



Platform of the Montana Republican Party Adopted June 23, 2018

Preamble

Why is this Platform important?

This Platform sets forth the Montana Republican Party's positions on major issues facing the citizens of the Treasure State. It is meant to communicate what the Party stands for; to instruct local, state, and federal GOP officeholders; and to serve as a basis for crafting strategies for both legislative and civic action.

What do Republicans believe?

The Montana Republican Party subscribes to a set of principles that transcend specific policy issues while guiding the positions the Party takes on those issues. These principles derive directly from the wisdom of America's Founders, as expressed in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States of America.

Republicans believe "these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness."

Republicans believe that to secure these God-given rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

Republicans believe that the Constitution of the United States of America is a unique and binding compact, which defines a republican form of government designed to protect the rights of citizens by limiting the power of their government.

Republicans believe that the Constitution is as relevant today as it was on the day it was ratified. It is not an evolving, ever-changing document.

Republicans believe that centralization of political power invites the replacement of the rule of law by the rule of men and thus enables the rise of totalitarianism.

Republicans believe that each level of government should continuously strive to limit the scope of its own activity and to avoid infringing upon the lawful activities of free citizens.

Republicans believe in the dignity of each individual person and in promoting opportunities for all.

Republicans believe that a robust civil society—traditional families, churches, and various voluntary associations of free citizens—is essential for sustaining self-government.

Republicans believe that in the absence of free markets and secure property rights, personal and political freedom cannot long flourish.

Republicans believe in the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death, and that only parents have the right to direct all reproductive decisions for their minor children.

Republicans believe that the family is central to God’s plan for mankind. We believe the ideal traditional family structure is a father and a mother as it is unified in love and purpose, raising children based on their inalienable rights.

Who are the Republicans?

Montanan Republicans are men and women of all walks of life and of all creeds and colors. We are grateful to God for the quiet beauty of our state. We are united in viewing the United States of America as an exceptional nation that in its inception broke the historical norm. We celebrate being self-governing, free citizens. We recognize the debt we owe those citizens who came before us, and we gladly acknowledge our duty to pass the gift of liberty on to our children and grandchildren. If you share these values, please join us.

Resolution on Platform Principles

WHEREAS, Republican solidarity in opposition to the Democrat socialist agenda is necessary to preserve the security of our country, our economic and political freedoms, and our way of life; and

WHEREAS, Republican faithfulness to its conservative principles and public policies as dictated by members of the GOP during convention and found in the Montana State Platform is necessary to maintain and restore the trust of the electorate in the Republican Party and a proven path that will lead to Republican electoral victories; and

WHEREAS, we understand the broad written form of the whole of the Montana GOP Platform provides a great narrative tool for discussing our beliefs, it is a mechanism to detail policy to support in legislation; and

WHEREAS, the MTGOP has a responsibility to develop a simple set of Principles based upon the MTGOP Platform, that could then be applied to all proposed legislation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the MTGOP identifies the following ten (10) policy positions to be detailed in the Montana Republican Platform in a “Principles” section that shall be placed immediately after the Preamble and thus before the main body of planks;

1. Tax Policy: Reduce taxes, eliminate corporate subsidies and enact a simplified tax code that is flat rate based.

2. Size of Government: Adopt a tax and expenditures limitation (TEL), adopt a more transparent and accountable zero-based budget, only allow the growth of government to match the growth of the private sector, and privatize public services when possible.

3. Scope of Government: Market wage based pay and pension system; review and reform MCA to reduce onerous regulations; remove price control mechanisms, allowing the free market forces to work; and adopt a stronger legislative influence on the checks and balances of executive and judicial branches activities.

4. Sanctity of life: Support “all life is sacred” policies from conception to natural end of life with the exception of the death penalty. There will be no tax payer funding for abortions or suicides, parental notification and permission in all cases dealing with legal minors, and require taxpayer supported medical services programs to provide ultrasounds and all available choices for individuals dealing with crisis pregnancies.

5. Private Property: Understand that a property’s owner has exclusive rights to determine the use of their deeded property including subdivision, and that government is prohibited from infringing on those rights without due process;

6. Education: Adopt school choice policies driven by parental control, reduce centralized control mechanisms embracing local control first, support transparent and locally accountable district budgets, and preserve the autonomy of private and home school institutions.

