



BOZEMAN, HELENA, SOUTHWEST MT

ENDORSEMENT GUIDE



CONNECT. PROTECT. ELECT. TURNING MONTANA VALUES INTO PRIORITIES.

October 2024

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Happy October, Montana Conservation Voters!



We are just under a month from Election Day and we are dedicated to making sure that you are informed and prepared to submit your ballot on or before November 5. We've said it before, but now that we're down to the wire we must reiterate the importance of this year's election. Protecting Montana as the Last Best Place is on the line. Access to our public lands and waters is on the line. Our clean air and clean water are on the line. And our democracy is on the line.

MCV has a record of supporting pro-conservation candidates for 25 years. We have elected conservation leaders to all levels of government from city councils to the U.S. Senate and everything in between.

Enclosed, please find a detailed list of Montana Conservation Voters' candidates for the 2024 election from your region. We have endorsed candidates up and down the ballot for County Commission, State Legislature, Public Service Commission, Clerk of the Supreme Court, Supreme Court Chief and Associate Justice, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Secretary of State, State Auditor, Attorney General, Governor, U.S. House of Representatives, and U.S. Senate. MCV is committed to building an electorate that fully represents the residents of Montana and we did our homework.

To be considered for our endorsement, new candidates completed questionnaires tailored to the office they're running for that assessed their commitment to conservation, upholding Montana's Constitution and protecting our democracy. Supreme Court candidates were interviewed by MCV staff and members of the MCV Political Action Committee board. Candidates that were running for a seat that they had been previously endorsed for were not required to submit a questionnaire. *All final endorsement decisions were made by MCV's affiliated Political Action Committee.*

MCV's endorsed candidates are pro-conservation, pro-Constitution, and committed to fighting for you and the Montana we love. Now, take a minute to read about our incredible candidates and then get out there and VOTE! Don't forget to bring your friends.

Cheers — GO FIGHT WIN!

Whitney Tawney
Executive Director

MCV Membership



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mtvoters.org/join



Information about Voting in the 2024 Election:

IMPORTANT DATES:

October



**Ballots
are mailed**



**Recommended
last day to
request a
mail ballot**



**Last day to send
mail ballots**
If you don't mail it
by this date, you
can still drop it off
in-person!

November



**All ballots must
be received
at the election
office or polling
place by 8:00 p.m.
on Election Day.**

GENERAL ELECTION

**Last day to register
to vote in person**

**That's right, Montana allows
same-day voter registration!**
Make sure you have the proper
identification so you get to use
your voice at the polls.

NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE?

That's OK! Scan the QR code below
or visit votemt.gov/voter-registration



- Contact information for County Elections Offices can be found on page two of the form.
- You'll need to provide a current and valid photo identification, including but not limited to a Valid Driver's License, MT State ID Card, Tribal ID Card, or Social Security number.
- Printed forms are available at your Local County Elections Office.
- If you want to fill out your form ahead of time but don't have access to a printer, try checking for printer access at your local library!

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

Check your voter registration status by
scanning the QR code below or visit
voteamerica.org/am-i-registered-to-vote



MCV's LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

**This detailed report from the last legislative
session celebrates our leaders who fought for
conservation and holds accountable those who
did not. View it by scanning the QR code below
or visit mtvoters.org/scorecard**



Find out which legislative districts YOU live in by scanning the QR code below or visit leg.mt.gov/map



Did you know 60 of the 73 candidates endorsed by Team MCV are running for the State Legislature?



Team MCV in YOUR Community

Since last November, Team MCV has been hard at work hosting over 122 events and knocking 30K doors (and counting) across Montana to help spread the word about how to help protect Montana as the Last Best Place.



Montana Conservation Voters is a 501(c)4 nonprofit organization, and membership dues and contributions are not tax-deductible. Tax-deductible contributions may be made to the MCV Education Fund, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Visit mtvotersedfund.org for more information.



