

2021 Legislative Report & Scorecard



montana
HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK

2021 Vote Record: Introduction

There's really no other way to say it. The 2021 Montana Legislature was brutal for those of us championing inclusive democracy and the creation of communities based on justice, equality, and equity. Both legislative chambers featured Republican majorities driven by right-wing authoritarianism and dedicated to scrapping democracy. Despite the GOP majority's ideology and blatant power grabs, MHRN and our allies did have some wins, thanks to the consistent engagement of our supporters!

Right-Wing Movements Shape the GOP's Radical Plan

It's easy to look at what happened during the 2021 legislative session and chalk it up to a continuation of Trumpism. However, Trump didn't create the white nationalism, homophobia, misogyny, and other discriminatory ideas that defined his four years in office. Instead, he was the logical product of more than 50 years of strategy by various right-wing movements that have shaped the current Republican Party.

Those social movements have helped transform the current Montana Republican Party into the ideological machine that bulldozed through the 2021 session. Here are a few examples of this calculated agenda.

The roots of the anti-transgender, anti-choice, anti-public schools, and so-called "religious freedom" bills during this past session can be traced back to the meeting between right-wing political operatives and the Rev. Jerry Falwell in the late 1970s that launched the modern-day version of the Religious Right.

The Religious Right made engaging the GOP part of religious practice for

the evangelicals and others drafted into the movement. A perfect example of the Religious Right's influence can be found in current Montana Governor Greg Gianforte.

As the [Montana Free Press reported](#), the Governor's family foundation gave approximately \$1.13 million between 2007-2018 to three influential national Religious Right organizations (Family Research Council, Alliance Defending Freedom, and Focus on the Family), with the Southern Poverty Law Center designating the first two as anti-LGBTQ+ hate groups.

The Gianforte family foundation also gave over \$2 million between 2005-2018 to the state's largest Religious Right group, the [Montana Family Foundation](#) and its affiliated Montana Family Institute.

The Montana GOP's emphasis on allowing guns basically everywhere without common-sense guidelines reflects [how successfully the militia movement](#) of the 1990s helped pull



the party and groups like the National Rifle Association towards the fringe. The NRA went from offering hunter education classes to parroting militia rhetoric and waging war against what it now termed "jack-booted government thugs." The Republican Party followed suit.

The anti-government movement's influence also appeared in [many bills](#) during the 2021 legislative session that sought to take authority away from nonpartisan public health experts on county health boards. These proposals wanted to transfer power to politicians in the form of county commissioners and/or allow county sheriffs to not enforce public health directives.

These bills reinforced a key component of militia ideology known as [county supremacy](#). MHRN continues to be concerned about militia activists and violent

Right-Wing Movements continued

extremists like [Ammon Bundy](#) trying to normalize their ideology through political campaigns and legislation.

Under the false premise of preventing voter fraud, the Republican majority took its cues from national GOP forces pushing voter suppression bills. Trump made this a huge issue both during and after the 2020 elections, even though his legal team failed to provide proof of voter fraud.

However, the strategy of voter suppression harkens back to practices, like poll taxes and literacy tests, used in the late Nineteenth Century and early Twentieth Century to keep people of color from voting. Republicans know they stand a better chance of winning if they can change the rules so only their supporters can vote easily.

On the House floor, Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R-Belgrade) [admitted](#) it, saying the GOP should get rid of same-day voter registration, because people utilizing and supporting that option “are not on our side of the aisle.”

Republican lawmakers perpetuated the longtime tradition of trying to undermine tribal sovereignty. From the very beginning of colonialism, white settlers and their governments have tried to exterminate Indigenous communities and steal Native lands.



After confining Indian Nations to reservations, the federal government deployed the Dawes Act of 1887 to facilitate turning much of that land over to non-Natives. This is just one of the many horrible actions directed toward Indigenous Montanans by governments at the federal and state levels.

GOP lawmakers during the 2021 session supported many of the policy objectives supported by the active [anti-Indian movement](#), including upholding the legacy of the Dawes Act and making it harder for Indigenous communities to vote.