7. Social Programs: Adopt policies of “hand up” not “hand out” in all social programs, adopt accountability and eligibility standards that only help the truly needy, and implement measures that define the primary role of all social services to one of reducing dependency.

8. Natural Resources: Understand that the State of Montana has jurisdiction over all non-federal water rights, that the development of natural resource utilization is the best source of property tax burden reduction and high wage earning potential, that economic impacts are just as important as environmental impacts and the permitting process for this use needs to be timely.

9. State Rights: Support the 10th Amendment, reject all federal programs that do not include funding for the life of the mandate, believe that all Federal Law implemented in Montana must be based on Article 1 section 1 of the US Constitution, that every Montana elected official work to confine Federal power to its Constitutional limits, and study the transfer of Federal public lands to the state.

10. Judicial: We follow the Rule of Law narrowly construed and support that the county Sheriff is the CLEO, individuals are responsible for their actions, and criminals need to compensate victims. We reject that the role of the court is to regulate through litigation, support reforming the Grand Jury laws to better root out corruption, and support limiting the ability of the MT Supreme Court to abuse its power to protect themselves.

Agriculture

The Montana Republican Party recognizes production agriculture as the leading industry, sustaining a tax base that strengthens and maintains the Montana economy. We support free market principles that expand markets for trade. We recognize agricultural producers as the premier stewards of the environment. We believe that private property ownership is a fundamental principle of our Constitutional Republic and uphold the continuation of this right. Maintaining the historical traditions and cultural heritage of agriculture in Montana are important for continuing our role in feeding Montana and the world.

American Indian Affairs

The Montana Republican Party supports American Indian Tribal Peoples and their treaties with the Federal Government.

We affirm Montana Tribal People have the inherent right to know as Montana citizens all funds and activities of the State of Montana affecting tribal people.

We support mutually beneficial economic development in all communities.

We support the individual rights of Montana tribal citizens as guaranteed by the Montana constitution.

Business and Labor

Preamble

The Montana Republican Party recognizes that free enterprise is the only economic system that promotes freedom and prosperity. We recognize the importance of new and existing Montana businesses as the source of economic growth in Montana. We support and encourage new capital investment in the Montana economy.

Employment

We encourage efforts to create, attract and retain employment opportunities for all Montanans. We believe that membership in labor bargaining units should be optional.

Business Infrastructure

We support the immediate and future industry of information technology. We support high speed fiber available to all areas.

Worker's Compensation

We advocate a workers' compensation system that is sustainable, fair and equitable to both employers and employees.

Government

We believe government programs should be restricted to those services that cannot be provided by the private sector. The limited role of government in economic development is to facilitate competitive private sector growth.

Regulations

We believe in a competitive market free of undue regulation, restriction, coercion, or interference from government. Regulations must be kept to an absolute minimum. Rulemaking authority must be restricted to legislators.

Tort Reform

We are committed to pursuing tort reform legislation to ensure a more predictable and less litigious legal climate and reduce the risks and costs of doing business.

Crime

General Principle

We support the concept of individual responsibility; that each person is accountable for his or her actions.

School Safety

Our children have a fundamental right to be safe at school. We support increased security and prevention of violence.

Drugs and Alcohol

We recognize the danger that substance abuse poses to our society. Those who drive under the influence of drugs and alcohol should face stiff penalties. We support strong intervention for repeat offenders and alternatives to incarceration.

Drug Related Crime in Our Community

Drug trafficking and related crimes are having a catastrophic effect on our communities and shall be opposed vigorously.

Truth in Sentencing

We believe the punishment at sentencing shall reflect the seriousness of the crime(s) committed. The public has a right to know, at the time of sentencing, the minimum amount of time a criminal will be incarcerated and under what conditions the criminal may be eligible for parole.

Supervision of Convicted Sexual Offenders

The Republican Party supports registration, monitoring, and strict supervision of convicted sexual offenders and timely notification to victims and local (city and county) law enforcement of the offender's pending release.

Internet Crime

Cyber-crime, including child pornography and trafficking, are serious threats that shall be proactively addressed.

Corrections

We support a corrections system that:

- Provides public safety,
- Utilizes best practices to reduce recidivism,
- Addresses the impact of crimes to victims, and
- Requires community approval for community based corrections programs

Restitution

Convicted offenders have an obligation to repay victims or victims' families for the cost of the crime. The restitution obligation should be addressed at sentencing and a portion of the offender's earnings should be applied to restitution.