U.S. Congress

SEN. JON TESTER for U.S. Senate*

Sen. Jon Tester is a self-described “seven-fingered dirt farmer” and former school teacher who has deep roots in hard work, responsibility, and accountability. Since 1978, Jon and his wife Sharla have been farming the same land near the town of Big Sandy, Montana that was home-steaded by Jon’s grandparents in 1912. Fired up by the Montana Legislature’s decision to deregulate Montana’s power industry (resulting in higher power costs for everyday Montanans), Jon ran for and was elected to the Montana Senate in 1998. In 2005, his colleagues chose him to serve as Montana’s Senate President — which he did until he was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2006.

Since first being sent to Washington, Jon has maintained a strong record of fighting for our public lands and Montana’s outdoor economy. In 2019, his bill to permanently reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) passed and became law. LWCF was a landmark piece of legislation which invests in Montana by funding everything from swimming pools to soccer fields to large landscape conservation projects — providing access to public outdoor spaces in every single county in Montana. At the same time, Jon’s bipartisan Yellowstone Gateway Protection Act was also signed into law, protecting the doorstep of the nation’s first National Park and 30,000 acres of public land from industrial mining. Additionally, in 2014, Jon protected the North Fork of the Flathead River from oil and gas development and worked with conservationists, ranchers, and recreationists to pass the first collaborative wilderness bill in three decades — the Rocky Mountain Front Heritage Act. Finally, his Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act, which would protect nearly 80 thousand acres of Montana public lands as wilderness and secure access to outdoor recreation, continues to gain momentum.

Jon also championed and was the only member of the Montana delegation to vote for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (a.k.a. the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law) and the Inflation Reduction Act. Since they were passed in 2021 and 2022, these monumental new laws have made significant investments in Montana toward energy freedom, critical water infrastructure like the Milk River Project, and wildfire mitigation. In sum, Jon is a tireless defender of rural America and the Montana way of life. He will continue fighting to protect public lands and waters, bring down costs, and improve the lives of all Montanans.

**View our full Endorsement Guide
online at:
mtvoters.org/endorsement-guide**

MONICA TRANEL for U.S. House of Representatives, District 1

Monica Tranel is a two-time Olympian, former Public Service Commission staffer, and Missoula-based attorney who specializes in utility and energy issues. Throughout her career, Monica has consistently fought for the people of Montana. In 2022, she took NorthWestern Energy all the way to the state Supreme Court and won, saving ratepayers \$10 million dollars. Her record shows that she will fight for energy freedom and a just transition to renewable energy — despite attempts by corporations to keep Montanans paying high rates for outdated energy production. Moreover, Monica intends to champion the Headwaters Legacy Act, the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act, and similar bills to protect public lands in Congress. She will work to ensure that we have access to our public lands and that our public resources are managed so that we can all continue to enjoy their wonders for generations to come. Monica was previously endorsed by Team MCV during her 2022 bid for the seat now held by Rep. Ryan Zinke.

Statewide Offices

RYAN BUSSE for Governor

Ryan Busse grew up on a family cattle ranch and wheat farm before pursuing a career that led him to help build an iconic American gun company in Kalispell. He went on to enjoy a successful executive role at that company for more than 25 years. During this time, his deep commitment to community and environmental issues became increasingly apparent, starting with his advocacy against the Bush Administration’s controversial drilling plans in the sacred Badger-Two Medicine area. His dedication to public lands was further demonstrated by his service on MCV’s Board of Directors from 2008 to 2013, including his tenure as Board Chair from 2010 to 2012. His commitment to environmental protection is underscored by his sons’ involvement as plaintiffs in last year’s landmark *Held v. Montana* case, which found the State of Montana responsible for upholding the constitutional right to a “clean and healthful environment.”

The Governor is one of five Land Board commissioners — the others being the Attorney General, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Secretary of State, and State Auditor. The Board oversees the management of lands held by the state for the benefit of Montana’s educational institutions. As a member of the Land Board, Ryan would prioritize increasing public land ownership and access to those lands. He intends to focus on conserving our natural resources with the aim of preserving them — and their economic viability — for future generations.

**NOTE: Candidates marked with an asterisk (*)
denote incumbents running for reelection.**

RAPH GRAYBILL for Lieutenant Governor

Ryan's running mate, Raph Graybill, served as Chief Legal Counsel to Governor Steve Bullock. In this role, he argued and won the case before the Montana Supreme Court that saved Habitat Montana, the state's best conservation tool to keep farmers and ranchers on the landscape while also protecting wildlife habitat. Raph was endorsed by MCV when he ran for Montana Attorney General in 2020. He now works in the same small, family law practice that his great-grandfather started 104 years ago in Belt, Montana. Since Gianforte became governor, Raph has blocked over a dozen different unconstitutional laws that would have invaded Montanans' constitutional rights.