Governor Gianforte and his GOP legislative allies proposed economic policies that trace back to the failed trickle-down economics popularized

by former President Reagan. They pushed bills providing tax cuts only for the wealthy by using flawed decades-old rhetoric that money to the rich trickles down to everyone else.

In another ode to 1980's misinformation, the GOP majority frequently deployed a favorite scapegoat – the “welfare queens” who supposedly take advantage of taxpayer-funded programs. To deal with this non-existent problem they fabricated, the GOP cut funding for public services and tried to make it as hard as possible to qualify for, and enroll in, those same programs, which actually serve as crucial safety nets for hard-working Montanans.

The 2021 session reflects how right-wing social movements have shaped the Republican Party through attacking it, both internally and externally, for decades. As activists infiltrated the Republican Party and pushed it to the political right, advocacy groups pulled the party even further to the right, constantly telling the GOP it's never conservative enough.

The Republican majority's priorities during the 2021 Montana Legislature can't be dismissed as the results of one election cycle or a single candidate.

Abusing Power and Process

The 2021 Republican majority went out of its way to pass laws targeting all of their perceived enemies: members of the BIPOC and LGBTQ+ communities; women; working families; and public institutions like voting, schools, and public health.

Even as they debated and passed racist legislation, they claimed racism doesn't exist in Montana. You can watch examples of this shocking claim [here](#) and [here](#).

Their blatant grabs for power also led to frequent abuse of the legislative process. The 2021 session featured many "Zombie Bills," which got their nickname because Republicans would resurrect "dead" proposals tabled by committees and add them to other bills still moving through

the process. These Zombie Bills often passed without having a hearing where the public could testify.

Another tactic was to immediately launch a piece of legislation that was nearly identical to another bill that had just failed. This trick not only clearly violated the spirit of legislative rules, but it flooded the session with so many bad bills that voters could not keep up.

In the case of trying to keep trans youth from having gender-affirming surgery, the GOP's first attempt (HB 113) failed on Second Reading in the House. The bill's sponsor, Rep. John Fuller (R-Whitefish), introduced an almost-identical bill (HB 427) that, thankfully, also died.

We're grateful for a few wins, but the point is that the GOP abused legislative rules and processes at will.

The Republican majority also frequently strayed beyond its constitutional authority and declared war on the independent judiciary, federal government, Montana University System, and non-profit groups.

They made it clear that they felt [every issue was partisan](#), and that, as state legislators, they had the ultimate authority on laws, policies, and government activity throughout the state. This perspective rejects checks and balances and denies other basic principles that guide our democracy.

Victories Despite the Challenges

Despite this extreme environment, MHRN and its allies did have wins during the session. There were about a dozen Republican lawmakers who supported good policy over ideology, frequently pushing back against their own caucus and voting for the best interests of all Montanans. The following are a few of the victories from the session.

MHRN mobilized members of the LGBTQ+ community and their allies to defeat a pair of bills attacking transgender, nonbinary, and Two Spirit folks. The GOP ran two separate bills to outlaw gender-affirming surgery for youth, and both proposals failed. The hard work by MHRN, allies, and members also resulted in very close votes

on other bills targeting the LGBTQ+ community.

Multiple pieces of legislation passed with large bipartisan support when it came to the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women and people. Thanks to the amazing work of Indigenous organizers over many years, the State of Montana is now addressing this crisis through law and with some additional resources.

MHRN worked with coalition partners to initially kill some of the GOP proposals for voter suppression. Unfortunately, Republicans folded some of these defeated measures into Zombie Bills that disenfranchise voters who already face hurdles to



Victories Despite the Challenges continued

voting. However, it's worth celebrating that Republicans had to use extraordinary maneuvers to bypass public opposition in order to enact the new laws.

MHRN worked hard with allies to stop some of the horrible economic policies put forth by the Gianforte Administration and its legislative allies. This included killing the so-called "Right to Work" bill and a proposal that would have established a way to starve public programs of funding for years into the future.

We are so proud of all the work our members and allies did together throughout this difficult, complicated, and exhausting session. We can't thank our members and supporters enough for their sustained engagement, which shows in data compiled by Montana Legislative Services.

