a
year, and has practiced as an attor-
ney with the Idaho Falls law firm
of Holden, Kidwell, Hahn and
Crapo since 1979.

He has been active in Repub-
lican Party politics, and besides
being legislative chairman, is
county vice chairman.

Crapo said the main three legis-
lative points he stresses are educa-
tion, water rights and maintaining
budget controls.

"I think we need strong leader-
ship in the Senate," he said.

He said he will file in District 32
under the latest reapportionment
plan which Williams said appears
due for approval. District 32 pro-
vides for election of two state sena-
tors and four state representatives
in Bonneville and Teton counties,
plus a senator and two state repre-
sentatives for a floterial district
made up of Bonneville, Teton,
Madison and Fremont counties.