BEN ALKE for Attorney General

Ben Alke grew up in Helena and currently works as a Bozeman-based attorney. Ben has experience in environmental law, and his work has included fighting to re-open illegally blocked public roads to maintain access to public lands. As Montana's chief law enforcement officer, he will ensure our democracy remains strong by making decisions that are based on the facts and the law, and he will protect Montanans by impartially enforcing the laws, defending our freedoms, and guarding our state's legal and ethical standards. As a member of the state Land Board, Ben intends to prioritize increasing funding for public education and access to public lands and waterways for hunting, fishing, and recreation.

SEN. SHANNON O'BRIEN for Superintendent of Public Instruction

Sen. Shannon O'Brien is an experienced high school educator who was the dean of Missoula College and served as the education policy advisor to former Gov. Steve Bullock. Shannon also worked on education policy as the elected official for SD 46 during the 2021 and 2023 legislative sessions. As State Superintendent, she will be a strong voice in speaking out against attacks on our democracy. She intends to make sure that our students are taught civics education and that they understand that protecting democracy is both a right and the responsibility of each of us. Shannon has been previously endorsed by MCV and scored 100% in MCV's 2023 Legislative Scorecard for her work as a Senator. She is also an MCV Lifetime Champion. Shannon's voting record reflects a strong commitment to preventing the sale of public lands and underscores her belief that maintaining access to these lands is crucial for preserving our outdoor heritage. This record clearly illustrates how she would approach her duties on the Land Board.

JESSE JAMES MULLEN for Secretary of State

Jesse James Mullen lives in Deer Lodge and has spent the past 20 years working in Montana journalism. Throughout his career, he has worked to hold politicians accountable. Now, he is running for office to help return accountability to our state executive offices. As Secretary of State, Jesse will guarantee accurate voting information is available and protect and rebuild the credibility of our elections. He believes that equal access and participation in elections is essential to our democracy, and he will work tirelessly to ensure eligible voters have unobstructed access to voting. As a member of the Land Board, Jesse plans to champion our public lands as one of the most vital resources in our state. He is dedicated to protecting public access while also preserving the environmental integrity of these lands.

JOHN REPKE for State Auditor

John Repke is a business executive who received both bachelor's and master's degrees in business finance. He retired in 2021 after a 40-year career that started in the oilfields of Wyoming and took him to being the chief financial officer of several large international businesses. John's career made him an expert in insurance programs, self-funded employee health plans, and risk management. John is running for State Auditor because he believes he has the knowledge, skills, and perspective to protect Montana consumers without compromise. The State Auditor also serves as one of the five Land Board commissioners. John intends to follow the law and do everything possible to help ensure that our public-school trust is robust and that access to public lands and waterways for recreation, hunting, and fishing is protected.



photo credit: MCV Member Aaron Agosto



State Supreme Court

JEREMIAH "JERRY" LYNCH for Chief Justice of the Supreme Court

Judge Jerry Lynch was born and raised in Butte and is a graduate of Carroll College, Montana State University, and the University of Montana. He has more than 28 years of public service experience, beginning when he clerked for federal judge and former Montana Chief Justice Paul Hatfield. He then entered private practice and was appointed federal magistrate judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Montana in 2006 before retiring in 2019. Jerry is seeking a seat on the Montana Supreme Court in order to protect the Montana State Constitution, which he feels has withstood the test of time because it is non-partisan and is overwhelmingly supported by Montana voters. He believes that democracy depends on an independent judiciary and that fairness and impartiality are key principles for the Chief Justice. Jerry believes in evaluating each case by the facts presented, precedent, our Constitution, and existing laws. This includes upholding the strong precedent and constitutional rights that protect Montana's stream and public lands access.

