

June 2, 2010

Commissioner Dennis Unsworth
Montana Office of Political Practices
P.O. Box 202401
1205 8th Avenue
Helena, MT 59620-2401

HAND DELIVERED

**Re: Formal Complaint Against Service Employees
Industrial Union, Inc.; Senator John Bruggeman, et al.
a.k.a. Main Street Advocacy Fund, Inc., a non-resident
political committee, and others.**

**Via Hand Delivery: Montana Office of Political
Practices, 1205 8th Ave. Helena, MT.**

Expedited Review and Investigation Requested

Dear Commissioner Unsworth,

As per the following, I wish to submit a formal complaint to your office alleging violation of Montana Campaign Finance laws and regulations. I am also requesting an expedited review by your office due to the close proximity of the primary election, and the fact that Montana elections will be impacted by the illicit activity described in this complaint.

This complaint is submitted in compliance with Montana statutes and 44.10.307, ARM. I am a Republican candidate for Senate District 35, for the soon to be held primary next Tuesday on June 8, 2010. My name is Art Wittich and my address is 3116 Sourdough Road, Bozeman, MT 59715. I have two remaining opponents in the race, one of which, Shawn Moran, is the favored candidate of a highly organized, political group calling itself Main Street Advocacy Fund which is or was at one time, during the 2010 election in Montana coordinated by SEIU, Senator John Bruggeman and others.

The facts and allegations contained in this complaint reveal the very kind of secretive, underhanded, illegal, attempts to influence election results that the campaign finance laws of this state are designed to guard against and protect. The dubious actions on the part of the union, Mr. Bruggeman and others involved is noting short of

intentional and reprehensible. It is a violation of Montana's highly regarded long standing disclosure requirements which provides Montana voters with the necessary means to determine, for themselves, which candidate best espouses their own interests in our representative form of government. Deprivation of this knowledge by nefarious schemes such as the one being advanced by the parties herein named warrants the full measure of the authority vested in your office.

I. Violators or Persons with Information Pertaining to Violations:

A. Violators:

Service Employees International Union, Inc. (SEIU) 33615 First Way South Suite A, Federal Way, WA 98003; 302 N. Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59601.

Main Street Advocacy Fund, Inc., 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20004-2403 "OR P.O. Box 4096, Washington, D.C. 20004-2403, or P.O. Box 1630, Helena, MT 59624.

State Senator John Bruggeman, 39341 Lakeview Drive, Polson, MT 59860-8123.

Ted Dick, Treasurer, SEIU, 302 N. Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59601.

John M. Ward, Treasurer, Main Street Advocacy Fund, Inc. 4553 Pothole Drive, Helena, MT 59802.

Sarah Chamberlain Resnick, Deputy Treasurer, Main Street Advocacy, Inc. 1200 Penn. Ave. NW, Washington, D.C., 20004-2403 OR 11431 James Jack Lane, Charlotte, NC 28277.

B. Additional Violators or Persons w/ Information Pertaining to Violations:

Susan Good, M. Susan Good Geise, msusangood@mt.com.

Shawn Moran, Candidate, State Senate District 35, 13830 Cottonwood Rd. Bozeman, MT 59718. Kris Rochford, Treasurer, P.O. Box 816, Three Forks, MT 59752/209 N. 5th Ave. E, Three Forks, MT 59752.

Lorna Kuney, Treasurer, P.O. Box 1598, Helena, MT 59624/400 N California, Helena, MT 59601.

II. Factual Basis for Complaint:

Organizational activity relating to the eventual signatures, as indicated by notes maintained in your office, began as early as January 5, 2010. (See: C-2 Statement of Organization "Montana Main Street Republican Partnership, P.O. Box 1598, Helena, MT 59624, Lorna Kuney, Treasurer, 400 N. California, Helena, MT 59601; Attached as Exhibit A). A note maintained by your office indicates that "Sarah Chamberlain" contacted you Re: "setting up a PAC" and that someone "Spoke to Lorna-State PRC. (See, Exhibit B). It is clear from that note which is dated 1/6/2010 that the advice from your office was such that the committee or PAC could not "receive corporate contributions." On March 1, 2010, Lorna Kuney responded to an inquiry from your office regarding the status of the Main Street Republican Partnership and your office was instructed to please destroy the filings. Ms. Kuney indicated the organization can always "re-file" if it decides to pursue activity. Susan Good and John Bruggeman were on Cc-ed Lorna's email. (Exhibit C).

Beginning at least as soon as April 29, 2010, Ted Dick of SEIU inquired with your office and behind closed doors wanted the opinion of Program Supervisor Mary Baker regarding "a direct mail piece that a non-profit C-4 [IRS Non-profit Corporate Designation, notation mine] wanted to put out." (See Exhibit D). Mr. Dick was attempting to circumvent reporting and disclosure requirements by "trying to avoid any express advocacy." Supervisor Baker referred him to COPP decisions involving express advocacy, and that she could not give him a formal opinion. Supervisor Baker's notes did indicate the mailer was about Sandy Welch as a candidate for accountability. As described in Supervisor Baker's notes the suspect Sandy Welch mailer appears very similar to the Moran advocacy mailer attached as Exhibit I, herein and discussed in detail later in this complaint. The Supervisor also noted and conveyed to Mr. Dick that her opinion was such that the mailer contained express advocacy and that implied statements were contained in the mailer encouraging a vote for Sandy Welch. Mr. Dick returned May 4, 2010 with a flyer that "looked better" but still required legal

review. (Exhibit D). On May 6th, 7th and 10th, radio ads were purchased by Gregory Tacher, Tahcer Company, 2300 130 Ave. NE, Suite A-104, Bellevue, WA 98005 (Spot Confirmation); also indicating Beryllium, Media Buyer at that same Washington state address. (See Exhibit E). Beryllium is listed as Payee in Schedule B. of Main Street Advocacy Fund's C-4 in an amount of \$20,007 dated March 5, 2010. (Exhibit F).

On May 20, 2010 Ted Dick again met with you, as Commissioner, and Supervisor Baker where you informed him of the calls and emails being received by your office regarding the radio ads and flyers. (Exhibit D). At that meeting according to records maintained in your office Mr. Dick was, again, made aware of the disclosure requirements and revealed candidly that an "incorporated national organization" was paying for the radio ads and flyers. Mr. Dick was advised to file a C-2 and, if he desired, to request a formal opinion pursuant to 44.10.201, ARM. (Also, Exhibit D).

On May 25, 2010, twenty days after the initial expenditures for ads, Main Street Advocacy Fund, of Washington, D.C. filed a C-2 Statement of Organization (Exhibit G) and a C-4 Periodic Report with your office. (See, again, Exhibit F). The C-2 indicates the MSA Fund is incorporated. The C-4 indicates that MASF refunded a \$10,000 contribution from SEIU--also incorporated according to that organization's C-2 filed with your office. (Exhibit H). The original contribution from SEIU was received eleven days earlier on May 13, 2010. (See Exhibit F, Schedule A). Alarmingly MSAF seemingly points to changed circumstances based on guidance from your office as resulting in the refund when nothing but clear, concise evidence and directive from your office is indicating going back at least as far as January 6, 2010. (See Exhibit F, Schedule B, together with Exhibits B and D).

III. Claims and Legal Reference Pertaining to Violations

John Bruggeman, SEIU, the Main Street Advocacy Fund (MSAF), and others, as well as agents of the same broke numerous Montana campaign finance and reporting laws despite clear guidance provided them by your office. Radio advertisements were purchased and aired, and I believe a 'push poll' that was done in my area, direct mail pieces

were professionally developed, printed, and disseminated. (See Exhibits I and J). Staff resources of various employers and their equipment may have been used, knowingly or unknowingly by them as employees reviewed and approved drafts and met with vendors and regulators. Illicit disclaimers were used which at best give the false appearance that the communications were funded by a Montana group. (Exhibits I and J). Corporate treasury funds and resources were used to make direct contributions and expenditures or fund staff time resulting in in-kind contributions from corporations.

In doing so, the persons herein named, and other entities, officers and agents committed numerous violations of Montana's campaign finance laws. A person who violates any of the provisions of Montana's campaign finance laws is subject to the civil penalty provisions of MCA § 13-37-128 which provides a penalty of \$500 or three times the amount of contribution or expenditure which ever is greater. (See also Exhibits K and L depicting communications in other areas of the state indicating the same or similar activity).

A. Express Advocacy

In applying Buckley v. Valeo, 424 U.S. 1 (1976); Austin v. Michigan Chamber of Commerce, 494 U.S. 652 (1990); FEC v. Massachusetts Citizens for Life, Inc. 479 U.S. 238 (1986); and Faucher v. FEC, 928 F.2d 468 (1991), your office consistently maintains the standard that speech is "express" if it unmistakable and unambiguous and suggestive of only one plausible meaning and that speech is "advocacy" if there is a clear plea for action. Any reasonable person should be able to interpret communications as ads advocating the election or defeat of a candidate.

As Exhibits I and J indicate there is an unmistakable and unambiguous plea for a clearly identified and depicted candidate Shawn Moran. It clearly expresses issues of importance in the campaign including government accountability, agriculture, individual freedom and lower taxes. It specifically includes a reference to Mr. Moran's father the late Honorable Judge Larry Moran which has been and continues to be a central and important component to Mr. Moran's candidacy for public office. It clearly expresses a need to cast Mr. Moran into a leadership role

to exercise these virtues in an elected capacity and explicitly shows the Montana State Capitol Building as a central and prominent depiction within the communication. In fact, this picture is designed in such a way that the Montana State Capitol Building is the very first image the recipient sees. (See Exhibit I). Any reasonable person would not interpret the communication as anything else but expressly advocating for the election of Mr. Moran. The message is clear as to who (i.e. Mr. Moran) needs to be "sent" (i.e. elected), and where (i.e. Helena). When done in such close proximity to the primary it is not mere coincidence and any elements with respect to timing are established.

In Exhibit J, Mr. Moran, a candidate for public office, is once again clearly depicted in an advocacy communication. The unmistakable message that "we need people that will work" for, an important and targeted voting segment, is clear. Where is Mr. Moran, a candidate, clearly going to work for them? Obviously, in the Helena. Which elected body of government adopts "tough new laws that provide law enforcement and prosecutors with the tools they need"? Clearly, that the job of the Montana Legislature.

The communications unmistakably and unambiguously suggest support for Shawn Moran, a candidate for the state Senate. The proximity to the election is suggestive of only one plausible meaning.

You will also notice in reviewing Exhibits I and J a phone number is provided where the recipient is asked to contact Mr. Moran at that number for more information. In fact, Mr. Moran cannot be reached at that number.

Also, in each exhibits (I, J, K and L) an illegal disclaimer also appears which is a shell post office box established by a Washington, D.C. based organization which is clearly an attempt to deceive voters regarding who is actually paying for the communications. The disclaimer does not contain vital disclosure information such as the organizations true address, and the name of the Treasurer as is required under Montana campaign finance law and regulation.

B. Prohibition Against Anonymous Contributions and Expenditures

Montana Code Annotated § 13-35-225(1) provides, in relevant part, that:

13-35-225. Election materials not to be anonymous -- statement of accuracy. (1) All communications advocating the success or defeat of a candidate...through any ... direct mailing, poster, handbill...or other form of general political advertising must clearly and conspicuously include the attribution "paid for by" followed by the name and address of the person who made or financed the expenditure for the communication. In the case of a political committee, the attribution must be the name of the committee, the name of the committee treasurer, and the address of the committee or the committee treasurer.

No communication by any organization meets these explicit and clearly understood provisions of Montana law. According to the disclaimers the communications are "advertisements." Other than that and the Fund name the disclaimer is wholly inadequate as a matter of law. The disclaimer intentionally misleads voters into the belief that this is "Paid For" by the Fund which is in "Helena, MT." No treasurer named and therefore no treasurer's address is provided. Taking into account the professional nature of the mailing, other expenses associated with direct mail, staff time to review drafts and approve final documents which surely involved some use of equipment such as a computers, fax machines, printing, office supplies and postage the cost involved in the production and delivery of each mailing is significant, well played and targeted for maximum effect. Surely paid vendors and politically knowledgeable staff in concert to prepare such an effective advertisement.

Montana law allows for a fine of \$500 or three times the amount of the unlawful expenditure. MCA § 13-35-128.

C. Prohibition Against Corporate Contributions and Expenditures

Montana Code Annotated § 13-35-227 prohibits corporate contributions and expenditures in connection with candidate campaigns. As indicated in the cases cited

above these prohibitions are consistently upheld and enforceable when applied to corporate expenditures by corporation in connection with candidate campaigns. Main Street Advocacy Fund admits in its filing documents that it is a corporation [See Exhibit G: C-2 Statement of Organization for Main Street Advocacy Fund]. SEIU's C-2 establishes the union's corporate status. (Exhibit H). Records maintained by the State of Washington also indicate SEIU's typical means of organization as a corporate non-profit entity. SEIU and MSAF are thereby precluded from making contributions or expenditures supporting or opposing candidates in Montana.

D. Failure to Provide Attribution on Election Materials

By making an expenditure and becoming a political committee MSAF, SEIU and others funding the express advocacy were required to follow the requirements of Montana's naming and labeling statute, MCA § 13-37-210. Exhibit A and B, the paid political statement in support of Mr. Moran and other candidates was not properly labeled and the political committee is not properly identified.

E. Failure to File Statements of Organization

Montana Code Annotated § 13-37-201 requires each political committee to file an organizational statement which certifies the appointment and address of a campaign treasurer. The organizational statement must be filed within 5 days of making an expenditure. The statement is to be filed with your office and the office of the election administrator where the committee is headquartered or where the election is held. MCA § 13-37-225. As indicated in the facts contained above the entities responsible for filing with your office are not accurately or timely filed.