The agency kept a [tally](#) of how many people contacted lawmakers through its online form and phone switchboard. For the two bills targeting trans youth who want to have gender-affirming surgery, more than 2,400 people told lawmakers to reject the bills, while only around 560 supported the bills.

Time and again, Montanans asked their lawmakers to support equality, equity, and justice. Over and over, we saw how public pressure was meaningful and sometimes cut through right-wing ideology.

Eleanor Roosevelt once said that the struggle for human rights starts in "small places, close to home."

We need to continue speaking up together to help our communities and institutions represent everyone, so they can truly work for everyone.

The end of the session doesn't mean the end of the work. **Please write letters to the editor or create posts on social media about your legislators to thank them or hold them accountable, depending on how they scored on our vote record.**

Montana has a citizen legislature, which means lawmakers are members of our communities. If it makes sense, reach out to your legislators in person, meet them for coffee, and talk about the issues that are important to you.

This legislative session made it clear that the Republican majority is promoting policies created by national leadership and right-wing movements to divide our communities and target



some of our friends and neighbors. We have the choice to either endure this or take action that builds strong, accepting communities across Montana.

MHRN will continue working for inclusive democracy, and we'd love to [count you as a member](#). Please join our efforts supporting human rights in "small places, close to home."

Description of Bills

One result of the human rights framework that guides MHRN is that we are, by design, a multi-issue organization. Our vote record for the 2021 Montana Legislature helps illustrate this. We used a large number of bills to compile the vote record, both because we work in many issue areas and there were so many bills attacking the basic rights of Montanans. In all, we scored 18 bills for members of the House and 17 for the Senate.

The combination of issue areas and the sheer number of bills makes a score of 100% all the more impressive. It also says something about

those lawmakers receiving 0%, and that statement is that, across the board, they prioritized right-wing and anti-government ideology over what's best for communities and all Montanans. A case in point is that lawmakers serving as leadership for the Republican Party Caucus in both chambers have a combined score of 0%.

When it comes to the work done around the included bills, MHRN led some of the legislative efforts and offered support on others. The successes during this tough session couldn't have been accomplished without the

help of allies, coalition partners, and all the community members who spoke up, contacted their legislators, and fought for inclusive democracy and all Montanans until the very end.

There are lawsuits being filed against many of the measures passed during the 2021 session. We've noted in our descriptions when that is the case for bills used in the vote record. However, for the most up-to-date information, please check the [lawsuit tracker](#) created by the *Montana Free Press*.

Definition of Terms Used

Committee: Legislative sub-groups that meet during the session to hold public hearings on proposed legislation. The committees are divided up by subject and hear bills that fall under the committee's topic.

Died in Process: Bill failed to gain enough votes to be passed into law. This could happen either at the committee level or on the floor of one of the legislative chambers.

Second Reading: The first time a bill is debated and voted on in a legislative chamber.

Third Reading: The last time a bill is voted on in a legislative chamber.

Explanation of Voting Record Tables

1: Legislator voted in support of MHRN's position on a bill.

0: Legislator voted in opposition to MHRN's position on the bill.

EXC: Legislator excused from the vote.

ABS: Legislator absent when vote was taken.

Key Legislation

HB 102: Generally revise gun laws

Rep. Seth Berglee (R-Joliet)

Oppose

The legislation allows for the carrying of concealed weapons almost everywhere in the state without a permit, while also allowing guns on college campuses. It's the creation of [Gary Marbut](#), a militia supporter and leader of the Montana Shooting Sports Association. The Board of Regents and others are currently suing to get the campus portion of the new law struck down.

House Vote: 68-30 Third Reading

Senate Vote: 29-21 Third Reading

Status: Signed by Governor (Currently facing litigation)

HB 112: Require interscholastic athletes to participate under sex assigned at birth

Rep. John Fuller (R-Whitefish)

Oppose

The legislation prevents transgender, nonbinary, and Two Spirit youth from participating in school sports. Healthcare professionals testified during the legislative session that participation in sports gives trans youth more confidence, better mental and physical health, and affirmation that they are valued members of their schools.