KATHERINE BIDEGARAY for Supreme Court Justice #3

Judge Katherine Bidegaray was born and raised in Richland County and is a two-time graduate of the University of Montana. Her legal career began in 1985 as a staff attorney for the Montana State Auditor's Office. She then entered private practice and became the owner-operator of her family ranch in 1989. She has been serving as a Montana District Court Judge since 2003. Katherine is seeking a seat on the Montana Supreme Court because she believes that our legal system and the rights it protects — including privacy, education, and the conservation of Montana's landscapes — are facing significant threats. She believes that non-partisan justices are essential for upholding our Constitution, defending Montana values and rights, and maintaining a fair and impartial judiciary. She is committed to ensuring that the rights enshrined in our Constitution are effectively protected.

ERIN FARRIS-OLSEN for Clerk of the Supreme Court

Erin Farris-Olsen is an attorney who has worked as a law clerk for the high court and within the office of the state court administrator. As the first line of support for those seeking justice, Erin intends to restore Montanans' trust in the Clerk's office to process filings and issues before the Supreme Court. She believes that, along with Supreme

Court Justices, the Clerk of the Montana Supreme Court should not be a partisan position. To that end, she intends to serve the position impartially and she would support legislation to change the position into a non-partisan race. Erin supports protecting public lands and public access and recognizes that the Supreme Court is the last line of defense for our constitutional right to a clean and healthful environment.

Public Service Commission

SUSAN BILO for DISTRICT 2

Susan Biló is an instructor at Montana State University-Gallatin College with over 25 years of energy efficiency and renewable energy experience. Susan is running for office because she feels that, with the recent electricity and natural gas rate hikes, Montana's hard-working citizens and businesses are not being fairly represented and protected by their current PSC representatives. She believes that Montana can attain clean, affordable, and reliable energy infrastructure. Susan aims to ensure that renewable energy sources, which are cost-competitive with and often cheaper than traditional fuel sources, are given fair and due consideration to address costs and climate change. She would also encourage the expansion and marketing of utility efficiency rebates that lead to reduced energy use and lower bills, and she would invite competition from businesses that want to build cost-effective renewable energy projects.

Montana State Senate

CORA NEUMANN for SD 30

Cora Neumann is a rural health and economic development leader with a track record of delivering results for underserved and rural communities, improving access to health care, and protecting our public lands. Cora is running for state Senate to ensure that Montanans have access to good jobs and wages, that our small businesses can succeed, and that our public lands and waterways remain public for the benefit of our families and future generations. She is interested in exploring legislation that ensures a balanced and fair transition to clean energy, and she will introduce legislation to ensure that Montana's water sources are safeguarded from industrial pollution and other unsustainable land use practices. Cora will also fight attacks on voting access, push for more voting centers, and advocate to streamline the absentee ballot process. She firmly believes that we should solidify and protect access for commonly disenfranchised voter groups like Native Americans and students.

SEN. CHRIS POPE for SD 33*

Sen. Chris Pope is a successful Bozeman businessman and community leader. In his eight years in Helena — including two terms in the Montana House of Representatives and two terms in the Senate — he has advocated for a strong, transparent and efficient state government capable of finding practical solutions to the leading issues of the day. Chris believes that the continued stewardship of Montana's world-class environment and wildlife is essential to the state's future economic success. He will fight for access to public lands, clean air and water, and a serious pragmatic approach to addressing climate change. He will also advocate on behalf of energy conservation and renewable energy development. He sponsored several bills last session, including one aimed at establishing regulations for community solar energy facilities in the state. Chris was previously endorsed by MCV and scored 100% in MCV's 2023 Legislative Scorecard.

SARA NOVAK for SD 36

Sara Novak has been working as an educator for almost 20 years. Previously, she represented District 77 in the Montana House of Representatives, where she fought for MCV values while serving on the Business and Labor; Education; and Fish, Wildlife and Parks Committees. Sara fully supports Habitat Montana, and policies that promote a clean and healthy environment as well as conservation of our waters and fish habitats. She is concerned about voter suppression and will support policies that promote the inclusion of marginalized groups in our democracy.

BRUCE SHULTZ for SD 39

Bruce Shultz is a rancher and a graduate of the University of Montana. He has worked in forestry and crop adjusting across 33 counties in Montana. Bruce believes we need to invest in renewable energy, keep our stream access laws intact, clarify corner crossings to access public land, and incentivize landowners to allow hunting on their property. As a legislator, he will also vigorously endorse maintaining Habitat Montana.