Montana law also requires that a treasurer and deputy treasurer be registered Montana electors. MSFA is in violation of this legal requirement, and has not taken other means to correctly and timely file with your office pursuant to 44.10.413(2), ARM.

F. Failure to Designate Campaign Depository

Montana Code Annotated § 13-37-205 requires each political committee to designate a campaign depository.

Although the statement of organization required in MCA § 13-37-201 provides a manner in which this designation may be accomplished this is a distinct statutory requirement. There has been designation of different depositories, but none clearly and necessarily indicating a depository authorized to conduct business in Montana, thus MCA § 13-37-205 has been violated.

G. Failure to File Periodic Reports Pursuant to Statutory Requirements

The failure of the persons involved in preparing and disseminating Exhibits I and J and radio ads to file any reports results in several other violations of Montana campaign finance laws, including violation of MCA: §13-37-225 (failure to file periodic reports); §13-37-226 (failure to timely file reports); § 13-37-228 (failure to report pursuant to covered time periods); and § 13-37-230 (manner in which expenditures are to be reported). SEIU filed C-4 periodic reports indicating support for one unrelated ballot measure, and indicates no other expenditures or contributions. Specifically, Mr. Dick's activity is unaccounted for in the C-4s or any other documents. (See Exhibit M, SEIU C-4s filed May 6, 2010, and May 20, 2010). These are distinct statutes and should result in separate penalties.

H. Non-reporting of Independent Expenditures or In-kind Contributions

ARM 44.10.323 defines "independent expenditure" an expenditure for communications expressly advocating...the defeat of a candidate...which is not made with the cooperation or prior consent or in consultation with, or at the request or suggestion of, a candidate or political committee or an agent of a candidate or political committee. According to ARM 44.10.323(3) independent expenditures are required to be reported as provided in ARM 44.10.531. Pursuant to ARM 44.10.531(4), an independent expenditure shall be reported in accordance with the procedures for reporting other expenditures. "In addition, a person making an independent expenditure shall report the name of the candidate...the independent expenditure was intended to benefit." Not reporting this independent expenditure in compliance with the provisions contained in the ARM should result in a substantial fine.

As contained above in part G of this complaint SEIU's failure to account for Mr. Dick's time is a violation. If Senator Bruggeman's employer, knowingly or unknowingly, allowed similar activity by him the violation would be the same. To the extent that candidate Moran cooperated with or coordinate with offenders in permitting or aiding in the communication including, but not limited to, reproduction of his likeness or communication of other campaign needs including message, timing of communications or use of or reproduction of candidate's campaign material, the independent nature of the communication is destroyed. The result is that such expenditures becoming campaign contributions to which limits and bans on direct corporate contribution to candidates apply.

IV. Conclusion

This type of secret campaigning is cowardly, reprehensible and most importantly illegal. There are corporations, unions, elected officials and others operating behind the scenes in an effort to interfere with numerous elections across the state. Whether they see this as "payback," as has been publicly espoused by Senator Bruggeman, or not, they must operate in compliance with Montana law. An opinion regarding illegal actions on the part of others does not entitle you to break the law yourself. Montana law deals harshly with these sorts of underhanded secretive campaign tactics. I reiterate my request for an expedited review of this complaint so that determinations with respect to how these illicit communications impact the selection of legislative candidates, and in particular the outcome of the primary election in SD 35 next tuesday. To assist you in this effort, I have attached materials combined as Exhibit N which describe MSFA's nefarious activities and contain public statements made by some of the parties named in this complaint.

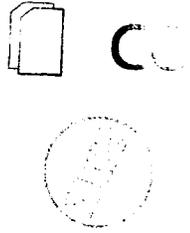
If you need any additional assistance in your investigation, please contact me. Thanks.

A



THE STATE OF MONTANA

COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES
1205 Eighth Avenue
Post Office Box 202401
Helena, MT 59620-2401
TELEPHONE: 406-444-2942
FAX NUMBER: 406-444-1643
WEBSITE: www.politicalpractices.mt.gov



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Date Received and Postmark Date
RECEIVED
COMMISSIONER OF
POLITICAL PRACTICES
200 JAN -5 P 12:54

FORM C-2 (Revised 06/03)
STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION

TO BE FILED BY (Check One):

- POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE
POLITICAL PARTY COMMITTEE
BALLOT ISSUE COMMITTEE
INCIDENTAL COMMITTEE
OTHER

ORIGINAL FILING [checked] AMENDED FILING []

TYPE OR PRINT IN INK ALL INFORMATION ON THIS FORM EXCEPT FOR CERTIFICATION SIGNATURE

FULL NAME OF COMMITTEE (Refer to Montana Code Annotated § 13-37-210, Naming and Labeling Statute)
Montana Main Street Republican Partnership
COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS PO 1598 Helena, MT 59624
COMPLETE STREET ADDRESS
Incorporated: (Check one) [] YES [checked] NO
FULL NAME OF COMMITTEE TREASURER Lorna Kuney
COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS 400 North California Helena, MT 59601
COMPLETE STREET ADDRESS Same
E-Mail Address (Please Print) Home Telephone Number Work Telephone Number Facsimile Number
FULL NAME OF DEPUTY TREASURER(S), if any * Don Crabbe
COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS 3965 Canal Drive Helena, MT 59602
COMPLETE STREET ADDRESS Same
E-Mail Address (Please Print) Home Telephone Number Work Telephone Number Facsimile Number
COMMITTEE ACCOUNT INFORMATION
FULL NAME OF BANK Valley Bank
COMPLETE ADDRESS 3030 North Montana Ave Helena, MT 59601
SECONDARY COMMITTEE ACCOUNT(S) INFORMATION, if any (attach list if necessary)
FULL NAME OF BANK
COMPLETE ADDRESS

PLEASE COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE, SIGN, AND DATE

ADDITIONAL OFFICERS (attach list if necessary)

OFFICERS FULL NAME _____ TITLE _____

COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS _____
(Including City, State, Zip Code)

COMPLETE STREET ADDRESS _____
(Including City, State, Zip Code)

E-Mail Address (Please Print) _____ Home Telephone Number _____ Work Telephone Number _____ Facsimile Number _____

OFFICERS FULL NAME _____ TITLE _____

COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS _____
(Including City, State, Zip Code)

COMPLETE STREET ADDRESS _____
(Including City, State, Zip Code)

E-Mail Address (Please Print) _____ Home Telephone Number _____ Work Telephone Number _____ Facsimile Number _____

PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE and/or	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	DATE OF ELECTION
To elect traditional Republicans to the Montana legislature.			
NAME(S) OF CANDIDATE(S) or BALLOT ISSUE (S)	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	DATE OF ELECTION

CERTIFICATION

I hereby verify that the foregoing statements are true and correct.

Lorna Kunej _____ Treasurer _____ 1/5/2010 _____
 Officer's Signature Title Date

For County, Municipal, or School committees only: Please check this box if contributions/expenditures will not exceed \$500 (If \$500 is exceeded, filing of campaign finance reports will be required.)

Notice: You must follow up with a signed hard copy to CPP.

B

1/10/10

Sarah Chamberlain

- setting up a PAC

- Spoke to Jenna - state
PAC can't receive any
corp. contrib. Hold C-2
until they decide what
to do.

C

Baker, Mary

From: Lorna Kuney [lorna@mt.net]
Sent: Monday, March 01, 2010 2:25 PM
To: Baker, Mary
Cc: msusangood@montana.com; john@senatorJohn.net; 'Don'
Subject: RE: Montana Main Street Republican Partnership

Please destroy...and let me know when this is done.

Funny, but I also checked on this group over the week-end & Susan Good hasn't heard from anyone either. If the group does decide to pursue activity, we can always re-file.

Thank you so much.

Lorna Kuney

From: Baker, Mary [mailto:mabaker@mt.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 01, 2010 12:15 PM
To: Lorna Kuney
Subject: Montana Main Street Republican Partnership

Hi Lorna,

What is the status with this committee? I have been hanging on to the C-2 until I heard.

Mary Baker
Program Supervisor
Commissioner of Political Practices
406-444-7416
mabaker@mt.gov

D

April 29, 2010

Ted Dick came in this morning. He asked if he could close my office door and then asked if I would look over a direct mail piece that a non-profit C-4 group wanted to put out. He said that they were trying to avoid any express advocacy. I referred him to a couple of decisions (Roy Brown and Griffin) where express advocacy came up. I also advised that I can't provide him with a formal opinion and he needs to run the mailer by an attorney. The mailer was about Sandy Welch as a candidate for accountability. It did appear to have express advocacy. I explained that to avoid express advocacy, the mailer can only include general information. I also told him that there was some implied statement that encouraged a voter to vote for her. I also asked if he knew why the group didn't want to form a PAC then they could advocate or whatever. He said that they didn't want to do that because they couldn't give a direct contribution from the C-4. I reiterated how important it is for them to run the mailer by an attorney.

Mary

5/4/10

Ted brought in a revised draft of flyers. I told him it looked better but really needs an attorney to bless it not me.

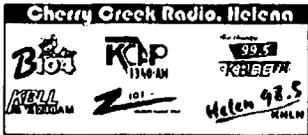
MB

5/20/10

Dennis and I met w/ Ted at 9:00 am this morning. We informed him that we've received lots of calls and e-mails regarding the flyers and radio ads. We informed him of the disclosure requirements and verified that an incorporated national organization was paying for these. We advised that they file their C-2 and if the group wanted to request a formal opinion the process is laid out in 4410.201.

complaint would likely be filed against.
We told him that the person responsible
for the ads would be penalized if there
was a finding we would let him know
if a complaint was filed as it is public
record. MJB

E



P.O. BOX 4111
 Helena, MT 59601
 (406) 442-4490
 (406) 442-7356 (Fax)

BROADCAST ORDER

<input type="checkbox"/>	99.5 KBLL-FM	Sponsor/Package	Account	Advertiser No.	AE#
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1240 KBLL-AM		Montana 6-05		Pol
<input type="checkbox"/>	101.1 KZMT		Billing Name/Agency		Agy 15%
<input type="checkbox"/>	104.1 KHKR		Traction Company		4F
<input type="checkbox"/>	1340 KCAP				Order Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	KHLN				5/17/10

4003941

Options for make good check one:

- same flight
- same week
- extend schedule
- dollar for dollar
- credit
- ask salesperson

AD	FLIGHT DATES	TIME PERIOD	LEN	CART NO.	PRODUCT/CO-OP	RATE	TOTAL SPOTS	TOTALS
A	5/11-5/14	6A-7P	60			342	54	1736
B	6/1-6/7	6A-10A	60			342	7	102
C								
D								
E								
F								
Terms: ALL ACCOUNTS DUE BY THE 10 TH					TOTAL			1738

Check one:	Check one:
<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agency
<input type="checkbox"/> sponsorship	<input type="checkbox"/> direct
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> political	Check one:
<input type="checkbox"/> public service	<input type="checkbox"/> stand broadcast mo.
<input type="checkbox"/> promotional	<input type="checkbox"/> calendar month
<input type="checkbox"/> remote	
Check one:	Check one:
<input type="checkbox"/> local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cash
<input type="checkbox"/> regional	<input type="checkbox"/> trade
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> national	<input type="checkbox"/> non-broadcast
Check one:	
<input type="checkbox"/> coop	<input type="checkbox"/> non-coop
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> affidavit
Comments:	

MONTH	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			11	12	13	14	15
			6A	6A	6A	6A	
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31	7A	6A	6A	6A	5
	6	7	3A				
	8 5A						

Mo.	Yr.	Ads	Amount
Jan			
Feb			
Mar			
Apr			
May	10		716
June	10		1122
July			
Aug			
Sept			
Oct			
Nov			
Dec			
Total			

Start Date _____ Stop Date _____

Client _____

Account Executive _____ Date _____

This is an agreement. Times listed represent programming and/or adjacencies as declared at time of sale. Contracts can be cancelled only by 30 days written notice. CCR-Helena III LLC and Radio Stations(s) KCAP, KHKR, KZMT, KBLL AM, KBLL FM, and KHLN do not and shall not discriminate, in any way on the basis of race or gender, respecting their advertising practices.

Entered by: JK

Date Entered: 5-7



Cherry Creek Radio-Helena
 PO Box 4111
 Helena MT 59604

Contract Confirmation

as of 5/10/10 Revision Orig
 Traffic: KBLL-AM

Acct Nbr: 66042 Contract: 4003941

Account Telephone: 425-885-3755
 Salesperson: Political
 Air Dates: 5/11/10-6/8/10

A/R Description: 171081 MONTANA GOP
 Estimate #: 171081
 Co-op: No
 Type of Month: Broadcast

MONTANA GOP - TACHER
 2300 130 AVE> NE SUITE A104
 BELLEVUE, WA 98005

	Date Range	Dayparting	Len	Rate	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	WeeksOn	WkUnit	TotlUnit	TotalAmt
A	5/11/10- 5/14/10	6:00a- 7:00p	60s	\$34.00/spt		6	6	6	6	-	-	All	24	24	\$816.00
A	6/01/10- 6/04/10	6:00a- 7:00p	60s	\$34.00/spt	-	7	6	6	6	-	-	All	25	25	\$850.00
A	6/07/10- 6/07/10	6:00a- 7:00p	60s	\$34.00/spt	5	-						All	5	5	\$170.00
B	6/08/10- 6/08/10	6:00a-10:00a	60s	\$34.00/spt	-	3						All	3	3	\$102.00

CONTRACT TOTAL: \$1,938.00 57 Units
 Minus 15.00% commission: -\$290.70
 NET AMOUNT DUE: \$1,647.30

Month	Units	Total	Commission	Net	Month	Units	Total	Commission	Net
May10	24	\$816.00	-122.40	\$693.60	Jun10	33	\$1,122.00	-168.30	\$953.70

CCR Helena III LLC and Radio Station(s) KCAP, KZMT, KHKR, KBLL AM, KBLI FM and KHEN do not and shall not discriminate, in any way on the basis of race or gender, respecting their advertising practices.