Support came from the Religious Right and Christian Nationalists, including the [Montana Family Foundation](#) and the

[Alliance Defending Freedom](#), a national organization that the Southern Poverty Law Center has designated an anti-LGBTQ hate group. Litigation has been filed against the new law.

House Vote: 60-39 Third Reading

Senate Vote: 27-23 Third Reading

Status: Signed by Governor (Currently facing litigation)

HB 121: Require elected official approval of local health board and officer actions

Rep. David Bedey (R-Hamilton)

Oppose

The bill was one of [numerous pieces of legislation](#) that sought to take authority away from nonpartisan public health experts on county health boards and give it to politicians in the form of county commissioners. These proposals reinforced a key component of militia ideology known as [county supremacy](#). Militia activists and violent extremists like [Ammon Bundy](#) are trying to normalize their ideology through political campaigns and legislation, and we are monitoring these changes closely.

House Vote: 68-31 Third Reading

Senate Vote: 31-19 Third Reading

Status: Signed by Governor

HB 176: Close late voter registration on Friday before the election

Rep. Sharon Greef (R-Florence)

Oppose

Under the false premise of preventing voter fraud, the Republican majority fell in line with national GOP forces pushing voter suppression with this bill that ends same-day voter registration. This law unfairly targets Indigenous communities and college campuses, which frequently have had high rates of same-day voting. Multiple lawsuits have already been filed challenging the new law.

House Vote: 65-35 Third Reading

Senate Vote: 30-20 Third Reading

Status: Signed by Governor (Currently facing litigation)

HB 223: Create statutory authority for sworn law enforcement officers to hold aliens

Rep. Bill Mercer (R-Billings)

Oppose

This anti-immigrant legislation compels local law enforcement to

Discrimination by Design

The Montana Family Foundation and Alliance Defending Freedom aggressively supported numerous bills targeting the LGBTQ+ community.



Key Legislation

play the part of federal immigration agents. Asking local police to assume these duties can erode trust between communities and law enforcement, which makes our communities less safe. MHRN also worries the new law will open the door to increased racial profiling and other violations of civil rights.

House Vote: 65-33 Third Reading

Senate Vote: 30-20 Third Reading

Status: Signed by Governor

HB 244: Revise death penalty laws related to lethal injection

Rep. Dennis Lenz (R-Billings)

Oppose

The bill would have reactivated the use of the death penalty in Montana. It sought to change the requirements for the drugs used for lethal injections so a broader range of drugs could be used for executions.

House Vote: 65-42 Third Reading

Senate: 24-26 Second Reading

Status: Died in Process

HB 251: Implement right-to-work

Rep. Caleb Hinkle (R-Belgrade)

Oppose

The bill sought to decimate the influence of unions in Montana. MHRN opposed the bill because “Right to Work” laws harm working families. Studies show that states with such policies have lower wages, higher rates of household poverty, and increased levels of consumer debt. “Right to Work” only benefits large corporations at the expense of workers.

It’s also important to remember that the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* includes forming and joining unions as a fundamental human right.
House Vote: 38-62 Second Reading

Senate: N/A

Status: Died in Process

HB 258: Revise laws related to firearms, ammunition, and accessories

Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R-Belgrade)

Oppose

The legislation outlaws the enforcement of federal firearms bans or regulations. It makes it appear that Montana can decide which federal laws it will, and will not, enforce. Article VI of the U.S. Constitution, which is commonly called the “Supremacy Clause,” clearly states that the laws of the United States “shall be the supreme Law of the Land.”

The state already has very lax gun laws, and now Montana is on record saying that it won’t enforce federal law. That’s enticing to militias and other such extremist groups that already see Montana as good recruitment territory.

House Vote: 66-33 Third Reading

Senate Vote: 30-20 Third Reading

Status: Signed by Governor

HB 337: Constitutional amendment to define person

Rep. Caleb Hinkle (R-Belgrade)

Oppose

This anti-choice bill would have changed the definition of a person in the Montana Constitution to give fertilized eggs full legal rights in an attempt to ban abortion in the state. The bill would have put the measure on the ballot in the form of a referendum. However, a referendum request requires a two-thirds vote of the entire Legislature, which the bill failed to receive.

