Commissioner of Political Practices 1209 Eighth Avenue Post Office Box 202401 Helena, MT 59620-2401

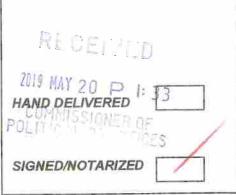
Phone: 406-444-2942 Fax: 406-444-1643

www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

Campaign Finance and Practices

Complaint Form (08/17)

My Commission Expires: \-<\^\



Type or print in ink all information on this form except for verification signature Person bringing complaint (Complainant): Complete Name Complete Mailing Address Work Phone Numbers: Person or organization against whom complaint is brought (Respondent): Complete Name Complete Mailing Address Charlo, MT 5982L 644-2206 Home 644-2369 Phone Numbers: Work Please complete the second page of this form and describe in detail the facts of the alledged violation. Verification by oath or affirmation _____, being duly sworn, state that the information in this Complaint is complete, true, and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief. / Signature of Complainant FATANYA HILFIGURE NOTARY PUBLIC for the State of Montana Subscribed and sworn to before me this \\ \tau_\tag{\tag{T}} day of Residing at Ronan, Montana **My Commission Expires** January 09, 2023

Statement of facts:

Describe in detail the alleged violation(s) and cite the statute or statutes you believe have been violated. Please attach copies of documentary evidence to support the facts alleged in your statement.

If the space provided below is insufficient, you may attach additional pages as necessary.

See attached pages.

Complaints must be:

- signed
- notarized
- · delivered in person or by mail.

On April 29, 2019, someone anonymously sent me a copy of the email that Steve Love sent to the Charlo teachers and a letter sent out to parents and community members. See attached letters. These letters were very unprofessional of the superintendent of Charlo schools.

In the Montana code it shows that Steve Love's email and letters clearly violates ethical codes of conduct in an election process, especially in regard to the employees of Charlo Schools. It states that he, as the employer, cannot exhibit any material that influences the vote for any particular candidate by the employees of Charlo Schools. He cannot solicit support for or oppose any candidate using public time, facilities, equipment, supplies, personnel, or funds as stated in the Missoulian. Steve Love told the Missoulian that he used his office to send out the emails. He also stated that he spoke with community members in and on school grounds and discussed these issues. When he used the school letter head, it made it appear to show the community and parents that the school supported his views. Which is very clearly not true as I came into the possession of these emails through a Charlo staff member who didn't share these same views.

Montana Code Annotated 2017,

TITLE 13. ELECTIONS

CHAPTER 35, ELECTION AND CAMPAIGN PRACTICES AND CRIMINAL PROVISIONS

Part 2. Specific Provisions

Unlawful Acts Of Employers And Employees

13-35-226. Unlawful acts of employers and employees.(2) It is unlawful for an employer to exhibit in a place where the employer's workers or employees may be working any handbill or placard containing:

- (a) any threat, promise, notice, or information that, in case any particular ticket or political party, organization, or candidate is elected:
- (b) other threats or promises, express or implied, intended or calculated to influence the political opinions or actions of the employer's workers or employees.
- (3) A person may not coerce, command, or require a public employee to support or oppose any political committee, the nomination or election of any person to public office, or the passage of a ballot issue.

(4) A public employee may not solicit support for or opposition to any political committee, the nomination or election of any person to public office, or the passage of a ballot issue while on the job or at the place of employment.(5) A person who violates this section is liable in a civil action authorized by 13-37-128, brought by the commissioner of political practices or a county attorney pursuant to 13-37-124 and 13-37-125.

Clearly this is a civil action that can be brought before our county attorney and the commission of political practices against Steve Love.

Again in the Montana code it states that campaign literature is any material that advocates the success of defeat of a candidate. Steve Love clearly stated in his email that he wanted the school staff to support Adrian Roylance and Tracy Olsen, to encourage others to do the same and that as far as the 3rd seat he would leave it up to them who they supported.

Montana Code Annotated 2017

TITLE 13. ELECTIONS

CHAPTER 35. ELECTION AND CAMPAIGN PRACTICES AND CRIMINAL PROVISIONS

Part 6. Montana Third-Party Voter Registration Integrity Act Definitions

13-35-602. Definitions. As used in this part, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Campaign literature" means material that advocates the success or defeat of a candidate, political party, or ballot issue.