Accepted By

Client Signature

Accepted By

Station Signature

Today's Date

Today's Date

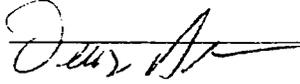


TACHER COMPANY
2300 130 AVENUE NE, SUITE A104
BELLEVUE, WA. 98005

SPOT CONFIRMATION

CODE POL	ADVERTISER POLITICAL	DATE MAY6/10	ORDER NUMBER 171081	MOD # CF	PAGE 1
	PRODUCT MONTANA GOP	STATION KBLL-AM	MARKET HELENA, MONTANA		
TACG	SALESPERSON GREGORY TACHER 425-885-3755	AGENCY CODE BERY		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>BERYLLIUM MEDIA BUYER - 2300 130 AVE NE BELLEVUE, WA 98005</p> </div>	
SE	OFFICE SEATTLE OFFICE				

SCHEDULE DATES MAY11/10-JUN8/10	WEEKS 2
------------------------------------	------------

MOD CODE LINE #	DAYS	TIME	LENGTH	EFFECTIVE DATES	CLASS OR WEEKS	SECT	PLAN	SPOTS PER WEEK	RATE/SPOT	TOTAL SPOTS
<p>****PLEASE SIGN AND FAX BACK ****</p> <p>* A COPY OF THIS ORDER TO THE * * APPROPRIATE TACHER OFFICE * * * * SEATTLE : 425-885-3604 * * PORTLAND: 503-682-9432 * * BOSTON : 866-487-8954 * * * ***  ***</p> <p>***NEW ORDER***</p> <p>10AM CUTOFF ON TUESDAY JUNE 8</p>										
1	TU-F	600A-700P	60	MAY11-MAY14 JUN01-JUN4	1W 1W			24 25	\$34.00	24 25
2	M-TU	600A-700P	60	JUN07-JUN8	1W			8	\$34.00	8
PLEASE NOTE: 10AM CUTOFF ON TUESDAY JUNE 8!!										
		MAY10	\$816			JUN10	\$1,122			\$1,938.00

Times listed represent programming and/or adjacencies as declared at time of sale. AAAA Spot Contract applies except as noted above and/or where variations are set forth in SRDS. Rate protection and product protection will follow policy outlined in station's current rate card.

*Modification Codes indicate changes to the line since last contract.
A=Addon, C=Canceled, D=Days Changed, E=Effective Dates Changed, L=Length Changed, M=Makegood Status Change, T=Time Changed,
S=Spots/Week Changed, P=Plan, Class or Section Changed, R=Rate Changed, Z=Comments Changed, *=More Than 2 Change Codes

F

THE STATE OF MONTANA

COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES
1206 Eighth Avenue
Post Office Box 202401
Helena, MT 59620-2401
TELEPHONE: 406-444-2942
FAX NUMBER: 406-444-1643
WEBSITE: www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

2010 MAY 25 5 35



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Date Received and Postmark Date

FORM C-4 (Revised 06/08)
INCIDENTAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE
FINANCE REPORT

TYPE OR PRINT IN INK ALL INFORMATION ON THIS FORM EXCEPT FOR CERTIFICATION SIGNATURE

ORIGINAL FILING

AMENDED FILING

REPORTING PERIOD

From 5/5/10

To 5/25/10

Initial Report

Periodic Report

Closing Report

No new transactions in reporting period

NAME OF INCIDENTAL COMMITTEE

Full Name Main Street Advocacy Fund

Complete Mailing Address PO Box 1630

Helena MT 59624
(City, State, Zip Code)

Cash Summary: Money Received and Spent

1. RECEIPTS - Total received and deposited this period from Schedule A.....	\$ 10,000
2. CORRECTIONS - Addition or subtraction from Schedule C.....(Circle + or -)	+
3. EXPENDITURES - Total paid out this period from Schedule B.....	\$ 30,007

This report *must be signed by an officer whose name is on the Statement of Organization (Form C-2)* on file in the office of the Commissioner of Political Practices.

CERTIFICATION

I, Sarah Chamberlain, Director, certify that the foregoing report of campaign finances with all attachments is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge, in accordance with Montana Code Annotated Title 13, chapter 37.

Signature [Handwritten Signature]

THIS FORM MAY BE REPRODUCED

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY IN INK

SCHEDULE A. Receipts - This Reporting Period		Date	In-Kind Description	Value	Cash or Check	Total to Date
1. Earmarked Contributions Less Than \$35 Each - Total						0.00
2. Earmarked Contributions of \$35 or More. For each contributor, full name, complete mailing address, occupation & employer REQUIRED . ONE NAME ONLY FOR EACH CONTRIBUTION.		Date Required				
SEIU Healthcare 775NW Name 302 N Last Chance Gulch Address Helena MT 59601 City, State, Zip	Occupation Employer	5/13/10			10,000	10,000
Name Address City, State, Zip	Occupation Employer					
Name Address City, State, Zip	Occupation Employer					
3. Rebates, Refunds, Other Miscellaneous Receipts (Describe)		Date				
TOTAL RECEIPTS THIS REPORTING PERIOD					10,000	

SCHEDULE B. Expenditures - This Reporting Period

PLEASE NOTE: If an expenditure is made directly to a candidate or committee, provide the full name and complete mailing address of the candidate or committee under "Payee." If an expenditure is made on behalf of a candidate or committee, provide the full name and complete mailing address of the recipient under "Payee" and provide the name of the candidate or committee the expenditure was made on behalf of and what the expenditure was for under "Purpose."

PAYEE - Full Name & Complete Mailing Address REQUIRED	Purpose Required	Date Required	Amount	
			Primary	General
Beryllium Name 2300 130th Ave NE Address Bellevue WA 98005 City, State, Zip	Communication production and consulting for messages mentioning C Vincent, R Arthun, S Moran, S Welch, R Cook, J Barnhart, D Borogofsky, K Flynn, C Gilman, J Dooling, P Connell, G MacLaren, and J Weiborn.	5/5/10	20,007	
SEIU Healthcare 775NW Name 302 N Last Chance Gulch Address Helena MT 59601 City, State, Zip	Contribution refund. Funds given for non-candidate support. Guidance on 5/22/10 from Commissioner of Political Practices changed circumstances, so refund made.	5/24/10	10,000	
SUBTOTAL OF EXPENDITURES THIS PAGE			30,007	

IF ADDITIONAL PAGES ARE NEEDED, THIS FORM MAY BE REPRODUCED

If an expenditure is made directly to a candidate or committee, provide the full name and complete mailing address of the candidate or committee under "Payee." If an expenditure is made on behalf of a candidate or committee, provide the full name and complete mailing address of the recipient under "Payee" and provide the name of the candidate or committee the expenditure was made on behalf of and what the expenditure was for under "Purpose."

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY IN INK

C-4 (page 3)

SCHEDULE B. Expenditures -- This Reporting Period

PLEASE NOTE: If an expenditure is made directly to a candidate or committee, provide the full name and complete mailing address of the candidate or committee under "Payee." If an expenditure is made on behalf of a candidate or committee, provide the full name and complete mailing address of the recipient under "Payee" and provide the name of the candidate or committee the expenditure was made on behalf of and what the expenditure was for under "Purpose."

PAYEE - Full Name & Complete Mailing Address REQUIRED	Purpose Required	Date Required	Amount	
			Primary	General
SUBTOTAL FORWARD (from previous page)				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				

TOTAL EXPENDITURES THIS REPORTING PERIOD

30,007

SCHEDULE C. Report corrections to receipts, contributions, and expenditures reported on a prior report.

Originally Reported on DATE	As Originally Reported	Explain Correction

Notice: You must follow up with a signed hard copy to CPP.

G

THE STATE OF MONTANA

COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES
1205 Eighth Avenue
Post Office Box 202401
Helena, MT 59620-2401
TELEPHONE: 406-444-2942
FAX NUMBER: 406-444-1643
WEBSITE: www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY Date Received and Postmark Date	
200 MAY 25	P 3:30
	

FORM C-2 (Revised 06/03)
STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION

TO BE FILED BY (Check One):

- POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE
- POLITICAL PARTY COMMITTEE
- BALLOT ISSUE COMMITTEE
- INCIDENTAL COMMITTEE
- OTHER

ORIGINAL FILING AMENDED FILING

TYPE OR PRINT IN INK ALL INFORMATION ON THIS FORM EXCEPT FOR CERTIFICATION SIGNATURE

FULL NAME OF COMMITTEE (Refer to Montana Code Annotated § 13-37-210, Naming and Labeling Statute) <u>Main Street Advocacy Fund</u>			
COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS <u>PO Box 1630, Helena MT 59624 OR PO Box 4096, Washington DC 20004-2403</u> (Including City, State, Zip Code)			
COMPLETE STREET ADDRESS <u>1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington DC 20004-2403</u> (Including City, State, Zip Code)			
Incorporated: (Check one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			
FULL NAME OF COMMITTEE TREASURER <u>John M. Ward</u>			
COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS <u>4553 Pothole Drive, Helena MT 59602</u> (Including City, State, Zip Code)			
COMPLETE STREET ADDRESS <u>4553 Pothole Drive, Helena MT 59602</u> (Including City, State, Zip Code)			
<u>406 458 5025</u>			
E-Mail Address (Please Print)	Home Telephone Number	Work Telephone Number	Facsimile Number
	<u>INCIDENTAL COMMITTEE</u>		
FULL NAME OF DEPUTY TREASURER(S), if any * <u>Sarah Chamberlain Resnick</u>			
COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS <u>PO Box 4096, Washington DC 20004-2403</u> (Including City, State, Zip Code)			
COMPLETE STREET ADDRESS <u>1200 Penn. Ave., NW, Wash. DC 20004-2403 OR 11431 James Jack Lane, Charlotte, NC 28277</u> (Including City, State, Zip Code)			
E-Mail Address (Please Print)	Home Telephone Number	Work Telephone Number	Facsimile Number
<u>sarahjce@mindspring.com</u>		<u>703 477 4961</u>	
<small>* attach list if necessary</small>			
COMMITTEE ACCOUNT INFORMATION			
FULL NAME OF BANK <u>Suntrust</u>			
COMPLETE ADDRESS <u>1100 13th Street, NW, Washington DC 20005</u> (Including City, State, Zip Code)			
SECONDARY COMMITTEE ACCOUNT(S) INFORMATION, if any (attach list if necessary)			
FULL NAME OF BANK _____			
COMPLETE ADDRESS _____ (Including City, State, Zip Code)			

PLEASE COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE, SIGN, AND DATE

ADDITIONAL OFFICERS (attach list if necessary)

OFFICERS FULL NAME Arno Houghton TITLE President

COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS 82 East Market Street, Corning NY 14830
(Including City, State, Zip Code)

COMPLETE STREET ADDRESS 82 East Market Street, Corning NY 14830
(Including City, State, Zip Code)

E-Mail Address (Please Print) _____ Home Telephone Number _____ Work Telephone Number _____ Facsimile Number _____

OFFICERS FULL NAME Kirk Weider TITLE Secretary/Treasurer

COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS 8603 Ashcroft Drive, Laurel MD 20708
(Including City, State, Zip Code)

COMPLETE STREET ADDRESS 8603 Ashcroft Drive, Laurel MD 20708
(Including City, State, Zip Code)

E-Mail Address (Please Print) _____ Home Telephone Number _____ Work Telephone Number _____ Facsimile Number _____

PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE and/or NAME(S) OF CANDIDATE(S) or BALLOT ISSUE (S)	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	DATE OF ELECTION
	<p>The purpose of Main Street Advocacy Fund (MSAF) is to inform the public about moderate policy choices and about ways the public can contact opinion leaders and civically active individuals who know about these policy choices. MSAF is a nonprofit organization that operates as a 501(c)(4) under tax rules. Its messaging to the public normally occurs during time frames when public interest is most focused on policy choices— before important legislative or executive branch decisions or before citizens will be making policy decisions through the electoral process. MSAF consulted in advance with a representative of the Office of the Commissioner of Political Practices and believed it had informal guidance indicating that its messaging would not be deemed expenditures to support or oppose any candidates. Its mailings and radio ads mentioned government accountability, lower taxes, controlled spending, less political bickering, and protections for seniors as policies that Montanans need. They identified several opinion leaders and civically active individuals who could be contacted for more information about these policies.</p> <p>The individuals mentioned included Ches Vincent, Ron Arthur, Shawn Moran, Sandra Welch, Rob Cook, Jesse Barnhart, Debra Bonogofsky, Kelly Flynn, Charles Gilman, Joe Dodging, Patrick Connell, Gary McLaren, and Jeffrey Weiborn. There was no mention of an election, of any candidacy, or of voting in any of the messages. The appeal was merely to contact the mentioned individual to get more information on the policies supported.</p> <p>MSAF maintains that its overwhelming purpose is to promote moderate policy positions, not to influence the election of particular candidates. Nonetheless, pursuant to informal guidance provided on May 22, 2010, by the Office of the Commissioner of Political Practices, and to demonstrate its good faith intent to comply with the law, MSAF is hereby registering as an incidental committee.</p>		

CERTIFICATION

I hereby verify that the foregoing statements are true and correct.

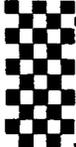
David Chubb _____ Title Director _____ Date 5/25/10

Officer's Signature _____

For County, Municipal, or School committees only: Please check this box if contributions/expenditures will not exceed \$500. (If \$500 is exceeded, filing of campaign finance reports will be required.)