REP. LAURA SMITH for SD 40

Rep. Laura Smith is a former federal prosecutor and currently serves as the Deputy Director of the State Health Department. She has experience advocating in multiple legislative sessions. In 2022, Laura was an MCV-endorsed candidate who ran for and won a House seat in Helena. During the 2023 session, she was a staunch advocate of Montana's wild places, advocating for legislation that keeps public lands open to all. Laura will continue to fight against any attempts to sell off public lands, decrease the quality of our air and water, or sell Montana's wildlife to the highest bidder. Wherever possible, she will work for policies that help Montana's farmers and ranchers see the benefits of conservation initiatives that keep their businesses viable and thriving

so that wildlife and the public at large can share in the open space and habitat agriculture provides. Laura scored 83% in MCV's 2023 Legislative Scorecard.

Montana State House of Representatives

SCOTT ROSENZWEIG for HD 57

Scott Rosenzweig is a parent, entrepreneur, business leader, active community member, volunteer, and runner. Scott is currently a partner in a small technology and communications company and a co-owner of several small businesses located within his district. He is particularly interested in expanding and championing public access to public lands, and supports all efforts to increase and expand voter access, including supporting same-day voter registration and increased absentee ballot voting and ballot-collection options.

JAMIE ISALY for HD 58

Jamie Isaly taught for more than 30 years in the Livingston School District at both the high school and middle school levels. He has also served as a builder, small business owner, and coach. MCV previously endorsed Jamie in 2022 when he ran for the state Senate. If elected to the Montana House in 2024, Jamie will advocate for and support bills which update energy production methods, implement pollution control standards that help to reduce waste and emissions, and protect and maintain our valuable water sources. Keeping our public lands accessible and conserving Montana's resources for generations to come are also at the top of his list of concerns.

REP. ED STAFMAN for HD 59*

Rep. Ed Stafman has some 25 years of legal experience as a civil rights and criminal defense attorney. He also spent eight years in rabbinic school, simultaneously completing the coursework toward a PhD in religion. Ed believes that, with abundant wind and sun, Montana is well suited to shift to renewable energy, and even to be a renewable energy exporter, while creating good jobs and tax revenues. He has previously introduced legislation that would have reduced carbon output from Northwestern Energy by a third, while also saving ratepayers millions. The bills were tabled twice, but he intends to try again. Ed has also worked and will continue to work tirelessly to defeat efforts to develop and/or privatize our public lands. In 2023, he countered attacks on voting rights through his work as the lone House Democrat on the Special Select Committee on Election Integrity. Ed scored 100% in MCV's 2023 Legislative Scorecard and is an MCV Lifetime Champion.



Team MCV's 2024 Gala: Celebrating 25 Years in Style!

Because of you and our sponsors, MCV's Annual Gala on October 5 was our most successful event yet!

Montana's senior U.S. Senator Jon Tester, candidate for Governor Ryan Busse, many state legislators, and conservation partners from across the state gathered with nearly 200 fellow conservationists in Livingston to support MCV's 25th anniversary and our shared mission to protect Montana's clean air, clean water, healthy public lands and democracy.

Thank you to our generous Silent Auction Donors

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 Montana Conservation Voters

All black and white photos throughout this endorsement guide by MCV Member Aaron Agosto.

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ALANAH GRIFFITH for HD 60

Alanah Griffith was born in Big Sky and raised in Four Corners, and now wants to put her more than two decades of legal experience to work in Helena. Alanah has spent her life enjoying the unparalleled hunting, fishing, hiking, skiing, and camping that our public lands offer, and she intends to support ways to improve access such as the Unlocking Public Lands program. She will work to balance the interests of landowners with conservation efforts and to find win-win solutions to issues like access, just as she has done through her legal career, which includes securing the Bear Canyon Access that many local residents enjoy today.

