



VOTER GUIDE 2016



MONTANA WOMEN VOTE

works to register and engage women at all levels of our democracy, including by casting their vote at the ballot box.

Montana Women Vote is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that doesn't support or endorse political candidates. This guide provides the tools you need to make informed decisions about candidates, ballot measures, and other public policy proposals.

ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH AND POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 7AM UNTIL 8PM.

■ **GET MORE INFO:** You can check to see if you are registered, where you are registered, view a sample ballot, and track your absentee ballot at the Secretary of State's website: <https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/> or by calling your local elections office.

■ **VOTE ABSENTEE:** If you have not signed up for an absentee ballot, but would like to vote early, you can do so in person at your local elections office.

Please note: If you are voting absentee remember that you need to vote the ballot that was mailed to you and that you will not be able to vote at the polls unless you bring your absentee ballot with you. If you lose your absentee ballot, you can get a replacement ballot at your County Elections Office or you can vote provisionally at your local polling place on Election Day.

■ **VOTE EARLY:** If you have not signed up for an absentee ballot, but would like to vote early, you can do so in-person at your local elections office. When you sign up for an absentee ballot between October 12th and November 7th at noon, you can register and vote at the same time. Please note that some offices use an alternative location to do late and same-day voter registration and you should call your local office to double check the location.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT VOTING

CAN SOMEONE HELP ME WHEN I GO TO VOTE?

Yes, you can bring a friend, relative, teacher, or parent, and can bring in notes, a voter guide, etc. You just can't bring an employer. Don't forget, you are allowed to bring your kids to the polls!

DO I NEED MY VOTER REGISTRATION CARD IN ORDER TO VOTE?

No. However, you do need a form of ID and your voter registration card is one form of ID that you can use. Other IDs that you can use include any current photo ID that shows your name (valid driver's license, school ID, state ID, or tribal ID) or a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document that shows your name and current address.

DO I HAVE TO VOTE FOR EVERY ITEM ON THE BALLOT?

No. You can choose not to vote for a candidate position or an initiative. Your ballot will still be valid even if you leave an item blank.

HOW DO I FIND OUT WHERE TO GO TO VOTE OR WHAT PRECINCT, DISTRICTS AND WARDS I AM VOTING FOR?

That information is on your voter registration card. If you do not have your card, you can call your local elections office for that information or check out the Secretary of State's My Voter Page: <https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/>.

IMPORTANT DATES

■ OCTOBER 11TH

Close of regular voter registration. Absentee ballots are mailed October 14th.

■ OCTOBER 12TH

Same-day voter registration opens; you must go to your county elections office to vote.

■ MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH FROM NOON - 5PM

Your local Elections Office is closed in preparation for Election Day.

■ NOVEMBER 8TH: GENERAL ELECTION DAY!

Most polls are open from 7am-8pm. If you have been issued an absentee ballot and not mailed it back yet, you will need to hand-deliver it to your County Elections Office or to any polling location.

US REPRESENTATIVE

Represents Montana in the US House of Representatives in Washington, D.C.

It is the role of government to make sure that safety net programs are in place so those most in need don't fall through the cracks.

DENISE JUNEAU (D) ☒ *AGREE ☐ DISAGREE

RYAN ZINKE (R) DID NOT RESPOND

RICK BRECKENRIDGE (L) ☒ *AGREE ☐ DISAGREE

Do you support or oppose services and programs that give women access to health care, including comprehensive reproductive health care, regardless of ability to pay?

DENISE JUNEAU (D) ☒ *SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE

RYAN ZINKE (R) DID NOT RESPOND

RICK BRECKENRIDGE (L) ☒ *SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE

Do you support equality for all families- including the right to marry, raise children, and access jobs and housing without discrimination?

DENISE JUNEAU (D) ☒ *YES ☐ NO

RYAN ZINKE (R) DID NOT RESPOND

RICK BRECKENRIDGE (L) ☒ *YES ☐ NO

MONTANA SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

The Montana Supreme Court is the highest court in the state, with one Chief Justice and six Justices. Decisions made by the Court affect Montana law.

Do you support increasing access to justice by continuing funding for the self-help law program in the Department of Justice budget?

KRISTEN JURAS ☒ YES ☐ NO

DIRK SANDEFUR ☒ *YES ☐ NO

Do you support increasing state funding for domestic and sexual violence intervention and prevention, including an increased focus on the issue of violence against Native women and other marginalized groups?

KRISTEN JURAS ☒ SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE

DIRK SANDEFUR ☒ *SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE

(D) Democrat (R) Republican (I) Independent (L) Libertarian

Ballot issues appear at the very end of your ballot, but will still have a direct impact on the lives of women and families in Montana. So make sure you vote your ballot from top to bottom! Below is a list of the issues you'll see on this year's ballot.

CI-116	Updates and establishes specific constitutional rights for crime victims.
I-177	Prohibit the use of traps and snares for animals by the public on any public lands within Montana, with certain exceptions.
I-181	Promote research into developing therapies and cures for brain diseases and injuries.
I-182	Expand access to Medical Marijuana.

GOVERNOR

Heads the state executive branch. The Governor proposes a state budget, appoints executive level staff that head different departments, and has the ability to veto bills passed by the State Legislature.

Do you support equality for all families, including access to jobs, housing, and services without discrimination?

STEVE BULLOCK (D) ☒ SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE

GREG GIANFORTE (R) DID NOT RESPOND

TED DUNLAP (L) ☒ SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE

Do you support or oppose statewide measures to create paid family and medical leave and paid sick days so workers don't have to choose between taking care of themselves or their families and their job security?