House Vote: 66-33 Third Reading

Senate Vote: 29-21 Third Reading

Status: Died in Process

HB 427: Provide for youth health protection

Rep. John Fuller (R-Whitefish)

Oppose

This anti-trans bill would have prevented trans, nonbinary, and Two Spirit youth under 18 from getting gender-affirming surgery. That situation is already heavily restricted, but the bill’s sponsor and supporters used the hearings on the bill to spread misinformation about trans people and justify unnecessary restrictions on surgical care. The medical community came out in strong opposition to the bill, which helped ultimately defeat it.

House Vote: 60-38 Third Reading

Senate Vote: 27-22 Indefinitely Postpone

Status: Died in Process

HB 530: Require secretary of state to adopt rules governing election security

Rep. Wendy McKamey (R-Ulm)

Oppose

Under the false premise of preventing voter fraud, the Republican majority fell in line with national GOP forces pushing voter suppression measures. The bill directs the Montana Secretary of State to create roadblocks to collecting and turning in ballots, which is a practice routinely used by advocacy groups to make sure the votes of Indigenous and other marginalized communities are cast and counted.

The bill basically reinstated measures of the Ballot Integrity Protection Act that courts [struck down](#) in 2020. Civil rights and Indigenous advocacy groups have filed suit to overturn the law.

House Vote: 66-34 Third Reading

Senate Vote: 28-22 Third Reading

Status: Signed by Governor (Currently facing litigation)

Key Legislation

HB 613: Generally revise laws related to tribal voting

Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D-Crow Agency)

Support

Known as the Montana Native American Voting Rights Act, the bill would have made it easier for Indigenous people to vote by establishing satellite election offices on each reservation and easing restrictions around using tribal IDs as acceptable identification.

House Vote: 48-51 Third Reading

Senate Vote: N/A

Status: Died in Process

SB 99: Establish parameters for K-12 human sexuality education

Sen. Cary Smith (R-Billings)

Oppose

The legislation prevents access to accurate sex education and bans qualified medical providers from offering sex education in schools. The bill classifies any mention of sexual orientation or gender identity as sex education.

House Vote: 65-31 Third Reading

Senate Vote: 31-19 Third Reading

Status: Signed by Governor

SB 100: Provide for the welfare fraud prevention act

Sen. Cary Smith (R-Billings)

Oppose

The bill would have made it more difficult for Montanans to qualify for public assistance programs, which are essential to maintaining healthy communities and families in Montana. The bill would have caused undue harm to low-income Montanans already facing more challenges due to the pandemic.

House Vote: N/A

Senate Vote: 31-19 Third Reading

Status: Died in Process

SB 172: Provide for the religion is essential act

Sen. David Howard (R-Park City)

Oppose

The legislation exempts any faith community from health directives by declaring them an essential service.

The bill was an attempt by the Religious Right and Christian Nationalists to place their religious practices above the safety of our communities, so it wasn't surprising that support came from groups like the [Montana Family Foundation](#) and the [Alliance Defending Freedom](#), a national organization that the Southern Poverty Law Center has designated an anti-LGBTQ hate group.

Freedom of religion shouldn't mean freedom from responsibility, like the responsibility to prevent infection by limiting or suspending in-person services during a pandemic. Additionally, the bill's language was crafted in a way that faith communities might try and use it to claim they're exempt from nearly every state and local law.

House Vote: 66-33 Third Reading

Senate Vote: 31-19 Third Reading

Status: Signed by Governor

SB 182: Generally revise laws on state finance, reducing tax rate if conditions met

Sen. Greg Hertz (R-Polson)

Oppose

The bill provided a trigger to provide more tax cuts to wealthy Montanans based on state revenue levels. This bill would have had serious, long-term repercussions, as the cuts would have led to a loss of revenue, putting programs funded by state dollars at risk.