It also states in the Montana Code that if the court finds that Steve Love effected the outcome of any elections using his official capacity of Superintendent that this election may be held void and a new election will be held. I believe that the damaging messages, and lies that Steve Love told teachers, staff, community members and parents about us and the potential board candidates, directly impacted the results of this election.

Montana Code Annotated 2017

TITLE 13. ELECTIONS

CHAPTER 35, ELECTION AND CAMPAIGN PRACTICES AND CRIMINAL PROVISIONS

Part 1. General Provisions

Voiding Election

13-35-107. Voiding election. (1) (a) If a court finds that the violation of any provision of this title by any person probably affected the outcome of any election, the result of that election may be held void and a special election held at least 85 days after the finding.

It states again in the Montana Code that a district superintendent or high school principal may not engage in any work or activity that you the trustees consider to be in conflict with the duties and employment as superintendent or principal.

Montana Code Annotated 2017

TITLE 20. EDUCATION

CHAPTER 4. TEACHERS, SUPERINTENDENTS, AND PRINCIPALS

Part 4. District Superintendent and Principal

Appointment And Dismissal Of District Superintendent Or County High School Principal (7) A district superintendent or county high school principal may not engage in any work or activity that the trustees consider to be in conflict with the duties and employment as the district superintendent or county high school principal.

In Charlo's board policy it states under 4331, community relations, use of school property to post notices;

Posters and/or flyers must be student oriented and have the sponsoring organization's name prominently displayed. The District will not permit the posting or distribution of any material

that would:

- 1. Disrupt the educational process;
- 2. Violate the rights of others;
- 3. Invade the privacy of others; an so on.
- 5. Be obscene, vulgar, or indecent.

No commercial publication shall be posted or distributed unless the purpose is to further a school activity, such as graduation, class pictures, or class rings. No information from any candidates for non-student elective offices shall be posted in the school, except on election day, or distributed to the students.

I feel as though Steve's ethically, morally and unprofessional emails violates school policy. These were not student oriented, I believe they disrupted the educational process, violated the rights of every person who disagreed with him, and I believe his language was obscene, which means offensive to moral principles, vulgar, which means, lacking

sophistication or good taste, unrefined, and indecent, which means, not conforming with generally accepted standards of behavior or propriety. The school board and the administration, need to be professional, honorable, ethical and correct in dealing with parents and community members. This email proves that Steve Love was not professional, honorable, ethical, and correct in his dealings as superintendent.

In Steve Love's capacity as Superintendent he clearly violated the campaign practices and ethics for interfering with a school elections by using his position of power to influence, and lie to the teachers, staff, parents and community members of Charlo. He used school time resources, emails, computers, offices and facilities to advocate for the candidates of his choice.

It's a Sign!

Steve Love <slove@charloschools.com>
To: Charlo Staff <charlostaff@charloschools.com>

Thu, Apr 18, 2019 at 10:39 AM

affected my reputation as well as my family. Don't think for a minute it doesn't make my blood boil. I get it more than Each has called me just about everything in the book. They have put out completely false rumors about me that have than me. The folks who are responsible for those signs have all spoke against me in public meetings multiple times. Well this week has been very interesting to say the least! Nothing surprises me anymore that's for sure. I know that the Negative and False Propaganda Signs that were erected last weekend can be very discouraging. Nobody knows better

our ability. Remain professional. Stay focused twice on Sunday. We do have support and we can keep that support by staying positive and doing our job to the best of people who have called me, emailed me, and stopped by to visit with me this week as an ally any day of the week and the folks making such outlandish allegations against me, you, and trustees I know we are in the right. I will take the these citizens and they have to blame somebody. There's a lot to be said for who our enemies are and if my enemies are people who can't get things figured out in their own lives or in their own families. Dysfunctional would be a compliment to The thing I would try to encourage you to do as a Charlo School Employee is to consider the source. These are unhappy

third seat open and I will leave it up to you as far as who you support again and I feel that the two of them are doing a good job as board members. They do not have an agenda. There is a attacking them. Adrian Roylance and Tracy Olsen are running for school board again. The ballots should be going out and family about the people you support as trustees. Imagine how our school board members feel. The signs are really social media. When you get asked about stuff be honest and professional. Send them to me or Bonnie. Tell your friends That isn't to say we can't all come together and combat this negative attitude with some networking. Stay positive on your

Last thing: Only two things happen when you roll in the mud with pigs 1) you get dirty 2) the pigs enjoy it.