Notice: You must follow up with a signed hard copy to CPP.

H



THE STATE OF MONTANA

COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES

1205 Eighth Avenue
Post Office Box 202401
Helena, MT 59620-2401
TELEPHONE: 406-444-2942
FAX NUMBER: 406-444-1643
WEBSITE: www.politicalpractices.mt.gov



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Date Received and Postmark Date
RECEIVED
COMMISSIONER OF
POLITICAL PRACTICES
APR 27 P 12:37

FORM C-2 (Revised 06/03)
STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION

TO BE FILED BY (Check One):
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE
POLITICAL PARTY COMMITTEE
BALLOT ISSUE COMMITTEE
INCIDENTAL COMMITTEE
OTHER

ORIGINAL FILING [checked] AMENDED FILING []

TYPE OR PRINT IN INK ALL INFORMATION ON THIS FORM EXCEPT FOR CERTIFICATION SIGNATURE

FULL NAME OF COMMITTEE (Refer to Montana Code Annotated § 13-37-210, Naming and Labeling Statute)
Service Employees Industrial Union (SEIU)
COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS 33615 First Way South, Suite A, Federal Way, WA 98003
COMPLETE STREET ADDRESS 33615 First Way South, Suite A, Federal Way, WA 98003
Incorporated: (Check one) [checked] YES [] NO
FULL NAME OF COMMITTEE TREASURER Ted Dick
COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS 302 N. Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59601
COMPLETE STREET ADDRESS 302 N. Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59601
Ted.Dick@seiu775.org 406-465-2811 (406) 465-2811 406-449-6333
E-Mail Address (Please Print) Home Telephone Number Work Telephone Number Facsimile Number
FULL NAME OF DEPUTY TREASURER(S), if any *
COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS
COMPLETE STREET ADDRESS
E-Mail Address (Please Print) Home Telephone Number Work Telephone Number Facsimile Number
* attach list if necessary
COMMITTEE ACCOUNT INFORMATION
FULL NAME OF BANK Bank of America
COMPLETE ADDRESS Seattle, WA
SECONDARY COMMITTEE ACCOUNT(S) INFORMATION, if any (attach list if necessary)
FULL NAME OF BANK
COMPLETE ADDRESS

PLEASE COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE, SIGN, AND DATE

I

PO BOX 1630
Helena, MT 59624



015*001*****ECRLOT0098A**H072
MR. DAVID PONTE
208 COMFORT LN
BOZEMAN MT 59718-9135

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
TEKS Services



Who understands the need for government accountability and lower taxes?



Former Rep
Tom Davis

Montanans need people that will fight for government accountability, lower taxes, and common sense solutions that keep spending under control.

Accountability

We need a state government that is more efficient, effective, and accountable to the people it serves. Leaders need to stand up to the special interests who want preferential treatment at the expense of taxpayers. They also need to be a watchdog for state agencies and our schools to ensure that our dollars are being spent wisely.

Taxes

In these tough economic times, the last thing we need is higher taxes. Our families and businesses are already struggling to make ends meet. We need leaders who recognize that more taxes mean more economic hardship for Montanans.



Common Sense

Perhaps most importantly, we need people that can bring common sense and practical solutions to our problems. The last thing we need is bickering and political fights. We need leaders who can roll up their sleeves and work together to solve problems.

Shawn Moran

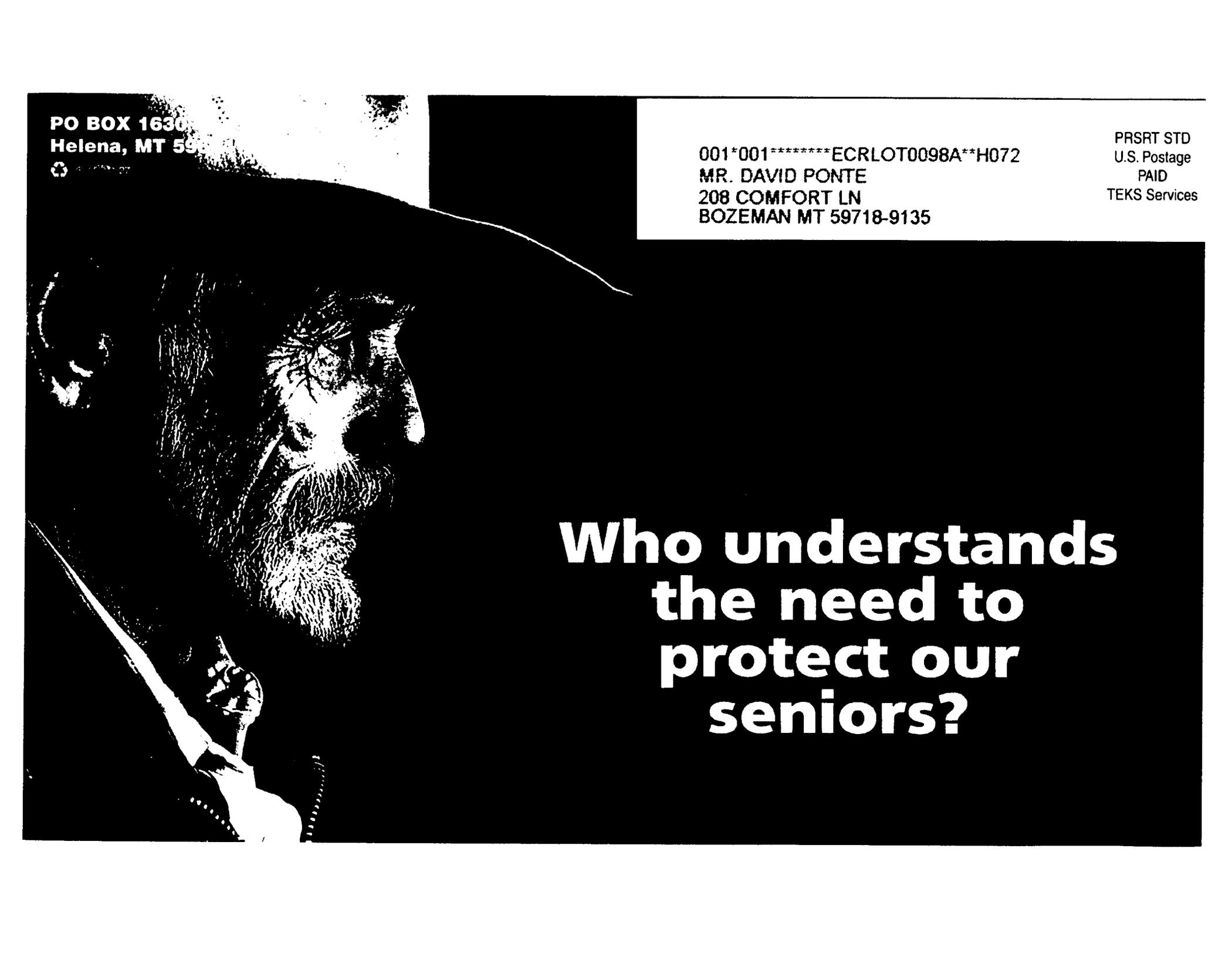
Shawn Moran is a 37-year resident of the Gallatin Valley and the son of the late Judge Larry Moran. He is an active member of our community and self-employed businessman and real estate broker. Shawn is a strong supporter of agriculture, individual freedom, lower taxes, the reduction of wasteful spending, and the creation of a climate that helps small businesses succeed. He is also a valuable source of information on government accountability.



Call Shawn Moran at (406) 582-0870 for more information on how to make government more accountable.

Notice to Voters: This advertisement is not paid for or authorized by any candidate. It is paid for by Main Street Advocacy Fund, PO Box 1630, Helena, MT 59524.

J



**PO BOX 1630
Helena, MT 59601**



001*001*****ECRLOT0098A**H072
MR. DAVID PONTE
208 COMFORT LN
BOZEMAN MT 59718-9135

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
TEKS Services

**Who understands
the need to
protect our
seniors?**

**Our seniors have worked hard to make this country what it is today.
Now, we need people that will work just as hard for them.**

Taxes

The last thing people on a fixed income need is higher taxes. When taxes go up, it hits our seniors the hardest. What we need are people who recognize that we can't solve our budget problems by simply raising taxes. Government should be more efficient, effective, smaller, and smarter.

Fraud and Abuse

As the population of Montana grows older, crimes against our senior citizens are also on the rise. Punishment for crimes such as fraud and abuse against our seniors needs to be swift and harsh. We need tough new laws that provide law enforcement and prosecutors with the tools they need to reverse this disturbing trend.

Shawn Moran

Shawn Moran is a 37-year resident of the Gallatin Valley and the son of the late Judge Larry Moran. He is an active member of our community and self-employed businessman and real estate broker. Shawn is a strong supporter of agriculture, individual freedom, lower taxes, the reduction of wasteful spending, and the creation of a climate that helps small businesses succeed. He is also a valuable source of information on issues important to seniors.



Call Shawn Moran at (406) 582-0870 for more information on how we can support our senior citizens.

Notice to Voters: This advertisement is not paid for or authorized by any candidate. It is paid for by Main Street Advocacy Fund, PO Box 1630, Helena, MT 59624

K

When it comes to the issue of government accountability, sometimes you've got to wonder if anyone is listening.

Montanans need people that will fight for lower taxes and common sense solutions that keep spending under control.

Government needs to be more efficient, effective, and accountable to the people it serves.

And in this tough economy, the last thing we need is higher taxes.

What Montanans do need are practical solutions and leaders who can roll up their sleeves and work together to solve problems.

Joe Dooling is a small businessman and active member of our community. He believes there's more to be done to improve our business climate and create jobs. Joe supports a more efficient government, less taxes, and common sense land use. He's also a valuable source of information on government accountability.

Please give Joe Dooling a call at (406) 431-3510 for more information on how to make government more accountable.

This message is not paid for or authorized by any candidate. It is paid for by Main Street Advocacy.

L

Washington Politics Comes to Dillon



Did you get a slick flyer in your mail endorsing my opponent? Many people in the area got one. The Main Street Advocacy Fund has chosen to endorse Jeff Welborn for Montana House District 72. Never heard of them? We hadn't either, so we did some checking. Keep reading, this gets interesting.

This high dollar mailing, with a Helena PO Box as a return address, was paid for by The Main Street Advocacy Fund. They are a group based in Washington DC! These are the same people whose president,

quoted in *Newsmax* magazine said, "Arlen Specter is the only Republican capable of holding this critical Senate seat". Once President Obama was elected, Arlen, the Democrat-turned-Republican, promptly jumped parties again and rejoined the Democratic Party. Doing so made it possible for the Democrats in Washington to pass much of their agenda including The Healthcare Reform Act. Arlen has since lost his reelection bid in the primaries.

According to their website, one of their board members, John C. Whitehead, has much experience including 38 years at Goldman, Sachs and Co. He also served as Chairman of the Board of The Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and on the United Nations Association.

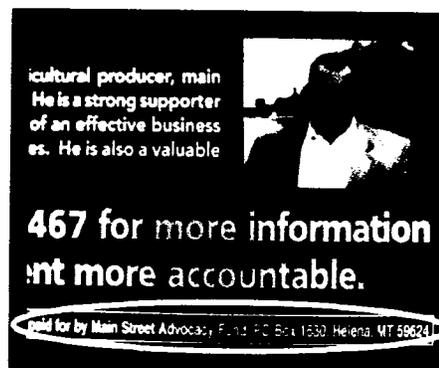
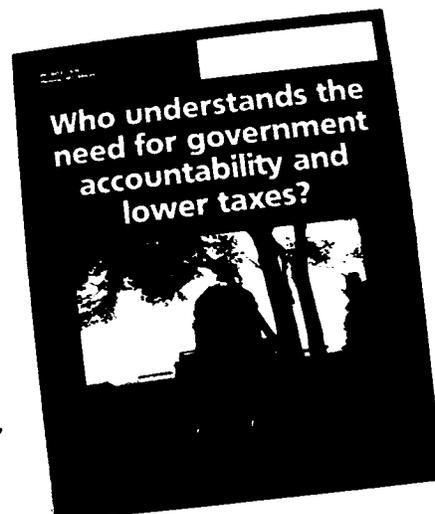
I wonder why the same group who endorsed someone like Arlen Specter, would be so interested in a candidate for House District 72 from little 'ole Beaverhead County. What will this organization expect in return for their endorsement?

I won't accept money from out-of-state special interest groups. I won't take any money from outside the State of Montana. I will finance my campaign locally, much of it out of my own pocket. I won't be beholden to any special interest groups.

Sincerely,

Ron Lake

"A vote for Ron, is a vote FOR Beaverhead County"



Paid for by Ron Lake for Legislature
Ron Morrison, Treasurer
233 William Drive, Dillon, MT 59725

M



THE STATE OF MONTANA

COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES
1205 Eighth Avenue
Post Office Box 202401
Helena, MT 59620-2401
TELEPHONE: 406-444-2942
FAX NUMBER: 406-444-1643
WEBSITE: www.politicalpractices.mt.gov



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Date Received and Postmark Date

RECEIVED
COMMISSIONER OF
POLITICAL PRACTICES

MAY -6 P 1:09

FORM C-4 (Revised 06/08) INCIDENTAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE FINANCE REPORT

TYPE OR PRINT IN INK ALL INFORMATION ON THIS FORM EXCEPT FOR CERTIFICATION SIGNATURE

ORIGINAL FILING

AMENDED FILING

REPORTING PERIOD

From February 1, 2010

To May 3, 2010

Initial Report

Periodic Report

Closing Report

No new transactions in reporting period

NAME OF INCIDENTAL COMMITTEE

Full Name Service Employees Industrial Union (SEIU)

Complete Mailing Address 33815 First Way South, Suite A

Federal Way, WA 98003
(City, State, Zip Code)

Cash Summary: Money Received and Spent

1. RECEIPTS – Total received and deposited this period from Schedule A.....	\$ 0
2. CORRECTIONS – Addition or subtraction from Schedule C.....(Circle + or --)	-- \$ 0
3. EXPENDITURES – Total paid out this period from Schedule B.....	\$ 5,000

This report *must be signed by an officer whose name is on the Statement of Organization (Form C-2)* on file in the office of the Commissioner of Political Practices.

