

May 12, 2020

To the Citizens of House District #71:

By the time you see this letter, you should have your Primary Ballot in hand. Voting is a privilege and a responsibility that is not enjoyed worldwide. Many women and men have served and sacrificed their lives so that we can remain free and can continue to have this opportunity. Please exercise your right to vote.

I had hoped to be able to spend the better part of April and May out on the campaign trail meeting and visiting with as many of you as possible. I wanted to hear and learn from you regarding your concerns and issues, and also provide some insight about myself and my values. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic changed all our 'normal' day-to-day activities and brought an abrupt end to personal socializing. Socializing is both important and healthy for our society. To us Montanans, it is a big part of our culture to be around family, friends, neighbors and meeting and greeting newcomers. As we begin to 'open' back up, we need to do so in a responsible manner, but we must take steps to reinvigorate our community.

This election will send a new Representative to the State Legislature. My passion is for our rural communities to be prosperous, not only now, but for future generations. Our natural resource-based economies, agriculture, timber, mining, and recreation need to be protected and promoted for sustainability. Only then can we maintain and support our education and healthcare systems, and Main Street businesses.

I feel confident in my abilities to represent your interests. I have lived, worked, and raised my family in our District. I have been in involved in making our communities a better place to live through service on Boards and volunteer efforts. I understand our industries and have experienced both difficult and prosperous times. The 2021 legislative session will be challenged with a revenue shortfall. My financial budgeting experience will be one of the assets I can contribute in resolving the issues faced during this legislative session. Additionally, I have developed a network of former and current policy makers which enable me to be prepared and able to work effectively on your behalf from day one. I have lobbied both in Washington, D.C. and Helena as a businessman and community volunteer. I understand and appreciate the commitment that these lawmakers make to serve their constituencies. I am committed and look forward to being your Representative.

Sincerely,

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