Happy Easter!

Steve Love
Superintendent, Charlo Schools Dist. 7J
"Home of the Vikings!"



Charlo School District 7J

404 1st Avenue West Box 10 - Charlo, MT 59824 (406) 644-2206 - FAX (406) 644-2400

Dear Supporters of Charlo School: Lately some folks have been running down current school board members and the school system. It's easy to become entangled in such negativity but like a good friend once told me "stay away from negative people because they have a problem for every solution." So thanks for the face to face visits, positive phone calls, emails, and social media posts supporting our school system over the last week. All of the trustees and employees at Charlo School take their duties very seriously. The truth of the matter is that we have an outstanding school system with dedicated trustees and employees. We give our best every single day. Charlo administrators, teachers, and classified staff work with students that consistently produce outstanding test scores, excellent attendance rates, and rock solid graduation rates. Students from Charlo qualify for thousands in scholarship money, are prepared for employment, are prepared for college, and much more. The trustees (without any pay). work to keep budgets balanced, update policies, and hire people to get the job done. They are giving back to their community without an agenda. Rather they do it because it's their civic duty. Please do not let a few signs filled with negative propaganda overshadow the wonderful things happening in our school. Instead, stay positive for our students' sake. Ultimately they are the ones who suffer when things get so negative. If you have any questions about school issues please feel free to call 644-2206 ext 230 to visit. Set up an appointment with us if you are concerned about issues so we can have a conversation about those issues. Finally, just keep in mind that those who only find fault in others usually spend no time correcting their own.

Immunizations: On April 24, 2019, the Lake County Health Department will be offering Tetanus, Diphtheria, and acellular Pertussis (Tdap) vaccinations to the 6th graders at Charlo School. Current Montana law requires that each child receive a Tdap shot prior to entering 7th grade. This year, along with the required Tdap vaccine, we are also offering Meningococcal (MCV4) and Human Papilloma Virus vaccines (HPV/Gardasil 9) to ALL eligible students. The Advisory Council on Immunization Practices (ACIP) strongly recommends these vaccines for both boys and girls. The 6th grade parents should have received this information in a letter April 1st. THIS CLINIC IS OPEN TO ANY STUDENT OVER THE AGE OF 11 IN CHARLO SCHOOLS. If you would like your child to participate in the school vaccine clinic, consent forms are available at the office. Please complete both sides and return to the school no later than April 22. Please include the necessary payment/insurance information, however, no student will be turned away due to inability to pay. Any questions call Leigh Estvold RN at 883-7288.

Appreciation: A heart-felt Special Olympics thank you to Charlo Schools, Allentown Restaurant, FUP's Tournament, and the Charlo community for a great week of fundraising! Our Charlo Vikings Special Olympics program is dynamic, ongoing, and funded because of hard work and generosity. Community goodwill is a great sendoff for our athletes and unified partners as they compete in the upcoming Area and State Games. Your support is appreciated!

Job Openings: We have job positions open for Transportation Director and Head Football Coach. Please check out the listings at Lake County Job Service as well as the Charlo School Website. If you have questions please call 644-2206 ext 230.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Apr.	18, 19, 22	NO SCHOOL - HAPPY EASTER!	Respectfully,
Apr.		Top Ten Track @ Big Sky	14 2 /2
Apr.	23	Softball vs Manhattan 3 PM	Store of
Apr.	24	Immunization Clinic	Superintendent
Apr.	26	Softball @ Frenchtown Tourney	Superintenen
Apr.	26	HS Track @ Big Sky 3:30 PM	charle 7
Anr	27	Drom Softball @ Frenchtown Tourney	Chirol C

It's a Sign!

1 message

Steve Love <slove@charloschools.com>
To: Charlo Staff <charlostaff@charloschools.com>

Thu, Apr 18, 2019 at 10:39 AM

Well this week has been very interesting to say the least! Nothing surprises me anymore that's for sure. I know that the Negative and False Propaganda Signs that were erected last weekend can be very discouraging. Nobody knows better than me. The folks who are responsible for those signs have all spoke against me in public meetings multiple times. Each has called me just about everything in the book. They have put out completely false rumors about me that have affected my reputation as well as my family. Don't think for a minute it doesn't make my blood boil. I get it more than anyone believe me.