House Vote: 66-33 Second Reading

Senate Vote: 31-19 Third Reading

Status: Died in Process

SB 214: Revise laws related to temporary tribal property tax exemption

Sen. Greg Hertz (R-Polson)

Oppose

The legislation attacks tribal sovereignty by revising a tax exemption for private land that is being reclaimed and added to tribal trust lands. The temporary property tax exemption facilitates a process through which tribes can try to restore and protect lands that were stolen from them. This new law makes that process more difficult.

House Vote: 64-34 Third Reading

Senate Vote: 30-20 Third Reading

Status: Signed by Governor

SB 215: Establish the religious freedom restoration act

Sen. Carl Glimm (R-Kila)

Oppose

The legislation establishes the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), a policy aggressively championed by the Religious Right and Christian Nationalists. Again, support came from groups like the [Montana Family Foundation](#) and the [Alliance Defending Freedom](#), a national organization that



Key Legislation

the Southern Poverty Law Center has designated an anti-LGBTQ hate group. The Gianforte Administration also testified for the bill and worked Republican lawmakers hard in the hallways to support it. RFRA allows any person, corporation, or other entity to claim an exemption from any law, policy, or government regulation if the action might burden their religious expression.

House Vote: 59-38 Third Reading

Senate Vote: 26-24 Third Reading

Status: Signed by Governor

SB 280: Revise vital statistics laws regarding sex designation on birth certificate

Sen. Carl Glimm (R-Kila)

Oppose

The legislation forces transgender, nonbinary, and Two Spirit people to have surgery and a court hearing in order to change the gender marker on their birth certificates. Montana created a [better process](#) for changing gender markers in 2017, and this legislation reverses that improvement.

House Vote: 54-46 Third Reading

Senate Vote: 26-23 Third Reading

Status: Signed by Governor



SENATE VOTES

NAME	PARTY-TOWN	HB 102	HB 112	HB 121	HB 176	HB 223	HB 244	HB 258	HB 337	HB 427	HB 530	SB 99	SB 100	SB 172	SB 182	SB 214	SB 215	SB 280	%
Duane Ankney	R-Colstrip	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	exc	25%
Bryce Bennett	D-Missoula	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Mark Blasdel	R-Kalispell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Kenneth Bogner	R-Miles City	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Carlie Boland	D-Great Falls	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Ellie Boldman	D-Missoula	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Bob Brown	R-Thompson Falls	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Jill Cohenour	D-East Helena	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Mike Cuffe	R-Eureka	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Janet Ellis	D-Helena	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Jason Ellsworth	R-Hamilton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
John Esp	R-Big Timber	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6%
Steve Fitzpatrick	R-Great Falls	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Pat Flowers	D-Belgrade	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Mike Fox	D-Hays	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Chris Friedel	R-Billings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Terry Gauthier	R-Helena	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Butch Gillespie	R-Ethridge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6%
Carl Glimm	R-Kila	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Jen Gross	D-Billings	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Greg Hertz	R-Polson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Steve Hinebauch	R-Wilbax	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Brian Hoven	R-Great Falls	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	47%
David Howard	R-Park City	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Tom Jacobson	D-Great Falls	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	94%
Doug Kary	R-Billings	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6%
Bob Keenan	R-Bigfork	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Mike Lang	R-Malta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Ryan Lynch	D-Butte	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Theresa Manzella	R-Hamilton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Edie McClafferty	D-Butte	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Tom McGillvray	R-Billings	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Mary McNally	D-Billings	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Brad Molnar	R-Laurel	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	24%
Shane Morigeau	D-Missoula	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Shannon O'Brien	D-Missoula	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Ryan Osmundson	R-Buffalo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
JP Pomnichowski	D-Bozeman	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Christopher Pope	D-Bozeman	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Keith Regier	R-Kalispell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Walt Sales	R-Manhattan	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12%
Dan Salomon	R-Ronan	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	24%
Diane Sands	D-Missoula	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Jason Small	R-Busby	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	29%
Cary Smith	R-Billings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Mark Sweeney	D-Philipsburg	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Russ Tempel	R-Chester	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	18%
Gordon Vance	R-Belgrade	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Susan Webber	D-Browning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Jeff Welborn	R-Dillon	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	35%