Limit Appeals

We urge the government to expedite appeal(s) in death penalty cases and restrict frivolous

lawsuits by inmates, recognizing that the costs are borne by the taxpayers of Montana.

Jury Authority

We reaffirm the principle espoused by our nation's founders that our court system belongs to the people. We recognize both the power and the moral obligation vested in juries to secure justice by judging both the facts of a case and application of the law itself. We support requiring judges to fully inform jurors of their constitutional rights and responsibilities.

Parental Rights

We support due process for families. Parents shall be allowed to reasonably discipline their children without government interference.

Consistency in Constitutional Laws

Although the Montana Constitution gives the Board of Regents “full power” to “supervise, coordinate, manage and control the Montana University System,” it does not give the Board any authority to amend, alter, or abolish the Montana Constitution, nor does it give the University System the authority to deny citizens of Montana the rights they have reserved to themselves from government interference in the Montana and United States Constitution.

Economic Development

The Montana Republican Party is committed to fostering a business friendly environment through less government- more freedom and eliminating barriers to economic development. We advocate for:

- Eliminating regulations that inhibit economic development and business activity,
- Reasonable, consistent, and timely permits,
- Reforming or eliminating state agencies and departments that restrict economic development,
- A government culture that emphasizes customer service over regulation and enforcement,
- Reducing or eliminating taxes that hinder development,
- Reforming workers' compensation insurance to be more competitive,
- Free market development of Montana's diverse industries, resources, and technologies,
- A Constitutional government that is predictable, equitable, and follows the rule of law,
- A robust system of public and private education that creates a qualified, competent, and competitive workforce,
- Eliminating government activities that pick economic winners and losers, and
- Encouraging savings and investment to fuel economic growth.

Education

The Montana Republican Party supports quality educational opportunities for all Montanans. We recognize that educating Montana's children, which takes place in homes, churches, and schools, is ultimately the right and responsibility of parents and is essential to maintaining our American way of life. The Party further recognizes the duty that each generation has to educate following generations. We believe Montana's schools can best contribute to fulfilling this duty when local communities control the content of instruction and the allocation of school resources. Local control stimulates innovation, encourages civic engagement, reinforces Montana values, and

guards against State and Federal overreach.

We support:

- Recognizing parent's authority and responsibility for educating their children through multiple school-choice options.
- Defending the autonomy of local school boards.
- Opposing Federal directives that interfere with local control of Montana's schools.
- Restoring faculty and staff freedom of association.
- Protecting 1st Amendment freedoms within our educational communities.
- Defending the right of students to voluntarily pray and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Preparing students to become engaged, informed, productive American citizens.
- Providing career, technical, and college opportunities for all Montanans.
- Promoting each individual community's efforts to enhance school safety and security.

Election Law

Voter Registration

Montana voter registration should ensure all registered voters are United States of America citizens to be eligible to vote. Voter rolls should be current, correct and free of duplication. Voter registration periods should be ample but end prior to Election Day.

Election by Majority

Montana would best be served by elected officials who are supported by a majority of those voting.

Nomination of Candidates

The Montana Republican party has the right to freely associate, and we support the establishment of closed primaries and registration by party in Montana.

Reform of Political Practices Office

Montana has the only Political Practices office in the nation where a single person serves as investigator, prosecutor, judge and jury of alleged political practice violations. This office needs to be reformed to separate the prosecution function from the judge and jury function with the transfer of the legal enforcement components to the Attorney General and the clerical and reporting components to the Secretary of State.

Election Process

Election process should be managed by the county election office for every election, and the Secretary of State should monitor elections for any fraud. School elections should be open, accessible, and well publicized.

Human Services

Preamble

The Montana Republican party recognizes that an individual has primary responsibility for his or her own health and welfare. We support efforts to evaluate the Montana human service delivery system to reassess and improve the programs and participation of each department providing these services. We support family involvement in the treatment and care in a family related manner at the local or community level. The Montana Republican Party affirms its belief and

support for traditional family units and values.