The thing I would try to encourage you to do as a Charlo School Employee is to consider the source. These are unhappy people who can't get things figured out in their own lives or in their own families. Dysfunctional would be a compliment to these citizens and they have to blame somebody. There's a lot to be said for who our enemies are and if my enemies are the folks making such outlandish allegations against me, you, and trustees I know we are in the right. I will take the people who have called me, emailed me, and stopped by to visit with me this week as an ally any day of the week and twice on Sunday. We do have support and we can keep that support by staying positive and doing our job to the best of our ability. Remain professional. Stay focused.

That isn't to say we can't all come together and combat this negative attitude with some networking. Stay positive on your social media. When you get asked about stuff be honest and professional. Send them to me or Bonnie. Tell your friends and family about the people you support as trustees. Imagine how our school board members feel. The signs are really attacking them. Adrian Roylance and Tracy Olsen are running for school board again. The ballots should be going out again and I feel that the two of them are doing a good job as board members. They do not have an agenda. There is a third seat open and I will leave it up to you as far as who you support.

Last thing: Only two things happen when you roll in the mud with pigs 1) you get dirty 2) the pigs enjoy it.

Happy Easter!

Steve Love Superintendent, Charlo Schools Dist. 7J "Home of the Vikings!" From: Steve Love slove@charloschools.com

Subject: Viking View 4-18-19
Sate: April 18, 2019 at 9:36 AM



berger1@blackfoot.net, Duane Weible farmerrancher1965@gmail.com, Reece Middlemist k.middlemist@hotmail.com, T.J.

tjo@charle.net, Jodie Buxbaum jljbuxbaum@yahoo.com

Dear Supporters of Charlo School: Lately some folks have been running down current school board members and the school system. It's easy to become entangled in such negativity but like a good friend once told me "stay away from negative people because they have a problem for every solution." So thanks for the face to face visits, positive phone calls, emails, and social media posts supporting our school system over the last week. All of the trustees and employees at Charlo School take their duties very seriously. The truth of the matter is that we have an outstanding school system with dedicated trustees and employees. We give our best every single day. Charlo administrators, teachers, and classified staff work with students that consistently produce outstanding test scores, excellent attendance rates, and rock solid graduation rates. Students from Charlo qualify for thousands in scholarship money, are prepared for employment, are prepared for college, and much more. The trustees (without any pay) work to keep budgets balanced, update policies, and hire people to get the job done. They are giving back to their community without an agenda. Rather they do it because it's their civic duty. Please do not let a few signs filled with negative propaganda overshadow the wonderful things happening in our school. Instead, stay positive for our students' sake. Ultimately they are the ones who suffer when things get so negative. If you have any questions about school issues please feel free to call 644-2206 ext 230 to visit. Set up an appointment with us if you are concerned about issues so we can have a conversation about those issues. Finally, just keep in mind that those who only find fault in others usually spend no time correcting their own.

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Apr.	23	Top Ten Track @ Big Sky
Apr.	23	Softball vs Manhattan 3 PM
Apr.	24	Immunization Clinic
Apr.	26	Softball @ Frenchtown Tourney
Apr.	26	HS Track @ Big Sky 3:30 PM
Apr.	27	Prom
Apr.	27	Softball @ Frenchtown Tourney

Steve Love

Superintendent, Charlo Schools Dist. 7J "Home of the Vikings!"

To unsubscribe from this group, send email to charloparents+unsubscribe@charloschools.com. Reply 'YES' to the Unsubscribe Request follow-up email.