HOUSE VOTES

NAME	PARTY-TOWN	HB 102	HB 112	HB 121	HB 176	HB 223	HB 244	HB 251	HB 258	HB 337	HB 427	HB 530	HB 613	SB 99	SB 172	SB 182	SB 214	SB 215	SB 280	%	
Emma Kerr-Carpenter	D-Billings	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Casey Knudsen	R-Malta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Rhonda Knudsen	R-Culbertson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Kelly Kortum	D-Bozeman	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Dennis Lenz	R-Billings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	ABS	0	0	0	0	0%
Brandon Ler	R-Savage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Denley Loge	R-St. Regis	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11%
Marty Malone	R-Pray	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Marilyn Marler	D-Missoula	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Ron Marshall	R-Hamilton	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6%
Wendy McKamey	R-Ulm	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17%
Bill Mercer	R-Billings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Braxton Mitchell	R-Columbia Falls	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6%
Terry Moore	R-Billings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Fiona Nave	R-Columbus	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6%
Mark Noland	R-Bigfork	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Sara Novak	D-Anaconda	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Andrea Olsen	D-Missoula	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Jimmy Patelis	R-Billings	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	EXC	0	6%
Bob Phalen	R-Lindsay	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Brian Putnam	R-Kalispell	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	56%
Joe Read	R-Ronan	0	EXC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Amy Regier	R-Kalispell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Matt Regier	R-Kalispell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Linda Reksten	R-Polson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Vince Ricci	R-Laurel	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6%
Tyson Running Wolf	D-Browning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	EXC	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Jerry Schillinger	R-Circle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Kerri Seekins-Crowe	R-Billings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Lola Sheldon-Galloway	R-Great Falls	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Derek Skees	R-Kalispell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Frank Smith	D-Poplar	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	EXC	1	1	1	0	1	1	94%
Ed Stafman	D-Bozeman	ABS	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Sharon Stewart-Peregoy	D-Crow Agency	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	EXC	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Mallerie Stromswold	R-Billings	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	28%
Katie Sullivan	D-Missoula	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Danny Tenenbaum	D-Missoula	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Mark Thane	D-Missoula	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Jeremy Trebas	R-Great Falls	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6%
Brad Tschida	R-Missoula	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6%
Barry Usher	R-Billings	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6%
Sue Vinton	R-Billings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Kenneth Walsh	R-Twin Bridges	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	EXC	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	35%
Marvin Weatherwax	D-Browning	1	1	1	1	1	EXC	1	1	1	EXC	1	1	1	1	1	1	EXC	1	1	100%
Tom Welch	R-Dillon	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	17%
Rynalea Whiteman Pena	D-Lame Deer	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Kathy Whitman	R-Missoula	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6%
Jonathan Windy Boy	D-Box Elder	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	94%
Katie Zolnikov	R-Billings	0	0	0	0	ABS	1	0	0	0	0	0	ABS	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	13%

Next Steps

1. Thank the legislators who stood with MHRN and supported LGBTQ+ rights, resisted attacks against our transgender friends, and opposed radical gun legislation. Send them a letter, write an email, or give them a call.
2. Hold legislators with poor scores accountable. Write a letter to the editor of your local paper and ask them to explain their voting record.
3. Support the Montana Human Rights Network. You can help us continue our work by making a donation or volunteering your time. You can do so at www.mhrn.org.

Number of Montana House Members Receiving 100%: 29

Number of House Members Receiving 0%: 31

Number of Montana Senate Members Receiving 100%: 18

Number of Montana Senate Members Receiving 0%: 19



montana
HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK

Highest Percentage for House Democrat: 100% (29 tied)

Highest Percentage for House Republican: 56% (Rep. Brian Putnam)

Highest Percentage for Senate Democrat: 100% (18 tied)

Highest Percentage for Senate Republican: 47% (Sen. Brian Hoven)

Our Mission

The mission of the Montana Human Rights Network is to organize Montana residents to realize their power to create pluralism, justice, and equality in their communities. We challenge bigotry and discrimination, support marginalized people, and advocate for legislation that honors everyone's basic rights.