CERTIFICATION

I, Ted Dick, Treasurer, certify that the foregoing report of campaign finances with all attachments is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge, in accordance with Montana Code Annotated Title 13, chapter 37.

Signature

THIS FORM MAY BE REPRODUCED

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY IN INK

C-4 (page 2)

SCHEDULE A. Receipts - This Reporting Period		Date	In-Kind Description	Value	Cash or Check	Total to Date
1. Earmarked Contributions Less Than \$35 Each - Total						
2. Earmarked Contributions of \$35 or More. For each contributor: full name, complete mailing address, occupation & employer <u>REQUIRED</u>. ONE NAME ONLY FOR EACH CONTRIBUTION.		<u>Date Required</u>				
Name	Occupation					
Address	Employer					
City, State, Zip						
Name	Occupation					
Address	Employer					
City, State, Zip						
Name	Occupation					
Address	Employer					
City, State, Zip						
3. Rebates, Refunds, Other Miscellaneous Receipts (Describe)		<u>Date</u>				

TOTAL RECEIPTS THIS REPORTING PERIOD

SCHEDULE B. Expenditures - This Reporting Period

PLEASE NOTE: If an expenditure is made directly to a candidate or committee, provide the full name and complete mailing address of the candidate or committee under "Payee." If an expenditure is made on behalf of a candidate or committee, provide the full name and complete mailing address of the recipient under "Payee" and provide the name of the candidate or committee the expenditure was made on behalf of and what the expenditure was for under "Purpose."

PAYEE - Full Name & Complete Mailing Address <u>REQUIRED</u>	Purpose <u>Required</u>	Date <u>Required</u>	Amount	
			Primary	General
400% Interest Is Too High-Cap The Rate Name c/o MT Women's Foundation Address Helena, MT 59601 City, State, Zip	Contribution to I-164 ballot committee	March 2010	5,000.00	
Name				
Address				
City, State, Zip				

SUBTOTAL OF EXPENDITURES THIS PAGE

5,000.00

IF ADDITIONAL PAGES ARE NEEDED, THIS FORM MAY BE REPRODUCED

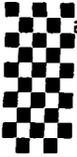
TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY IN INK

C-4 (page 3)

SCHEDULE B. Expenditures - This Reporting Period				
PLEASE NOTE: If an expenditure is made directly to a candidate or committee, provide the full name and complete mailing address of the candidate or committee under "Payee." If an expenditure is made on behalf of a candidate or committee, provide the full name and complete mailing address of the recipient under "Payee" and provide the name of the candidate or committee the expenditure was made on behalf of and what the expenditure was for under "Purpose."				
PAYEE - Full Name & Complete Mailing Address <u>REQUIRED</u>	Purpose <u>Required</u>	Date <u>Required</u>	Amount	
			Primary	General
SUBTOTAL FORWARD (from previous page)				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				
TOTAL EXPENDITURES THIS REPORTING PERIOD			5,000.00	

SCHEDULE C. Report <u>corrections</u> to receipts, contributions, and expenditures <u>reported on a prior report</u> .			
Originally Reported on DATE	SCHEDULE	As Originally Reported	Explain Correction

Notice: You must follow up with a signed hard copy to GPP.



THE STATE OF MONTANA
COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES
1205 Eighth Avenue
Post Office Box 202401
Helena, MT 59620-2401
TELEPHONE: 406-444-2942
FAX NUMBER: 406-444-1643
WEBSITE: www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Date Received and Postmark Date
MAY 20 10 4:41
OFFICE OF
POLITICAL PRACTICES
FILED

FORM C-4 (Revised 06/08)
**INCIDENTAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE
FINANCE REPORT**

TYPE OR PRINT IN INK ALL INFORMATION ON THIS FORM EXCEPT FOR CERTIFICATION SIGNATURE

ORIGINAL FILING
AMENDED FILING

REPORTING PERIOD
From May 4, 2010
To May 17, 2010

Initial Report
 Periodic Report
 Closing Report
 No new transactions in reporting period

NAME OF INCIDENTAL COMMITTEE
Full Name Service Employees Industrial Union (SEIU)
Complete Mailing Address 33615 First Way South, Suite A
Federal Way, WA 98003
(City, State, Zip Code)

Cash Summary: Money Received and Spent

1. RECEIPTS – Total received and deposited this period from Schedule A.....	\$ 0
2. CORRECTIONS – Addition or subtraction from Schedule C.....(Circle + or --)	+ \$ 0
3. EXPENDITURES – Total paid out this period from Schedule B.....	\$ 0

This report *must be signed by an officer whose name is on the Statement of Organization (Form C-2)* on file in the office of the Commissioner of Political Practices.

CERTIFICATION

I, Ted Dick, Treasurer, certify that the foregoing report of campaign finances with all attachments is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge, in accordance with Montana Code Annotated Title 13, chapter 37.
Signature [Handwritten Signature]

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY IN INK

C-4 (page 2)

SCHEDULE A. Receipts - This Reporting Period		Date	In-Kind		Cash or Check	Total to Date
			Description	Value		
1. Earmarked Contributions Less Than \$35 Each - Total						
2. Earmarked Contributions of \$35 or More. For each contributor: full name, complete mailing address, occupation & employer <u>REQUIRED</u> . ONE NAME ONLY FOR EACH CONTRIBUTION.		<u>Date Required</u>				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____ ----- Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____ ----- Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____		Occupation _____ Employer _____				
3. Rebates, Refunds, Other Miscellaneous Receipts (Describe)		<u>Date</u>				
TOTAL RECEIPTS THIS REPORTING PERIOD				0	0	

SCHEDULE B. Expenditures - This Reporting Period				
PLEASE NOTE: If an expenditure is made directly to a candidate or committee, provide the full name and complete mailing address of the candidate or committee under "Payee." If an expenditure is made on behalf of a candidate or committee, provide the full name and complete mailing address of the recipient under "Payee" and provide the name of the candidate or committee the expenditure was made on behalf of and what the expenditure was for under "Purpose."				
PAYEE - Full Name & Complete Mailing Address <u>REQUIRED</u>	Purpose <u>Required</u>	Date <u>Required</u>	Amount	
			Primary	General
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____ ----- Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				
SUBTOTAL OF EXPENDITURES THIS PAGE			0	

IF ADDITIONAL PAGES ARE NEEDED, THIS FORM MAY BE REPRODUCED

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY IN INK

C-4 (page 3)

SCHEDULE B. Expenditures - This Reporting Period

PLEASE NOTE: If an expenditure is made directly to a candidate or committee, provide the full name and complete mailing address of the candidate or committee under "Payee." If an expenditure is made on behalf of a candidate or committee, provide the full name and complete mailing address of the recipient under "Payee" and provide the name of the candidate or committee the expenditure was made on behalf of and what the expenditure was for under "Purpose."

PAYEE - Full Name & Complete Mailing Address <u>REQUIRED</u>	Purpose <u>Required</u>	Date <u>Required</u>	Amount	
			Primary	General
SUBTOTAL FORWARD (from previous page)				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				
Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____				
TOTAL EXPENDITURES THIS REPORTING PERIOD			0	

SCHEDULE C. Report corrections to receipts, contributions, and expenditures reported on a prior report.

Originally Reported on DATE	SCHEDULE	As Originally Reported	Explain Correction

Notice: You must follow up with a signed hard copy to CPP.

N

Situation Report & Background on the Soros/Union funded, left-wing “Republican Main Street” organization’s foray into Montana

WHO ARE THEY?

Main Street Advocacy (www.MainStreetAdvocacy.com) is an offshoot of the Republican Main Street Partnership. Based in Washington, D.C., it currently headed by extremely liberal Republican former congressmen Tom Davis (Va.) and Amos Houghton (N.Y.) The group’s stated intention is to liberalize the Republican Party. They believe Republicans are too conservative, and they are committed to turning the Republican Party “back to center” – meaning hard left on everything: REAL ID, taxes, carbon taxes, abortion, illegal immigration, gun rights and runaway government spending.

The group has several offshoots, which maintain separate addresses and staff, but they are all under one umbrella and share some key operatives and board members. While Advocacy is classified as a 501(c)4 organization by the IRS, meaning they do not have to report their donors and can accept unlimited amounts of corporate funds, Republican Main Street Partnership (which we believe is still a classified as a 527) and their Republican Main Street PAC do have to report a list of their donors.

Past donors to the Partnership include George Soros and the radical and violent SEIU labor union. *Main Street President and CEO Tom Davis, elected to Congress in 1994, was one of only 11 Republicans to vote against the Republican majority-supported Tax Relief Act.*

WHAT ARE THEY DOING IN MONTANA?

By our estimates, Main Street Advocacy could be spending close to \$60,000 running radio ads and mailing in as many as 14 State Senate and House districts. The ads are running on the Rush Limbaugh and Sean Hannity programs on local radio, as well as other programs that appeal to Republican primary voters. They are also mailing households of voters likely to vote in the Republican primary.

There is evidence that at least one Republican elected official (Sen. John Bruggeman) and a Montana Republican Party officer is involved with this organization, which is very concerning.

The Main Street mailers were designed by Ted Dick, the SEIU Union Political Director for Montana, and this is documentable. SEIU union thugs became infamous in 2009 and 2010 as the “purple people beaters”, in response to their habit of beating Tea Party and “town hall” attendees.

Their communications have appeared in the following districts (see candidate advocated for in Bold). these have been confirmed but a half dozen other districts are reporting back and we expect positive reports. Every supported candidate is the more liberal in the race; conversely every candidate oppose by Main Street is endorsed by Montana Shooting Sports and most other conservative organizations:

HD 3 Welch v. O’Neil
HD39 Barnhart v Randall
HD57 Bonagofsky v. Kennedy
HD68 Flynn v. Bannan
HD72 Gilman v. Wagner

HD84 Dooling v. Miller
SD2 Vincent v. Cargill
SD31 Arthun v. Wagman
SD35 Moran v. Wittich

WHAT IS THEIR STRATEGY?

We have learned their strategy is to run a week of ads three weeks out from the election, then “go dark” for a week before running the ads right up until the primary. We can only speculate, but their last round of communications could be negative.

The early ads are positive, mentioning their preferred liberal Republican by name and urging voters to call and thank him. We have heard the ads and don't see any legal problems with them, as far as crossing the line into “express advocacy”, which would bring them under Montana's Political Practices rules for state “PACs”. As long as the ads do not “expressly advocate” that you “vote for”, “vote against” “elect” or “defeat” a candidate, Main Street Advocacy as a 501(c)4 is in full compliance with the law. Dennis Unsworth apparently believes differently, but he is wrong and would be defeated if Federal law was applied in a court case.

Their intent appears to be to swing the primary election to the liberal Republican and reduce the November elections to a choice between two brands of liberalism.

ANCILLARY INFO RE: MAIN STREET REPUBLICANS & OFFSHOOTS:

From Michelle Malkin's research on the Main Street Republicans:

<http://michellemalkin.com/2005/11/28/exposing-the-main-street-republicans/>

MALKIN: As Jim Geraghty among others reported last year, Soros donated \$50,000 to Main Street Individual Fund shortly after its founding in late 2002 . . . which funds “Main Street” moderate Republicans.

According to Dan Auble of The Center for Responsive Politics (a.k.a. OpenSecrets.org) “[OpenSecrets] continues to believe that the groups are linked, based on the fact that Sarah Chamberlain Resnick is the Treasurer or Custodian for each, as well as on numerous news reports.

The Main Street Republicans group of organizations have multiple offshoots according to Michelle Malkin:

They are the Main Street Fund, which solicits groups, unions and businesses for donations, and the Main Street Individual Fund, which raises money from wealthy individuals aimed at helping specific candidates.

The two funds are legally independent from the Partnership's board of directors. By the end of last year, the two funds had raised a combined \$562,389 in soft money from donors that included a few New York investment bankers, high-tech CEOs, groups such as the National Education Association and Soros.

John Machacek of Gannett investigated the ties further on 3/28/04. A few key excerpts: “A group supporting moderate Republicans, led by New York Rep. Amo Houghton, has pocketed \$50,000 from George Soros — one of President Bush's harshest critics — even as the GOP tries to stop the liberal billionaire from helping Democratic-leaning groups pay for anti-Bush ads.

Other current directors of the two Main Street Funds are Sarah Chamberlain Resnick, the Partnership's executive director, and Bob Duke, previously a Partnership

consultant. Resnick says she works on her own time as a paid "custodian of records and contact person" for the two Main Street Funds.

Resnick said the members of Congress on the Partnership's board do not make fundraising decisions for the two Main Street funds...

...Soros gave \$50,000 to the Main Street Individual Fund in April 2002...Resnick said Soros also offered a "seven-figure contribution" to the policy side of the Republican Main Street Partnership, which promotes the "moderate Republican agenda."

WIKIPEDIA ON MAIN STREET HEAD TOM DAVIS:

Tom Davis was elected to Congress in 1994, and left around 2006, going on to become head of the NRCC.

He's been a consistent cheerleader of the REAL ID Act, for example, the moribund national ID law. He has consistently pressed and promoted REAL ID. He claimed that imposing \$17 billion in costs on state governments is not an unfunded mandate, and pretended like shaking \$50 million in federal money loose made any difference. Davis saluted the final regulations when they were issued earlier this year.