From: Steve Love slove@charloschools.com

Subject: Viking View 4-25-19

Date: April 25, 2019 at 2:01 PM

To: Charlo Staff charlostaif@charloschools.com, charloparents@charloschools.com, Adrian Roylance buckcherry25@yahoo.com,

Daniel Cahoon danielcahoon85@gmail.com, Dave DeGrandpre landsblutions@biackfoot.net, LaDonna Fryberger

berger1@blackfoot.net, Duane Weible farmerrancher1965@gmail.com, Reece Middlemist k.middlemist@hotmail.com, T J

tjo@charlo net, Jodie Buxbaum jljbuxbaum@yahoo.com

Dear Supporters of Charlo School:

We have been very

appreciative for the phone calls, emails, and social media posts supporting our school. I also wish to thank those who

have sought to gain more information regarding the upcoming school board

election and the misinformation being distributed through the mail as well as signage. I have had some very good

discussions the past two weeks and would welcome more if anyone has questions about our school. You can reach me at

644-2206 ext 230.

Job Opening: The school has a great opportunity for employment as its Head Bus Driver/Transportation Supervisor. The is job is open for discussion concerning wages, benefits, and hours as the school deals with a nation wide shortage of school bus drivers as well as increasing maintenance costs. If you are interested the job it is listed at Lake County Job Service. If you have questions about the job please call 644-2206 ext 230. I would love to talk about this opportunity with anybody looking for a rewarding job.

JH Track Meet: Charlo will be hosting our annual JH Track Meet on Apr. 30 weather permitting. If you can help out please call the office at 644-2206. We always gets lots of compliments on the way we run our meet and it only happens because of the folks who donate their time and effort making it happen.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Apr.	26	Softball @ Frenchtown Tourney
	26	HS Track @ Big Sky 3:30 PM
Apr.	27	Prom, Softball @ Frenchtown Tourney
Apr.	30	JH Track Meet in Charlo Starts at Noon
Apr.	30	Top 8 Track @ Anaconda
May	1	Special Olympics @ Five Valleys Spring Games
May	2	HS Track @ Polson 4 PM
May	2	Softball @ Florence 4 PM
May	3	JH Track @ Superior 10 AM
May	3	Softball @ Plains 3 PM
May	3	Mid Term of 4 th Quarter
May	4	HS Track @ Big Sky 10 AM
May	4	Softball @ Deer Lodge Noon

Steve Love

Superintendent, Charlo Schools Dist. 7J

"Home of the Vikings!"

To unsubscribe from this group, send email to charloparents+unsubscribe@charloschools.com. Reply 'YES' to the Unsubscribe Request follow-up email.

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Charlo Parents" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to charloparents+unsubscribe@charloscheols.com.





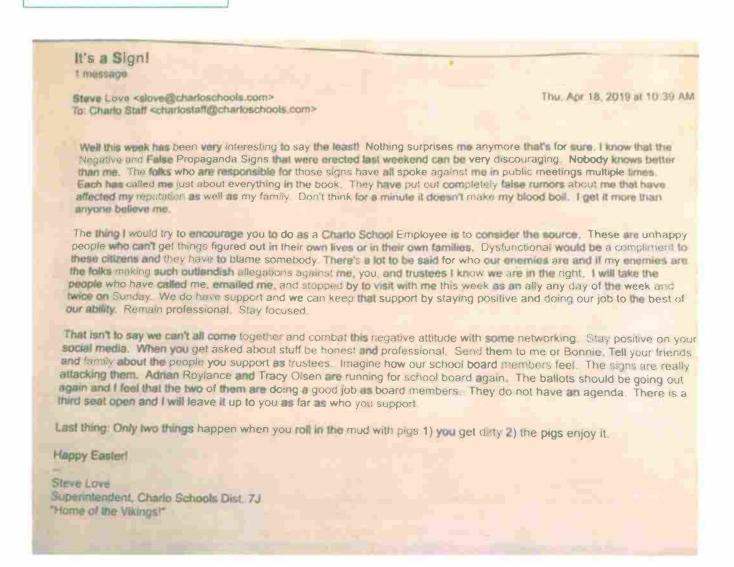
 $https://missoulian.com/news/state-and-regional/in-email-to-staff-charlo-superintendent-backed-incumbents/article_c2e3bcef-4517-5413-8b16-d5bc0ae73964.html\\$

Charlo School District Election

In email to staff, Charlo superintendent backed incumbents

PATRICK REILLY patrick.reilly@missoulian.com May 9, 2019

99¢ YOUR FIRST MONTH!



Email sent by Steve Love to Charlo School District 7J Staff, April 18, 2019. Image Courtesy of Randy Doty.

In the weeks leading up to the Charlo School District Election, Superintendent Steve Love emailed staff with words of support for the two incumbents.