BECKY EDWARDS for HD 61

Becky Edwards is the founder and executive director of the conservation nonprofit Mountain Mamas, which focuses on elevating women's voices on conservation issues. For the past 15 years, Becky has devoted her career to influencing federal and state legislation that protects public lands, clean air and water, and a healthy climate. She also led the coalition to permanently reauthorize and fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which funds everything from soccer fields to large landscape conservation. Becky's priorities include securing adequate conservation funding, which the voters of Montana voted for and supported during the last two legislative sessions, and which we desperately need in an era of rapid growth. She also intends to prioritize investing in clean energy jobs, developing a bold state climate action plan, and protecting our Montana Constitution from attacks on our rights to privacy and a healthy environment.

JOSH SECKINGER for HD 62

Josh Seckinger has a diverse work background spanning seismic mapping, food distribution, newspaper printing, and construction labor. He discovered his true passion as a fly-fishing guide a decade ago, specializing in guiding Montana's renowned rivers such as the Yellowstone, Gallatin, Madison, and Smith. Josh is unwaveringly dedicated to preserving clean air, clean water, and our esteemed public lands, and he staunchly opposes any transfer of federal lands to state control, understanding the dangers of privatizing these valued resources. Josh intends to champion a renewed commitment to keep our water clean, a commitment to responsible development (particularly in headwaters communities), expanded public access to public lands, and a commitment to allowing voters to express their minds, particularly concerning ballot initiatives.

PETER STRAND for HD 63

Peter Strand served with the Bozeman Public Schools for nearly three decades. He decided to run for office after getting exasperated with daily developments in the legislature and realizing that making calls and sending emails wasn't enough.

Peter is now ready to make the leap to serving Bozeman as a legislator. His priorities include confronting NorthWestern Energy's lock on Montana's energy portfolio and their focus on maximizing profit rather than reducing pollution and energy costs for Montanans. Peter also wants to ensure that wealthy landowners don't get priority access to public lands and hunting rights.

REP. KELLY KORTUM for HD 64*

Rep. Kelly Kortum grew up in Ekalaka and moved to Bozeman to attend Montana State University. He now works at Bozeman's Community Food Co-op as a systems administrator. Kelly became involved in the day-to-day politics of Bozeman in the summer of 2015 and he went on to co-found a local non-partisan group called Gallatin Progressive Action Network. He believes public lands are a blessing and responsibility for all of us, and that privatizing public lands is theft from future generations. Kelly also believes voting is an essential right of all American citizens, and that efforts to restrict any citizen's ability to vote directly threatens our freedom, liberty, and shared future. Kelly scored 100% in MCV's 2023 Legislative Scorecard and is an MCV Lifetime Champion.

BRIAN CLOSE for HD 65

Brian Close arrived in Bozeman in the fall of 1994 for a teaching assistant job at Montana State University. Brian immediately became involved in the community by joining the GALAVAN Board, where he chaired a city task force that recommended the creation of public transit in Bozeman. In 2004, Brian was elected to the Bozeman City Study Commission, which passed the first successful city charter in 2008. As a member of the city planning board, he wrote the first light pollution ordinance adopted by a city in Montana, and as Chairman of the Bozeman Parks & Recreation Board, he helped facilitate the creation of the Bozeman Park District, which was approved by the voters in 2020. His priorities include reviving conservation financing and promoting renewable energy.

REP. ERIC MATTHEWS for HD 66*

Rep. Eric Matthews was born and raised in Bozeman and earned two degrees from Montana State University. Eric, also known as "Big E", has been a teacher at Chief Joseph Middle School for 25 years and serves as the vice president of the Bozeman Education Association and on the board of the Montana Federation of Public Employees. Last session, Eric served on the Business and Labor; Education; and Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Committees. He believes efforts to limit voting infringe on our freedoms, liberties, and rights, and that we need to maintain the strength and integrity of our voting system by encouraging every citizen to register and vote. Eric intends to support any and all legislation that makes access for voting easier. He also believes that Montana citizens have the right to access public lands, and that all citizens deserve to have these lands respected and protected from exploitation. Eric scored 100% in MCV's 2023 Legislative Scorecard.