As chairman of the NRCC, Davis's chief responsibility was fundraising for members of Congress, and his work overlapped with the financial efforts of the Republican Party's K Street Project and the **fundraising scandals involving Abramoff and DeLay**. **Davis himself signed an NRCC check for \$500,000 in 1999, the largest amount donated by the NRCC, while he was chair of the committee. The NRCC was fined by the Federal Elections Commission for transferring the funds because it was transferred between political action committees for the same candidates in violation of contribution limits.**^[37] The PAC involved, the U.S. Family Network, is connected with Abramoff, Bob Ney, and Willie Tan, a businessman in the Northern Mariana Islands, all currently associated with a political scandal.

Tom Davis was one of only eleven Republicans to vote against the Contract with America Tax Relief Act ^[57] that cut taxes by \$189 billion over five years, including lowering the capital gains tax rate and easing the "marriage penalty,"^[58] and supported a tax hike referendum to raise sales taxes in northern Virginia by 4.5 to 5%.^[59]

In June 2006 his criticism of the immigration response included the same ideas that were key provisions in the House bill he supported four months later.^[62]

Davis was supportive of his wife's efforts for harsher gun laws in Virginia.

[edit]

In 1973, Davis married Margaret "Peggy" Rantz, a medical doctor. They have three children together: Carlton, Pamela, and Shelley. He divorced her in late 2003 and announced his intention to marry Jeannemarie Devolites, in February 2004.^[66]

Exposing the "Main Street" Republicans

By Michelle Malkin • November 28, 2005 12:12 PM

The "Main Street" Republicans, who I **criticized** earlier this month for sabotaging conservative House efforts to open up ANWR for drilling, have sent a letter accusing me of "libelous statements." I've uploaded the letter from **Danielle Graham**, counsel for the **Republican Main Street Partnership**, **here**. (As you'll see from the letter, it appears there are no spell checkers on "Main Street.")

This baseless legal threat is useful because it helps further illuminate the relationship between George Soros, the Republican Main Street Partnership, and the Main Street Individual Fund—as well as the Center for Responsive Politics, which runs the website "Open Secrets."

As you'll recall, I linked to the Open Secrets website on Nov. 10 after a reader pointed to a \$50,000 donation listed there from George Soros to the Main Street Individual Fund, 2004 Election Cycle. Forgive me for spelling out the painfully obvious, but anyone who clicked on the link that I provided saw that I was pointing to the Soros donation to the Main Street Individual Fund, which funds "Main Street" moderate Republicans, as well as to the Center's statement connecting MSIF with the Republican Main Street Partnership:

Ms. Graham mistakenly believes that I asserted Soros gave the donation to the RMSP. Not true, but more on the connections in a moment.

In a not-so-open move, the Open Secrets website **completely deleted the 2004 Soros donation from the entry** sometime between Nov. 10 and Nov. 16, 2005, when a reader of this blog received the following e-mail from Center for Responsive Politics researcher Dan Auble regarding the relationship between the Republican Main Street Partnership and the Main Street Individual Fund:

From: Dan Auble
Date: Wed, 16 Nov 2005 09:19:38 -0500
Subject: Re: Republican Main Street

The Center continues to believe that the groups are linked, based on the fact that Sarah Chamberlain Resnick is the Treasurer or Custodian for each, as well as on numerous news reports.

According to IRS records the Main Street Individual Fund did receive a contribution from George Soros in April of 2004 that was promptly returned to him within a week. We have changed our web page to reflect this fact.

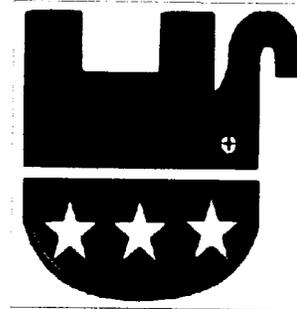
Thank you for bringing this to our attention and feel free to contact us with any further concerns.

Daniel Auble
Researcher
Center for Responsive Politics

The GOP Crapweasel Club

May 18, 2010 11:06 AM by Michelle Malkin

61 Comments | 3 Trackbacks

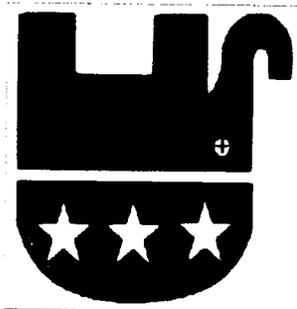


Clean House.

DLTDHYOTWO: Bob Bennett gets the boot. And next...

May 10, 2010 10:54 AM by Michelle Malkin

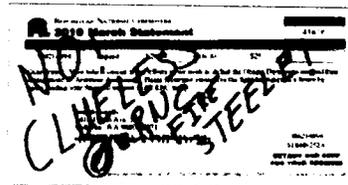
106 Comments | 5 Trackbacks



Reason #1,001,000 not to donate to the RNC

April 15, 2010 03:09 PM by Michelle Malkin

73 Comments | 0 Trackbacks



Steele and Sharpston: "Friends."

NJ voter exposes GOP Cap&Tax 8-er Frank LoBiondo's constitutional ignorance; Updated: Truther questioner is no Tea Party activist

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» Gores can't hide the decline

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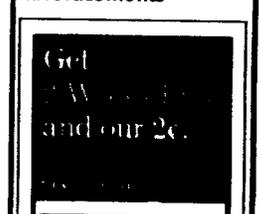
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» Re: Alabama Voters



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I called Auble to ask why no public explanation or notation appears on the webpage to explain the removal of the 2004 Soros donation listing. He has not responded. In the meantime, Ms. Graham, the counsel for the Republican Main Street Partnership, disingenuously accuses me of linking to a webpage that "does not even mention Mr. Soros." Well, yes, the mention is now gone. It has even been wiped out of the **Google cached page**. But contrary to the letter's insinuation, it was there when I linked to it and it's still **visible elsewhere**.

I will await further public explanation from Mr. Auble and am amending my past post in the meantime to clarify the return of the 2004 Soros donation from the MSIF. I'll also add any new information should the Center for Responsive Politics publicly acknowledge any error and openly explain the deletion of info on Soros' donations.

The Center for Responsive Politics, you should know, is itself the recipient of a **\$75,000 grant** from one of George Soros's foundations, the Open Society Institute.

Although the 2004 donation was returned, another \$50,000 donation from Soros to the Main Street Individual Fund apparently was not. As **Jim Geraghty** among others reported last year, Soros donated \$50,000 to MSIF shortly after its founding in late 2002. Main Street Individual Fund spokeswoman Sarah Chamberlain Resnick told Geraghty:

"We had no idea he was going to go after Bush," she said. "Since then, he has offered additional donations, but we have turned them down because we are Republicans first."

Geraghty's response to Resnick's cluelessness defense:

Apparently the moderate Republicans on the Main Street board missed Soros's April 8, 2002, speech at the University of Pennsylvania where he said, "If we assess the foreign-policy accomplishments of the Bush administration since Sept. 11, the scorecard is quite dismal."

"There are some people in the Bush administration who have the same mentality as Arafat or Sharon," Soros said. "I can name names, like Ashcroft, Cheney, and Rumsfeld, although that is considered impolite.... [T]he war on terrorism cannot be won by waging war. We must, of course, protect our security; but we must also correct the grievances on which terrorism feeds."

MSIF kept Soros's donation.

"We thought it might be a bigger story if they returned it," Resnick said. "It's, by comparison, only a little bit of money, and we might as well get some Republicans help with that money."

Ms. Graham, counsel for the RMSP, denies any affiliation at all between the group and the MSIF. The Main Street Individual Fund, Ms. Graham writes, "is NOT the same as the RMSP, nor is it affiliated with or controlled by RMSP. To state otherwise is false, misleading to the public, and damaging to RMSP's reputation."

There is no official affiliation, but the unofficial ties and tentacles are extensive—and Soros' fingerprints are indelible. Resnick has served as an officer in both organizations, as the Center for Responsive Politics has reported. Despite its stealthy deletion of the 2004 Soros donation, the Center's Open Secrets website stands by its reporting on the connection between RMSP and the Main Street Individual Fund. **John Machacek** of

April 7, 2010 07:05 PM by Michelle Malkin

45 Comments | 2 Trackbacks

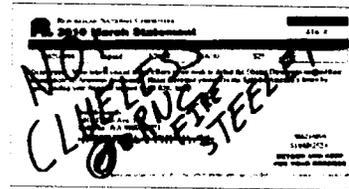


"Uhhhhhh..."

Rejected RNC solicitation of the day

April 5, 2010 01:48 PM by Michelle Malkin

44 Comments | 2 Trackbacks



Repeat question of the day: Does the GOP have enough balls?

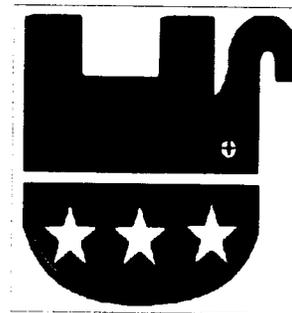
April 1, 2010 11:10 AM by Michelle Malkin

220 Comments | 6 Trackbacks

It's April Fools' Day all year long at the RNC

April 1, 2010 09:31 AM by Michelle Malkin

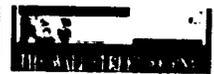
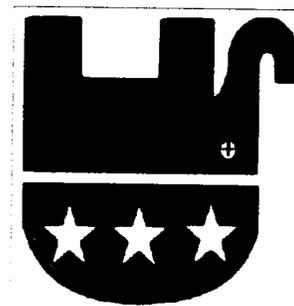
93 Comments | 8 Trackbacks



Rejected RNC solicitations of the day

March 29, 2010 05:33 PM by Michelle Malkin

85 Comments | 5 Trackbacks



It's in the know

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Gannett investigated the ties further on 3/28/04. A few key excerpts:

A group supporting moderate Republicans, led by New York Rep. Amo Houghton, has pocketed \$50,000 from George Soros — one of President Bush's harshest critics — even as the GOP tries to stop the liberal billionaire from helping Democratic-leaning groups pay for anti-Bush ads.

The Soros connection has put Houghton on the spot at home. Conservative Mark Assini, a Rochester-area county legislator hoping to challenge the veteran congressman in a GOP primary this fall, accuses Houghton of betraying Bush and the Republican Party by "partnering" with Soros.

But there are also questions about whether groups such as the Republican Main Street Partnership, the organization that Houghton helped establish and now finances, should use different entities to raise "soft money," unlimited amounts of unregulated cash from corporations, labor unions and wealthy individuals like Soros.

Another issue is whether these fund-raising entities create an appearance that federal lawmakers are illegally raising soft money to help elect candidates.

"There is always that worry," Houghton said in an interview.

The Corning-based Republican, who will announce in April whether to seek an 10th term, said he asked Soros last year before his attacks on Bush to support the Partnership. But Houghton said he wasn't aware that any of Soros' money had ended up in an independent soft money account.

"George Soros is a very controversial person ... and I don't like what he is doing against Bush," Houghton said.

"As far as his contribution to Main Street goes, anything he can do to help Republicans is fine, too. It's not a lot of money and, frankly, we haven't asked for a lot of money from people."

The new campaign finance law bars members of Congress and political parties from raising soft money, but exempts independent political organizations from that restriction.

Such a loophole has enabled activists in both parties to create a new set of groups, known as 527s, to raise and spend soft money for campaign advertising and voter turnout drives. The groups derive their name from the section of the tax code that gives them tax-exempt status.

The campaign finance law took effect in November 2002. Before that time, the Republican Main Street Partnership raised soft money through a 527 committee controlled by its board of directors, which included Houghton and six other members of Congress...

To comply with the law, the Partnership abolished its original 527 controlled by members of Congress and dumped about \$178,000 of remaining funds in late 2002 into new independent soft money entities.

They are the Main Street Fund, which solicits groups, unions and businesses for donations, and the Main Street Individual Fund, which raises money from wealthy individuals aimed at helping specific candidates.

The two funds are legally independent from the Partnership's board of directors.

By the end of last year, the two funds had raised a combined

Republican Remorse?

March 24, 2010 02:59 PM by La Shawn Barber

116 Comments | 5 Trackbacks



Categories: [GOP](#)

\$562,389 in soft money from donors that included a few New York investment bankers, high-tech CEOs, groups such as the National Education Association and Soros. Houghton also contributed \$25,000.

Although Houghton and the other members of Congress don't control the Main Street groups, their mere presence on the Partnership's board of directors could create an appearance of soliciting soft money, say some campaign finance experts.

...[Former FEC official Larry] Noble said contributors blur the lines of the committees' legal structures.

"It clearly raises the issue of whether or not it is putting federal officeholders back in the business of at least appearing like they are soliciting soft money," he said. "The real question is whether or not their names are being thrown around in the solicitation of soft money."

Main Street connections

The two Main Street funds and the Partnership's board of directors use the same staff and have the same lawyer, former FEC chairman Trevor Potter.

The Partnership's former chairman, former Maine governor and congressman John "Jock" McKernan Jr., also was chairman and a director of the two Main Street soft-money funds. Business commitments forced him to step down from his fund activities late last year, Partnership officials said.

But McKernan was still listed as a consultant "exercising control" over the Main Street Individual Fund, according to a fund-raising report it filed with the FEC in February. Some of the soft-money donors in that report also contributed to the Partnership's original, now-defunct 527 operation.

McKernan's wife, Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, remains on the Partnership's board along with Houghton. Sen. Susan Collins of Maine and Reps. Mike Castle of Delaware, Tom Davis of Virginia, Doug Ose of California and Fred Upton of Michigan also serve on the board.

Other current directors of the two Main Street Funds are Sarah Chamberlain Resnick, the Partnership's executive director, and Bob Duke, previously a Partnership consultant. Resnick says she works on her own time as a paid "custodian of records and contact person" for the two Main Street Funds.