STEVE BULLOCK (D) ☒ *SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE

GREG GIANFORTE (R) DID NOT RESPOND

TED DUNLAP (L) ☐ SUPPORT ☒ *OPPOSE

Do you agree or disagree that Montana should raise revenue by closing tax loopholes and ensuring that everyone is paying their fair share in order to fully invest in communities and infrastructure?

STEVE BULLOCK (D) ☒ *AGREE ☐ DISAGREE

GREG GIANFORTE (R) DID NOT RESPOND

TED DUNLAP (L) ☐ AGREE ☒ *DISAGREE

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONERS

Regulate utilities in Montana. The state is divided into five PSC districts.

Do you support or oppose expanding programs that provide aid to low-income families who cannot afford to pay utility bills?

PSC #3: PAT NOONAN (D) ☒ SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE

PSC #3: ROGER KOOPMAN (R) DID NOT RESPOND*

PSC #3: CARON COOPER (I) DID NOT RESPOND

PSC #4 : GAIL GUTSCHE (D) ☒ *SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE

PSC #4: BOB LAKE (R) ☒ *SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE

Do you support increasing state funding for domestic and sexual violence intervention and prevention, including an increased focus on the issue of violence against Native women and other marginalized groups?

PSC #3: PAT NOONAN (D) ☒ YES ☐ NO

PSC #3: ROGER KOOPMAN (R) *DID NOT RESPOND

PSC #3: CARON COOPER (I) DID NOT RESPOND

PSC #4 : GAIL GUTSCHE (D) ☒ YES ☐ NO

PSC #4: BOB LAKE (R) ☒ YES ☐ NO

SECRETARY OF STATE

Montana's Chief Elections Officer who also oversees many of the business licenses issued by the state.

Will you uphold state laws that allow Montanans to use multiple forms of ID at the polls, including but not limited to voter registration cards and student IDs?

MONICA LINDEEN (D) ☒ YES ☐ NO

COREY STAPLETON (R) DID NOT RESPOND

ROGER ROOTS (L) ☒ YES ☐ NO

Do you support or oppose laws expanding access to registration and voting such as online voter registration?

MONICA LINDEEN (D) ☒ SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE

COREY STAPLETON (R) DID NOT RESPOND

ROGER ROOTS (L) ☒ SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE

Do you agree or disagree with the implementation of satellite voting offices in reservation counties?

MONICA LINDEEN (D) ☒ AGREE ☐ DISAGREE

COREY STAPLETON (R) DID NOT RESPOND

ROGER ROOTS (L) ☐ AGREE ☒ *DISAGREE

STATE AUDITOR

Also known as the Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, protects Montana consumers through insurance and securities regulation.

As auditor, will you pursue legislation to improve state oversight of insurance rates and administrative costs, in order to hold insurance companies accountable to those who buy their services?

JESSE LASLOVICH (D) DID NOT RESPOND*

MATT ROSENDALE (R) DID NOT RESPOND

Do you support or oppose refusal clauses (ie. religious exemptions) that allow employers or businesses to refuse to provide birth control and other preventative health care services to employees/patients?

JESSE LASLOVICH (D) ☐ SUPPORT ☒ OPPOSE

MATT ROSENDALE (R) DID NOT RESPOND

★

THE CANDIDATE IN MY DISTRICT DIDN'T RESPOND:

MWV works to get responses from all candidates in the races that we cover, but sometimes candidates don't respond. You can still use the questions from this voter guide to ask candidates where they stand on issues that impact women and families in Montana.

Call them on the phone, send them an email, or ask them questions when they knock on your door. They want to represent *you* so ask them where they stand.

* Additional written response available on our website: www.montanawomenvote.org
Paid for by Montana Women Vote. Sarah Howell, Treasurer. 725 W. Alder St. #21, Missoula, MT 59802.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

The state's chief legal and law enforcement officer, the AG heads up the Department of Justice.

Racial and ethnic minorities, especially Native Americans, are disproportionately represented in Montana's prison system. Do you support or oppose legislative efforts to stop racial profiling by the police and the courts?

LARRY JENT (D) ☒ SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE

TIM FOX (R) DID NOT RESPOND

Do you support increasing state funding for domestic and sexual violence intervention and prevention, including an increased focus on the issue of violence against Native women and other marginalized groups?

LARRY JENT (D) ☒ SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE

TIM FOX (R) DID NOT RESPOND

As Attorney General, would you support alternative approaches to our criminal justice system including but not limited to investment in mental health care and drug treatment?

LARRY JENT (D) ☒ YES ☐ NO

TIM FOX (R) DID NOT RESPOND

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

The head of public K-12 education in Montana.

Do you support age-appropriate, comprehensive sex education, which includes information about abstinence and contraception, in Montana schools?

MELISSA ROMANO (D) ☒ SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE

ELSIE ARNTZEN (R) *DID NOT RESPOND

Will you support legislative efforts to fully fund Indian Education for All?

MELISSA ROMANO (D) ☒ YES ☐ NO

ELSIE ARNTZEN (R) *DID NOT RESPOND

Would you support or oppose a policy or initiative to divert state education dollars from local public schools to private schools including religious schools?

MELISSA ROMANO (D) ☐ SUPPORT ☒ OPPOSE

ELSIE ARNTZEN (R) *DID NOT RESPOND



Montana Women Vote

Montana Women Vote
725 W. Alder St. Ste #21
Missoula, MT 59802

P.O. Box 1509
Helena Montana 59624

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

MISSOULA, MT 59801
Permit No. 569



ELECTION DAY: TUESDAY, NOV. 8TH

This guide provides the tools you need to make informed decisions about candidates, ballot measures, and other public policy proposals. Share it with your friends, family, and coworkers to start a conversation about what the election means for our families. When you vote, you aren't just picking a candidate or a policy, you're casting a vote for yourself, your future, and your family.