CARL ANDERSON for HD 67

Carl Anderson was born and raised in Forsyth, Montana, where the great outdoors were a way of life. Carl is running for office because he believes we must find common ground and that, together, we can forge a new beginning as friends, neighbors, and Montanans. His educational background is in psychology, biochemistry, and astrobiology, and it is this knowledge and background that he will bring to the state legislature. He believes that sustainable growth is essential and that every Montana child is guaranteed a clean and healthful environment, as enshrined in the Montana State Constitution. As such, he will support or carry legislation that will seek to conserve our ecosystems and wildlife for future generations to enjoy.

NANCY JANE LIEN for HD 75

Nancy Jane Lien was born and raised on a wheat farm and cattle ranch south of Wolf Point. Nancy graduated with honors from Montana State University. She has held several roles in Montana, including serving six years on the Ennis City Council and working as executive director of the Jack Creek Road Task Force to establish a Scenic Byway between the Madison Valley and Big Sky. She is currently employed as a contracts administrator in the oil and gas industry, overseeing the construction of compression facilities and pipelines. She believes that our public lands must be maintained and kept in public ownership and vows to protect our Constitution to preserve our constitutional rights and protections.

LUKE MUSZKIEWICZ for HD 79

Luke Muszkiewicz was born and raised in Helena, where he still lives with his family. Luke works as a software engineer and data analyst and served on the Helena school board for six years. When the sun is shining, he loves to backpack, camp, float, and ski. Luke's legislative priorities include public education and advocating on behalf of the Montana Constitution. He is committed to preserving our rights to privacy, public land access, and a clean and healthy environment.

REP. MELISSA ROMANO for HD 80*

Rep. Melissa Romano was raised in Helena, where she still lives and teaches today. Melissa's stellar achievements in education have opened doors to numerous leadership opportunities. Through these roles, she has collaborated with communities across Montana and the nation while actively engaging with educators, parents, administrators, and students. As a current legislator, Melissa is a fierce advocate for the constitutional rights to privacy and a clean environment. Melissa scored 100% in MCV's 2023 Legislative Scorecard.

REP. MARY CAFERRO for HD 81*

Rep. Mary Caferro attended the University of Montana-Helena and volunteered for Working for Equality and Economic Liberation, eventually becoming its executive director. Mary

is a direct care worker for individuals who have disabilities. Experienced in Helena politics, she served in the Montana House from 2005 to 2010 and 2019 to today, as well as the Senate from 2011 to 2018. Mary scored 100% in MCV's 2023 Legislative Scorecard.

PETE ELVERUM for HD 82

Pete Elverum is an attorney and army veteran. Through college and law school, Pete spent his summers as a wildland firefighter. He graduated from Montana State University in 2006 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He then attended Gonzaga Law School and came home to pass the Montana bar before choosing to enter active duty. Today, he continues to serve the community as a city attorney and as a Command Judge Advocate in the Montana National Guard. His priorities include fighting any attempt to limit access to Montana's public lands, sell them to private corporations, or transfer their management to the state. On democracy, Pete intends to fight against the continued onslaught of legislation which seeks to undermine active civic engagement.

REP. JILL COHENOUR for HD 83*

Rep. Jill Cohenour was born in Havre and now lives in East Helena. Jill earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Montana and has been a chemist at the Montana State Environmental Lab for over 30 years. She is a current legislator in the Helena area and previously served in the Montana House from 2003 to 2010, as well as the Senate from 2015 to 2022, where she was also the Senate Minority Leader. Jill sponsored several bills in 2023, including one with a provision aimed to prohibit preventing, restricting, or obstructing lawful public access to land for hunting or fishing. She views reducing property taxes, improving access to housing, growing our quality public education, and protecting access to our amazing public lands and waters as the top priorities for the 2025 Legislature. Jill scored 100% in MCV's 2023 Legislative Scorecard.

MICHELE CREPEAU for HD 84

Michele Crepeau graduated from the law school at the University of Montana in 1999 and moved to Helena to work as the primary property tax attorney for the Montana Department of Revenue, where she interpreted existing laws, worked with the legislature to draft proposed laws, and worked with stakeholders to improve Montana's property tax system. She went on to become the Department's Chief Administrative Law Judge before retiring in 2023. Michele stepped out of retirement and into politics for three primary reasons: 1) to fix our property tax system, 2) to increase access to public lands, and 3) to ensure that the system of checks and balances established by both the U.S. and Montana Constitutions is not destroyed.