Both Tracy Olsen and Adrian Roylance kept their board seats in this year's hotly-contested vote. Steve Love wrote approvingly of them in an April 18 email to district staff.

Local resident Randy Doty and parent Amie Tryon both gave the Missoulian copies of this message. By the time Love sent it out, Doty and another parent, Cari Rosenbaum, had put up large signs around Charlo denouncing the current school board.



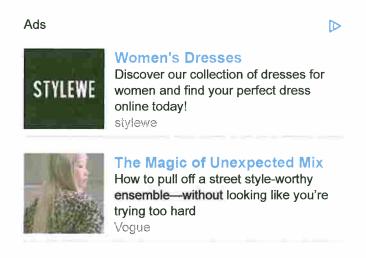
Love did not single them out by name in the email, but called those who put up the signs "unhappy people who can't get things figured out in their own lives or in their own families. Dysfunctional would be a compliment to these citizens and they have to blame somebody."

"That isn't to say we can't all come together and combat this negative attitude with some networking," he wrote, urging the staff to "tell your friends and family about the people you support as trustees. Imagine how our school board members feel. The signs are really attacking them."

"Adrian Roylance and Tracy Olsen are running for School Board again," he continued. "The ballots should be going out again and I feel that the two of them are doing a good job as board members. They do not have an agenda. There is a third seat open and I will leave it up to you as far as who to support."

The message was sent from his school district email account and time-stamped 10:39 a.m. on Thursday, April 18. Classes were not in session that day, but Love said he was in the office.

Montana law states that "a public officer or public employee may not use public time, facilities, equipment, supplies, personnel, or funds to solicit support for or opposition to any political committee, the nomination or election of any person to public office, or the passage of a ballot issue." Some exceptions exist for school districts' board of trustee meetings and bond and levy ballot issues, but not board elections.



Montana Commissioner of Political Practices Jeff Mangan declined to comment on the email, citing the possibility of a complaint in the near future. But Love defended the message.

"The reason for that email to my staff was to voice my support for them after all the propaganda that had gone out against us the week before," he said, "and we have several new staff members who had asked about, 'Well, who's on the board?'... So I was letting the new staff members know, 'This is who's currently on the board.'

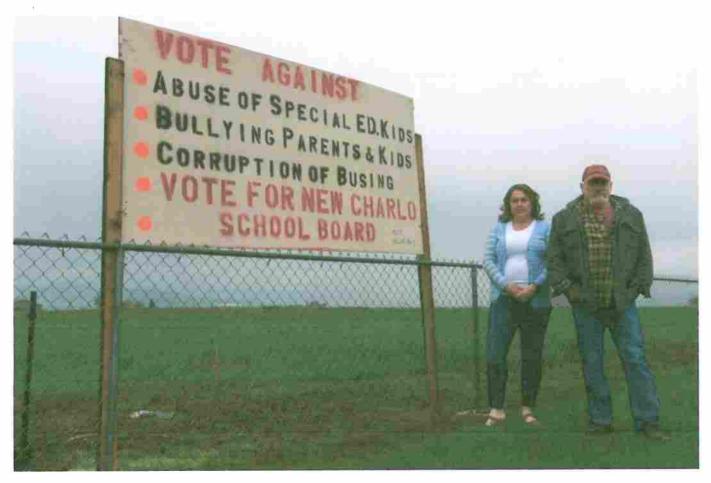
"I meant every word in that email," he said. "I stand behind that email. it is dysfunctional to set up signs and send out flyers with baseless accusations."

But Cari Rosenbaum called the email "completely unprofessional," and maintained her critique of Charlo Schools' special-ed programs that drove her to put up the signs.

Rosenbaum said she was hopeful that the challengers in the race had drawn enough votes to convince the board members to change course. Love, for his part, said that "voters obviously felt like I was doing a good job, and the voters obviously felt that the trustees were doing a good job, because they re-elected them."



MORE INFORMATION



Incumbents hold on in Charlo School District race

• Charlo Schools election turns bitter over issues surrounding special-needs students

Patrick Reilly

Flathead

https://missoulian.com/news/state-and-regional/in-email-to-st...mbents/article_c2e3bcef-4517-5413-8b16-d5bc0ae73964.html