Resnick said the members of Congress on the Partnership's board do not make fund-raising decisions for the two Main Street funds...

...Soros gave \$50,000 to the Main Street Individual Fund in April 2002...Resnick said Soros also offered a "seven-figure contribution" to the policy side of the Republican Main Street Partnership, which promotes the "moderate Republican agenda."

But she said the Partnership board "didn't care for any of his money at that point..."

The "Main Street" lawyer claims that an informational link on this little blog is "damaging to RMSP's reputation." No. "Main Street" Republican stunts like the anti-ANWR drilling vote are the real reputation killers.

The good news is **there may be hope yet for the ANWR drilling proposal** in the Senate. But **with friends like these, don't hold your breath.**

Previous:

Letters to the GOP

The GOP cave-in

Posted in: **GOP**

Printer Friendly

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See what others have said

Note from Michelle: This section is for comments from michellemalkin.com's community of registered readers. Please don't assume that I agree with or endorse any particular comment just because I let it stand. A reminder: Anyone who fails to comply with my **terms of use** may lose his or her posting privilege.

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- **Kokonut Pundits**
- **Little Miss Attila**
- **Macmind - Conservative Commentary and Common Sense**
- **Journal**
- **The Dusty Attic**
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- **Christian Coalition Blog**
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- **The Blue State Conservatives**
- **The Blue State Conservatives**
- **Skepticseye.com by Allison Hayward**
- **Right Wing Nation**
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Information About Main Street Advocacy

Back to Montana Republican Party

Discussion Board

Topic View

Topic: Information About Main Street Advocacy

Reply to Topic

Create an Ad

Displaying all 5 posts.



Montana Republican Party Radio ads are being run around the state by a group referring to itself as 'Main Street Advocacy'. The ads typically mention the name of one candidate in a Republican legislative primary, in the context of a positive issue. For example, "Call John Smith for information about government accountability," or something similar.

Some people have mistakenly developed the belief that these ads are in some way affiliated with or sponsored by the Montana Republican Party. The Montana Republican Party wants to make clear that it is not affiliated in any way with the Main Street Advocacy, nor has it sanctioned or approved of the ads being presently run by Main Street Advocacy.

We have investigated the ads and determined the following: The ads, placed by an out-of-state ad agency, were identified by that agency as "Montana GOP" ads. Although that assertion may have been innocently intended, the reality is that ads, which are labeled Republican ads and are running in Montana, appear to use the party's name and also imply the party's endorsement. We have been in contact with at least one radio station that has expressed the intention of not running the ads until they are better identified in a way that does not implicate the MT GOP.

Also, it appears that when some individuals connected with this group were originally trying to form a Political Action Committee under Montana law, they worked with Lorna Kunej as treasurer. Lorna is well-known to many Montana Republicans as a professional bookkeeper who serves as treasurer to some of Montana's most prominent Republicans, like Denny Rehberg and Roy Brown. She is also the assistant treasurer of the Montana Republican Party, under the elected Treasurer Shirley Warehime.

However, that attempt to form a PAC did not materialize, no bank account was ever opened, and later on the individuals in question placed the ads using an out of state group. The Party has determined that Lorna has never participated in these ads. The group paying for them does not employ her.

Party Chairman Will Deschamps investigated the ads, and spoke to Senator Jon Brueggeman of Polson. Senator Brueggeman told Chairman Deschamps that he is involved with the group running the ads, and anyone with questions is welcome to contact him.

We remind the reader that the Montana Republican Party takes no position on any legislative primary, and does not endorse in contested primaries. We hope that by presenting all the information we have gathered, we can put to rest any questions about the MT GOP being associated with Main Street Advocacy.

Any group has the right to campaign and operate within the parameters of Montana's campaign laws, whether it's Main Street Advocacy, Montana Conservative Alliance, or any other. But any use of the name Montana GOP is inaccurate. Again, the Party do not take any side in any Republican legislative primary.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Executive Director Bowen Greenwood at the party headquarters: 442-6469 or bowen@mtgop.org

Paid for and authorized by the Montana Republican Party, Shirley Warehime, Treasurer, PO Box 935, Helena, MT 59624.

May 25 at 10:22am · Report



Mike Miller Perhaps I am just being naive, but I find it sickening and disgusting that the "Big Boyz from the DC Beltway". along with sitting members of our own Montana Legislature, are targeting incumbent Legislators and trying to influence the voters and election results in at least a dozen Montana districts.

Perhaps this is just "politics as usual". I hope not.

Evony Age II



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Hot New Chip Sale



5x more Zynga Poker chips for the same low price! Get your chips now.

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It's That Time Again



Take a break in your day and play YoVille, where you can shop, decorate, socialize, and accessorize with all your friends!

Like

More Ads

If the Political Director of SEIU had designed a flier that could potentially influence voters to vote for me, I would have to seriously question my core conservative beliefs and if I belonged in the Republican Party or whether would I be better suited to sit on the other side of the aisle.

May 25 at 10:52am · Report



Keith Baker John Brueggeman?? When did he get back into Montana? Oh, wait - my mistake! I'm sure he answers Will DesChamps' calls, just not those of his constituency....

I don't suppose the Senator included current contact information?

May 25 at 10:59am · Report



Montana Republican Party http://leg.mt.gov/css/Sessions/61st/leg_info.asp?HouseID=0&SessionID=94&LAWSID=1408

That url has the contact information that the party has for Senator Brueggeman. It's what he lists with the Montana Legislature.

May 25 at 11:05am · Report



Rik Wurster "We remind the reader that the Montana Republican Party takes no position on any legislative primary, and does not endorse in contested primaries."

My own experiences with the MT GOP say otherwise.

May 25 at 12:33pm · Report

Reply

English (US)

- Breaking News: Out to Lunch: 25th year of food, music and fun kicks off today

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'Rational conservatives' group halts campaign in Montana

- Story
- Discussion

By MIKE DENNISON Missoulian State Bureau | Posted: Friday, May 28, 2010 6:15 am | (4)

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HELENA – A Washington, D.C.-based Republican group promoting “rational conservatives” in contested Montana Republican legislative primaries has decided to halt its ad campaign, after questions were raised about its financial disclosure.

The group, Main Street Advocacy, bought radio ads and mailed campaign-style flyers in a dozen contested Republican legislative primaries earlier this month.

Each ad mentioned one Republican in the race as someone who would “understand the need” to support lower taxes, “hold government accountable” or “protect our seniors,” among other things.

State Sen. John Brueggeman, R-Polson, who helped coordinate the group’s efforts, said the campaign was meant to counter efforts in 2008 by other groups that attacked several Republican incumbents as too liberal or “socialists.”

“It kind of caught us off-guard; we weren’t going to let that happen in the 2010 cycle,” he said. “What they did was pretty awful. At best, it was nasty misrepresentation. ... We said, ‘If that’s the way they’re going to play, we’re going to get organized and we’re going to be totally positive.’ ”

Brueggeman said the group chose to promote what he called “rational conservatives” in primary battles, who would be “civil statesmen” who understand that while state spending needs to be cut, the government still needs to deliver services to the public.

Yet the group decided to end its ad campaign, after its attorney met with state Commissioner of Political Practices Dennis Unsworth.

Unsworth said Thursday he felt the ads were “campaign material” under Montana law and therefore details about their financial backing and expenditure had to be disclosed. The campaign also couldn’t be funded with corporate money, he said.

Sarah Chamberlain, executive director of Main Street Advocacy in Washington, D.C., said Thursday the group decided it would be best to halt its Montana campaign, rather than take a chance it was violating state law.

“We’re trying to be totally above board and honest, and follow the rule of Montana law,” she said.

Several incumbent Republican lawmakers who are opposed by candidates promoted in the ads had informally complained to Unsworth, questioning whether the ads followed campaign law.

A string of e-mails among Republicans indirectly targeted by the ads also denounced them as an effort by “liberal” or “progressive” Republicans to defeat strong conservatives.

Chamberlain said the group’s goal is to elect conservative Republicans. But she acknowledged that the missoulian.com/.../article_3f42a354-6a...

group's efforts are intended to counter some of the tactics employed in 2008 by the "far right."

Her group also agreed to file a finance report this week with Unsworth's office. It showed \$20,000 in spending on ads that mentioned Republican legislative candidates in 13 separate races across the state.

The report didn't list the specific source of funds, because that's not required by law, Chamberlain said.

It also said Main Street Advocacy had returned a \$10,000 donation from the Service Employees International Union (SEIU).

Ted Dick, an SEIU representative in Montana, also conferred with Unsworth's office earlier this month about some of the ad's scripts, to see whether they complied with Montana campaign laws.

Yet Chamberlain said Dick does not represent Main Street Advocacy and got involved on his own. The group decided to return the money to SEIU because "it's not good for (Republicans) to be tied to a union," she said. Dick could not be reached for comment.

The documents also listed the group's Montana treasurer as former state Rep. John Ward, R-Helena, who was defeated in a 2008 primary election and was the target of attacks by third-party groups that labeled him as too liberal.

Main Street Advocacy got involved in that same district this year, promoting Republican Joe Dooling, who is challenging the man who beat Ward in the 2008 primary, Republican Rep. Mike Miller of Helmsville.

Miller said Thursday he doesn't mind if someone wants to challenge him in the primary, but that he didn't like what appears to be out-of-state money trying to influence a Montana legislative race.

"I think the people of Montana should be able to make up their own mind in their local races," he said.

Posted in Local on *Friday, May 28, 2010 6:15 am* Updated: 7:14 am. | Tags: Elections, Republicans, Rational Conservatives, Montana Legislature, Montana Republican Party, Main Street Advocacy

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Ads stir up GOP primary races

By Michael Noyes on May 25, 2010

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BY MICHAEL NOYES

HELENA – On Tuesday the state Republican Party issued a statement distancing themselves from recent ad campaigns in certain legislative races funded by a group called “**Main Street Advocacy.**”

The group has run radio ads and sent out printed material in several contested primary races that highlight the qualifications of selected candidates. The organization is not registered with the **Office of Political Practices**, although an official with ties to the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) reportedly approached the office with questions about ad content before the ad campaigns were launched.

In their release, the Montana Republican Party said the ads were placed by an out-of-state agency and were identified as “Montana GOP” spots.

“Although that assertion may have been innocently intended, the reality is that ads, which are labeled Republican ads and are running in Montana, appear to use the party’s name and also imply the party’s endorsement,” according to the release.

The Montana GOP does not endorse candidates in contested primaries.

Mary Baker, program supervisor for the state Office of Political Practices, said the office has been contacted with concerns about whether the ads might be in violation of campaign guidelines. However, she said no formal complaint has been filed and the office would not launch a formal investigation until a formal complaint is filed.

“At first blush it appears they are (in violation)” Baker said of the ads.

House Rep. Bob Wagner, whose opponent in the upcoming primary is highlighted in an ad sponsored by the group, said it shouldn’t take a formal complaint for the Office of Political Practices to launch an investigation if they are aware of an issue.

“Either they broke the damn law or they didn’t,” Wagner said.

Baker said Montana is a full disclosure state which means groups spending money to influence an election must file a statement of organization, report how much money is spent, what the money is spent on, and in some cases disclose their donors.

Baker said **Ted Dick**, who is listed as the treasurer for an SEIU political action committee, brought a draft of ad copy in to her office on two separate occasions before the ads ran.

“He asked...if I would look over a direct mail piece that a non-profit C-4 group wanted to put out,” according to notes of her meeting with Dick in April. “He said that they were trying to avoid any express advocacy.”

Baker said she is not an attorney and does not give consent or advice on the legality of potential ads, but she encouraged him to review the content with an attorney.

State Rep. Mike Miller contacted the office of Political Practices after a radio ad and flier with similar wording appeared in his district. The ads highlight the qualifications of Miller’s opponent, **Joe Dooling**.

Baker said she recognized the flier from Dick's earlier visits. She said Dick was called in to the office and told a complaint would likely be filed. When asked what Dick's affiliation is with the Main Street Advocacy Fund, Baker said she was not certain.

"I don't know for a fact how he's involved," Baker said. "That wasn't a real clear picture."

Dick did not return phone calls seeking comment. (UPDATE 5/26: On late Wednesday afternoon when approached outside his office by a Montana Watchdog reporter, Dick said he had no comment. Read Phil Drake's blog post [here](#).)

Dooling said he was not aware of the fliers until he received one in the mail.

"I don't know anything about this group, who put this together," Dooling said. "They spent quite a bit of money...it's a positive message."

Miller said the ads raise questions about Dooling's conservative credentials.

"If the Political Director of SEIU had designed a flier that could potentially influence voters to vote for me, I would have to seriously question my core conservative beliefs and if I belonged in the Republican Party or whether I would be better suited to sit on the other side of the aisle," Miller said in an email.

Dooling said he is a "conservative Republican," and is worried about party unity.

A "Situation Report" on the issue being circulated by conservative activists identified ten races where they claim the Main Street Advocacy Fund is spending money to highlight the qualifications of one of the candidates. The report says the ads highlight the candidate generally considered less conservative.

No phone number is listed on the website for an organization called Main Street Advocacy, which lists the group headquarters as Washington, D.C. According to the site, the organization believes, "We must reach out to independents, disaffected Democrats, centrists, suburbanites and young voters. To do so we must offer pragmatic, common sense solutions to the complex challenges facing our country today."

The state Republican Party news release says state **Sen. Jon Brueggeman**, of Polson, is involved with the group running ads, "and anyone with questions is welcome to contact him."

Brueggeman did not return phone calls seeking comment.

Posted under [News](#).