Human Life

We affirm our belief in traditional family values and support the preservation of innocent human life at every stage of life, in all circumstances, beginning at conception through natural death. We oppose using public revenues to promote or perform abortion, or fund organizations which perform or advocate abortion. In concert with these beliefs: 1) We support parental notification and consent, and informed consent in all cases involving abortion; 2) We support those individuals and organizations seeking to provide positive alternatives to abortion, such as adoption; 3) We oppose assisted suicide; 4) We oppose partial birth abortion; 5) We support a moratorium on human cloning for any purpose; 6) We support non-embryonic stem cell research; 7) We support abstinence education.

Health Care and Wellness

We recognize the constitutional concept of individual free will, responsibility, and accountability in personal health care decisions. The innate dignity of the human spirit means we believe in the potential of people with disabilities to contribute, rehabilitate, and receive maximum opportunities for employment, volunteer work, and independent living to the best of their abilities. We support the expansion of private healthcare options. We oppose the expansion of government provided healthcare services to able-bodied adults.

Services to Children and Youth

We support policies and services that preserve and strengthen the traditional family unit as well as promoting the wellbeing of children and youth. We support inter-agency and intra-agency planning, efficiency, collaboration, and coordination of family-based, faith-based, and community-based services tailored to meet the needs of children, adolescents, and their families. We oppose the subjective practice of separating Montana children from their families without due process of law.

Immigration

The Montana Republican Party takes pride that our country was founded by immigrants from many countries.

The Montana Republican Party SUPPORTS:

- The Constitutional Supremacy of U.S.A immigration laws;
- State and local cooperation with the enforcement of U.S.A immigration laws;
- Securing our borders and penalizing employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens;
- Enforcement of all visa laws and regulations;
- Rigorous investigation of asylum seekers;
- The original interpretation of the 14th Amendment so that only children born of U.S.A citizens or legal permanent residents are natural born U.S.A citizens.

The Montana Republican Party OPPOSES:

- Illegal immigration and un-vetted refugees relocated to the state of Montana;
- Work permits and tax-payer-benefits from being granted to illegal aliens;
- Open borders and the denial of U.S.A sovereignty;
- Chain migration and the visa lottery system as a basis for legal immigration.

Local Government

Preamble

The Montana Republican Party supports efforts to return control and authority to local communities, as the government closest and most responsive to the people.

Funding

We believe all levels of government are responsible for funding their own programs. No level of government should mandate responsibilities or programs to lower levels or subdivisions of government unless funding for those responsibilities and programs is also provided. We strongly urge the Governor of the state of Montana to refuse any federal mandated programs requiring funding by the State or local governments, except those based on a declared national emergency by the President of the United States. We continue to support the goal of limiting all tax and fee increases. We urge the wise use of our natural resources (understanding that PILT money is declining). We support ideas that will assist in the funding of local government such as returning management of federally-controlled public land to the state. We support the revenue sharing established by the Montana legislature and Montana's units of local government in order to prevent tax increases at the local level.

Local Responsibility

We believe local governments are responsible for resolving local problems and we support the County Sheriff as the Chief Law Enforcement Officer. We also support all local law enforcement. State government should be responsible for its actions affecting local government and all state restrictions on self-government should be extremely limited and narrowly construed. We do not support local governments implementing any rules that suppress an individual's rights or beliefs. We encourage all local government entities to strive for less intrusion into the private sector.

Individual Rights

The rights of individuals to vote on local governmental tax or fee issues and officials are fundamental to protect Constitutional rights.

Property Rights

We believe that local government shall protect property rights. Property owners shall have the ability to use their property as they wish. We support prohibiting the state of Montana and its political subdivisions from adopting and developing environmental and developmental policies that, without due process, would infringe or restrict the private property rights of the [property] owner[s].

Government Transparency

We support open meetings for government decision-making bodies. We strongly urge taxpayers to review, comment, and participate in the development of county, city, and school district budgets. We encourage all local government entities to publish their budgets, draft policies, regulations, agendas, minutes and election information electronically to provide transparency to the highest degree. We urge local bodies to use sunset review of all newly implemented taxes and fees.

Land Use

We recognize and oppose the destructive and insidious efforts of foreign influence including the United Nations Agenda 21/2030 to redefine or restrict whole economies and industries in Montana.

We encourage the State of Montana and its political subdivisions to engage in the coordination process with all federal government agencies that adopt policies under NEPA or other applicable federal law.

Privacy

We believe local governments should exclude themselves from all activities that would infringe on constitutional rights.

National Affairs

Preamble

The Montana Republican Party supports individual freedom and liberty for all citizens of the United States of America. We hold fast to the principles of our founding fathers as clearly stated in the Declaration of Independence, We affirm that the United States Constitution, as written and ratified with strict constructionism, is the Supreme Law of the Land, and we stand in defense against ignoring, weakening or misinterpreting it.

Personal Rights and Liberties

We affirm the unalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all individuals. We affirm the sanctity of human life and the inherent dignity of each human being from conception to natural death. The people of Montana approved defining marriage in our constitution as only between one man and one woman, and we support that definition.

We affirm the freedom of speech and religion, and that the state cannot compel us to violate these rights when in the pursuit of the activities of our daily lives, whether personal or commercial. No branch of government shall limit, deny or infringe upon our Constitutional rights, or make criminal the free exercise thereof.

We stand against the indefinite detention of our citizens by certain provision of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) as it violates the right of habeas corpus and the 5th, 6th, & 9th Amendments of the US Constitution. We further affirm that we oppose the Patriot Act and all of its versions or others instruments that erode our individual liberties.

States' Rights

The founding fathers gave the individual States the right and duty to nullify federal laws that are not passed in pursuance to the Constitution and its few and defined powers. We recognize the clear separation of power and responsibilities between federal and state governments. We require our congressional and state representatives and our governor and Supreme Court to vigorously defend the principles of federalism and the 10th Amendment and to reestablish these Constitutional limits where they have been abused. We call upon our Congressional Delegation to defend each state's right to govern to the land, water, and natural resources within their boundaries. We oppose any extension of federal or regional bureaucratic control over water originating in Montana, including federal reserved water rights compacts, and consider any such action an infringement on Montana's constitutionally defined water rights. We require that the

United States comply with its 1889 compact with Montana, as was understood for inclusion of statehood. We affirm that a federal officer may not arrest, search or seize in Montana without the advanced, written permission of the elected county sheriff, as the chief law enforcement officer.

Right to Bear Arms

The right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed by any level of government, government agency or employee, and we support the Montana Firearms Freedom Act that requires the prosecution of any government employee that violates it. We support the castle doctrine of self-defense and recognize its extension to our vehicles.

Government at any level may not enact a system of firearm registration of any kind, including tracking, taxing, or limiting the amount of ammunition or firearms that may be owned lawfully. We oppose "gun free zones" because they strip peaceful citizens of the right to defend themselves. American citizens exercising their right to peaceably assemble or seek redress of their grievances, whether armed in accordance with the United States Constitution or not so armed, shall not be deemed as terrorists simply for that non-violent act.

Veterans and citizens seeking medical treatment are constitutionally protected and any removal of rights based on predicted threat must include due process, transparency, and opportunity for expedient redress.

National Defense

We support peace through strength, and a strong military including the Montana National Guard and a constitutional State Militia under the direction of the Governor. We acknowledge the need for the continued maintenance of military strength to defend our nation, with an emphasis on research and development, military forces, and refinement of strategic defense initiative technology. We support continuing efforts to prevent nuclear proliferation, but totally oppose any suggestions of unilateral disarmament on the part of the United States, or placing any troops or military resources under United Nations or foreign command or the deployment of United Nations or foreign Troops on United States soil for any reason, and support relocation of the U.N. to any country that will have them.

We strongly support defense and proper security of our nation's borders by the federal government, including the construction of a wall where needed. Upon their failure to do so the state should exercise its right to defend its borders. We strongly support the Constitutional requirement of a formal Congressional declaration of war before committing regular troops to a military operation.

We urge that those in charge of veterans' affairs accelerate efforts of the appropriate agencies to meet the medical and physical needs of those impaired in the service of our country, including vouchers to private carriers to expedite waiting lists.

Monetary Policy

We stand against federal money policy being established by the Federal Reserve and stand in support of constitutionally defined money. We support congress' constitutional authority over monetary policy. We value oversight and transparency and regular auditing of the Federal Reserve Bank.