Tags: [House Rep. Bob Wagner](#), [Joe Dooling](#), [Main Street Advocacy](#), [Mary Baker](#), [Office of Political Practices](#), [Sen. Jon Brueggeman](#), [State Rep. Mike Miller](#), [Ted Dick](#)

7 Comments For This Post So Far

1. [Terry Bannan](#)

12:17 am on May 26th, 2010

Michael,

As a candidate for HD 68 and even though i am running for an open seat, my opponent has radio ads running and a flyer paid for by Main Street Advocacy. I pulled a public disclosure for the radio ads and they have spent \$3,400.00 on spots for opponent Kelly Flynn. Again, the concept of conservative values is in play if there is a union affiliation and the candidate implies endorsement by not coming out against the ads.
Terry Bannan

2. [Eric Olsen](#)

9:39 am on May 26th, 2010

It is treacherous and treasonous what the liberals are up to. No law is too great for them not to go around it. We have seen this through and through during this election cycle. They will lie, cheat and steal their way to any election. They will mislead and misrepresent legislators to the public to accomplish their goals. They will form bogus teaparty affiliations to confuse the public, all with intent to win.

Whatever happened to truth, honesty and fairness. I guess there are not enough boy scouts left in America.

Shame on the liberals for cheating and shame on the public for falling for their lies...

Wake up Montana and smell the tea..Contact your local teaparty for real details on candidates..

Go out and interview the candidates and look them in eye.

Cheers and God Bless America.

3. [Richard Miller](#)

1:12 pm on May 26th, 2010

When I first heard of this mess I sent out an email and then a clarification in which I tried to point out that it the voters responsibility as well as conservative groups to get the truth about all the candidates. There are candidates running in the primaries from all over the spectrum of the the Republican party. The label that they claim may be honest and sincere, but we will only know if we investigate.

Then add to that the "pragmatic" position that what ever works is OK. Along with the liberal who believe "the ends justify means" and will do what ever is necessary to destroy the conservative candidates and we have reason to be viligant in our selection of Candidates.

4. [Jan Rogers](#)

11:17 pm on May 26th, 2010

- > I know Representative Miller and Senator Hinkle well. I have know about
- > Main Street Republicans for quite some time. A couple of lobbyists told me
- > about their fund raising against conservative Republicans in our state. I
- > have two primary opponents and I of course wonder if that is the same
- > deal, except I haven't seen any ads or heard any radio in my primary.
- >
- > Ted Dick was Tester's Sergeant-of-arms when he was Senate President in
- > 2005.
- >

Trackbacks1. [Ads stir up GOP primary races](#)

[...] [...]

[May 26th, 2010 3:04 pm](#)2. [Ted Dick: No Comment](#)

[...] the mystery man allegedly involved with the ads endorsing Republican candidates (see original story here), said Wednesday he had no comment on the Montana Watchdog stories on the uproar that some [...]

[May 26th, 2010 5:49 pm](#)3. [Bozeman Tea Party Denounces SEIU-backed RINO Republican Ads](#) [Bozeman Tea Party](#)

[...] with Mary Baker, program supervisor at the Offices of Political Practices. According to a report published by the Montana Watchdog, Ted Dick, the political director of Montana SEIU came to [...]

[May 26th, 2010 7:54 pm](#)**Leave a Reply**

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Ron Lake Challenges Dillon Incumbent's Voting Record, Incumbent Challenges Lake's Criminal Record

May 13, 2010, 1:06 am

Ron Lake of Dillon, who is registered on Montana's violent offenders list, has won the endorsement of the Montana Conservative Alliance in his effort to unseat a fellow Republican Rep. Jeff Welborn in the June 8 primary.

Lake is making Welborn's 2009 voting record the issue. Citing ratings by Montana Conservatives, Lake accused Welborn of voting with Democrats about 70 percent in the 2009 Legislature and rejected 22 attempts to cut wasteful government spending.

"It is going to take real Republicans committed to conservative values to make things right again, not Republicans who are 'in bed' with Big Government," a Lake campaign flier says, adding: "Maybe I'm old fashioned, but when a person runs as a Republican, when he gets to Helena, I think he should vote as a Republican."

In response, Welborn said he considers himself "a realistic conservative."

"I work hard to represent the folks that elected me to serve," he said Wednesday. "Voters need to be aware of these fringe groups that are trying to hijack the word 'conservative' by twisting voting records around on a narrow scope of bills to meet their objectives."

Welborn said he's proud of his voting records with "Main Street conservative groups" such as the Montana Chamber of Commerce, National Federation of Independent Business, Montana Stockgrowers Association, National Rifle Association and others.

[For More of this Missoulian Story, Click Here](#)

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Wednesday, Jun 02 2010

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Montana Roundup

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'Main Street Advocacy' Stops Montana Political Ads Following Suspicions Over Funding Sources:- A Washington, D.C.-based Republican group promoting "rational conservatives" in contested Montana Republican legislative primaries has decided to halt its ad campaign, after questions were raised about its financial disclosure. [Read More](#)

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Bozeman Tea Party Denounces SEIU-backed RINO Republican Ads

By hskriegel@yahoo.com

Published: May 27, 2010 **Posted in:** News, State Tea Party News **Tags:** [Main Street Republicans](#), [Montana GOP](#), [RINO's](#), [SEUI](#)



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Photo: Rep. Scott Sales speaks at July 4 Independence Day Tea Party at Gallatin County Court House

Tea Partiers and Candidates Urged to Reject Out-of-State Ad Campaign

Bozeman, Mont.—In a bizarre and Orwellian twist, the Montana SEIU has teamed up with the Main bozemanteaparty.com/archives/902

• **Tea Party Categories**

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Street Advocacy Fund (MSAF), a Progressive left-wing Republican organization, to run campaign ads in contested GOP primary races. The ads and slick brochures are in support of specific candidates who are running against others affiliated with the Tea Party movement and conservative grassroots activist organizations. In the Bozeman-Livingston area, the SEIU/MSAF campaign is attempting to defeat fiscal conservative, Tea Party affiliated candidates Art Wittich (SD-35), Terry Bannan (HD-68) and Pat Wagman (SD-31). These targeted candidates have consistently participated and actively supported the planning and execution of Tea Party rallies and other grassroots conservative events in Gallatin and Park Counties. Other candidates being targeted for defeat and who have supported similar events in their areas include Rep. Lee Randall (HD-39), Rep. Bob Wagner (HD-71) and Rep. Mike Miller, (HD-84).

At face value the ads vaguely reflect the views of most voters, particularly Tea Party voters who are concerned with government accountability and lower taxes. However, the organization responsible for the ads is the national Main Street Advocacy Fund, an offshoot of the "moderate" Main Street Republicans. Former Republican Congressmen Tom Davis (VA) and Amory Houghton (NY) as well as former Goldman Sachs executive John C. Whitehead sit on the group's board of directors. Davis was a promoter of the REAL ID Act and an opponent of the Contract with America Tax Relief Act which cut taxes by \$189 billion. Funding for Main Street offshoot groups have come from the far left including George Soros, according to a report by columnist Michelle Malkin.

Representative Mike Miller uncovered the SEIU connection with MSAF when speaking with Mary Baker, program supervisor at the Offices of Political Practices. According to a report published by the Montana Watchdog, Ted Dick, the political director of Montana SEIU came to Baker's offices twice to review the ad campaign.

"The SEIU is a thug organization," said Henry Kriegel, an organizer of the Bozeman Tea Party. "They are paid hacks who incite and commit acts of violence at Tea Party demonstrations." SEIU members attempted to goad Bozeman Tea Partiers in a fight at a rally last August when President Obama held his Town Hall meeting in Belgrade. Last year, during the height of the town hall rallies opposing Obamacare, SEIU also brutally beat up a black conservative activist Kenneth Gladney in St. Louis.

"This unholy alliance between the SEIU union thugs and big-government Republicans with their paid advertisements is a blatant attempt to corrupt the GOP primaries and our democratic process," said Kriegel. "RINO's will team up with anyone including enemies of our Constitutional principles and their own party to get people they support elected."

The Bozeman Tea Party is calling for all GOP candidates to repudiate this SEIU/Main Street Advocacy meddling into the primary process. Miller was the first to reject these ads. "If the Political Director of SEIU had designed a flier that could potentially influence voters to vote for me, I would have to seriously question my core conservative beliefs." Miller said.

Kriegel added that it is critical that the Tea Party movement be leery of the ad campaign. "Main Street Advocacy talks a good game. Their ads are slick but when you get beyond the words and look at the voting records of their Congressional Board members, you will see that the organization is run by the Progressive wing of the party. They are in fact, the Anti-Tea Party," Kriegel added. "Even their radio ads are deceptive."

Despite being placed by an out-of-state ad agency, the ads were identified as "Montana GOP" spots when in fact, the Montana GOP had nothing to do with the ads being placed, according to a statement released yesterday by Bowen Greenwood, the State Republican Party's Executive Director. "If they lied in their disclaimer, what else are they saying that is not true?" Kriegel added.

Greenwood also wrote that "Senator Brueggeman told (MT GOP) Chairman Deschamps that he is involved with the group running the ads, and anyone with questions is welcome to contact him." Media calls from the Montana Watchdog to Brueggeman yesterday were not answered or returned.

"We respect the freedom of Sen. John Brueggeman to align himself with the SEIU and other opponents of fiscal conservatism," said Kriegel. "The Tea Party also reserves the right to denounce the attempt by the SEIU-backed RINOs to manipulate the primaries."

The Bozeman Tea Party is a non-partisan, non-profit, grassroots activist organization that activates and inspires Montanans to restore America to a constitutional republic by organizing large events, primarily freedom rallies and protest events. Nothing written herein is intended to support or endorse any candidate for office.

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Legislature Matchups

Conservatives and Moderates Do Battle in Montana GOP Primaries

By Matt Gouras, Associated Press , 05-31-10

HELENA – Several GOP legislative primaries are turning into a battle between ultraconservatives seeking to capitalize on momentum generated by the national tea party movement and their more moderate opponents.

And on both sides of the aisle, term limits have created opportunities for several former and sitting legislators looking to move up this primary election season.

The most interesting ideological battle appears to be taking place on the Republican side, where conservatives and moderates are again battling in about half a dozen races or more around the state.

The clash of ideas is not new to legislative Republicans, who have had more public disputes in recent years over the direction of the caucus. Once again, those interested in a more conservative direction have been forcefully advocating for their own candidates in primary elections.

But this time a new group — billed as Main Street Advocacy — has been running issue advertisements in areas that could help the moderate candidates targeted by the Montana Conservative Alliance.

The Republican Party, which vows to stay neutral in primary races, was forced to step into the fray last week when it said people are mistaking the Main Street Advocacy messages as coming from the GOP itself. The moderate group pulled the ads to avoid controversy.

"Any group has the right to campaign and operate within the parameters of Montana's campaign laws, whether it's Main Street Advocacy, Montana Conservative Alliance, or any other," the party wrote to members. "But any use of the name Montana GOP is inaccurate. Again, the party does not take any side in any Republican legislative primary."

The conservative group, led by former lawmaker Roger Koopman of Bozeman, said the current political environment favors unyielding conservatives who favor steep reductions in government spending. He said the mood evident at tea party rallies will not be kind to Republicans who have bent on that principle.

"It will be interesting to see what kind of impact the tea party types and others are going to have on these races because big government Republicans are the ones who have supported the growth in big government over the years," said Koopman. "I think what is going to happen is that the more liberal Republicans are going to feel the wrath more than the liberal Democrats because we feel betrayed."

State Sen. John Brueggeman, R-Polson, is helping out with the Main Street effort and said he has been beating

back false rumors about it, such as that the group is funded by a liberal labor union.

"It's a Republican organization," he said.

Brueggeman said Koopman caught many Republicans by surprise when he first started his campaign of endorsements in previous election cycles. The senator, known for a pragmatic approach, wanted to make sure there was help available for lawmakers targeted by Koopman's operation.

Brueggeman said the Conservative Alliance represents a very narrow, unyielding conservative viewpoint that stands to disenfranchise many in the Republican Party. He said its leaders are unable to govern by working with Democrats in a closely divided Legislature.

"Eventually it is going to be Roger Koopman standing on a hill all by himself," the state senator said. "The way they are going, they will have a party of exactly one."

In some cases, the races pit well-known Republicans against each other.

Near Livingston, the House District 61 primary pits incumbent Joel Boniek, among the most conservative in the legislature, against former state Sen. John Esp who left the upper chamber due to term limits. Even though Esp has been in leadership in the Senate, and is generally viewed as conservative himself, he does not have the backing of Koopman's outfit.

On both sides of the aisle, term limits have created opportunities for several former legislators and for sitting legislators looking to move up — and are also pitting old friends against each other.

Former Republican representatives Mark Noennig and Alan Olson are in a crowded primary with newcomers Wesley Prouse and Kathy Galbreath in the Senate District 23 GOP primary.

On the Democratic side, current Rep. Shannon Augare and former Rep. Joey Jane are competing against one another in a Senate district heavy with Native American voters.

In Missoula, Democratic Rep. Teresa Henry and former lawmaker Tom Facey are battling for a chance to move to the Senate. And in Helena, Rep. Mary Caferro and former lawmaker Dave Gallik — both outspoken — have been fighting hard against one another to move to the Senate in the safe Democratic district.

Some other races are noteworthy for different reasons.

In Dillon, Republican Rep. Jeffrey Wellborn is being challenged by newcomer Ron Lake — who is on Montana's violent offender list for aggravated assault years ago he blames on a drinking problem he has overcome. Still, Lake has the endorsement of the Montana Conservative Alliance who says Lake has learned his lesson.

The Democrats have some unique battles as well, including a Great Falls race where abortion politics are playing heavily in a Democratic primary. Union man Rod Lukasik — who has lost past races by margins so close they once resulted in a coin toss — has a unique endorsement from abortion foes. His opponent, Lindsay Love, works for Planned Parenthood.

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“

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