Energy

We urge, through private and public venues, the development and advancement of all energy resources. We oppose any federal or state government mandate to purchase or subsidize energy

development in any form. We oppose any tax on carbon emissions. All publicly deployed forms of energy shall have equal access to the grid as specified by deregulation. We oppose the federal government yielding to any international pressure to oppose any regulation on domestic energy production or consumption. We oppose any classification of CO2 or other greenhouse gasses as dangerous gasses or pollutants. We stand strongly in support of the completion of the Keystone Pipeline. We are in favor of only those Federal administrative rules that do not exceed the authority of the statute. We support the requirement of full disclosure of government subsidizations of all publicly deployed forms of energy.

Telecommunications Policy

We oppose federal telephone excise taxes and further government-imposed taxes, fees, or charges on telecommunications or the internet in any forms. We oppose all future government internet restrictions that would infringe on the rights of citizens.

Entitlements

We oppose the creation of any new entitlement programs or the expansion of any existing programs for U.S.A. citizens, and we oppose extending these existing entitlements to non-citizens.

Flag Desecration

We strongly support an amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America that would protect the flag from desecration.

National Sovereignty

We support the original Republican National Committee resolution in opposition to the program known as United Nations Agenda 21/2030 in its entirety, or any other diminishment of national sovereignty in pursuance of global governance.

Data Privacy

An individual's personal data belongs to each individual. The government must obtain a search warrant based on probable cause, which must be approved by a non-secret court before the collection of an individual's data is allowed.

Federal Debt

We oppose the accumulation of federal debt and federal deficit spending.

Federally Managed Public Lands

The Montana Republican Party supports the U.S. Congress and U.S. President, other public officials and citizens of Montana and the United States of America to fully exert their efforts and powers to support returning federally managed public lands to the states in order to secure statehood equality and provide for better management of public lands.

Natural Resources

We support a natural resource development policy that promotes jobs in Montana, responsible stewardship and reduces our dependence on federal aid or foreign resources.

We defend the 'first in time, first in right' water doctrine protected by State Law. We oppose ratification or further appropriation of funds toward implementation of the CSKT Compact until final resolution of the legal challenges and full scrutiny of the federal legislation by the judiciary

and the Montana state legislature. We oppose Waters of the US and removing the word navigable from the definition of waterways as defined by state or federal agencies. We affirm the legislature's constitutional duty to provide for the administration, control, and regulation of water rights under state law which is non-delegable to any other claims of regulatory authority or jurisdiction.

We oppose the federal government or any foreign or international entity, such as the United Nations, exercising authority over land use or natural resource decisions in Montana.

We oppose the creation of 'buffer zones' by legislation, administrative or judicial rule, or agency policy to expand water and land use restrictions. We oppose any new federal special land designations without the approval of the Montana State Legislature. We support the granting of federally managed public lands to the state, and development of a transition plan for the timely and orderly transfer. Any lands transferred from the federal government to the state shall be administered for the purpose in which they are conveyed. We support the release of current wilderness study areas. We support maintaining and increasing access within the federal lands in Montana. We oppose publicly funded subsidies for conservation easements.

We desire to improve the economic well-being of our timber communities by supporting timely harvesting, restoration of fire and beetle damaged forests and use of responsible logging.

We support the private development of energy and mineral resources and oppose any politically driven war on dams, hard rock mining, coal and other carbon fuels.

We support the designation of hydroelectric power as a renewable energy source by the state and federal government.

We support informed natural resource decision-making by government entities based on sound science. We support clear language in our regulations and we oppose measures that add ambiguity and undefined terms in our permitting process. The Montana Environmental Policy Act should be implemented to protect private property rights, the economy, and society.

We urge Congress to repeal the Equal Access to Justice Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act in favor of state-based policies, and return the Federal Endangered Species Act to the original law of 1973. We support responsible hunting, trapping and fishing that balances resource conservation with the rights of property owners. We support state management of all of Montana's wildlife species according to state law and encourage the delisting of the grizzly bear from the Endangered Species Act.

We support federal agency reorganization and consolidation to reduce duplication of programs, streamlining decision-making.

State Administration

- We support small, effective and efficient government.
- We promote legislation for more local control.
- We embrace legislative oversight of administrative rulemaking to ensure the intent of the legislation is upheld.
- We advocate for transparency and citizen participation at all levels of government.

Taxation

Federal, state and local taxes should be low, broad-based and easily understood. Taxes shall not be used to redistribute wealth.

Transportation

- We support the efficient development, maintenance and infrastructure improvements for transportation in Montana.
- We support a return to common sense regulation of all transportation.
- We support local input on design plans.