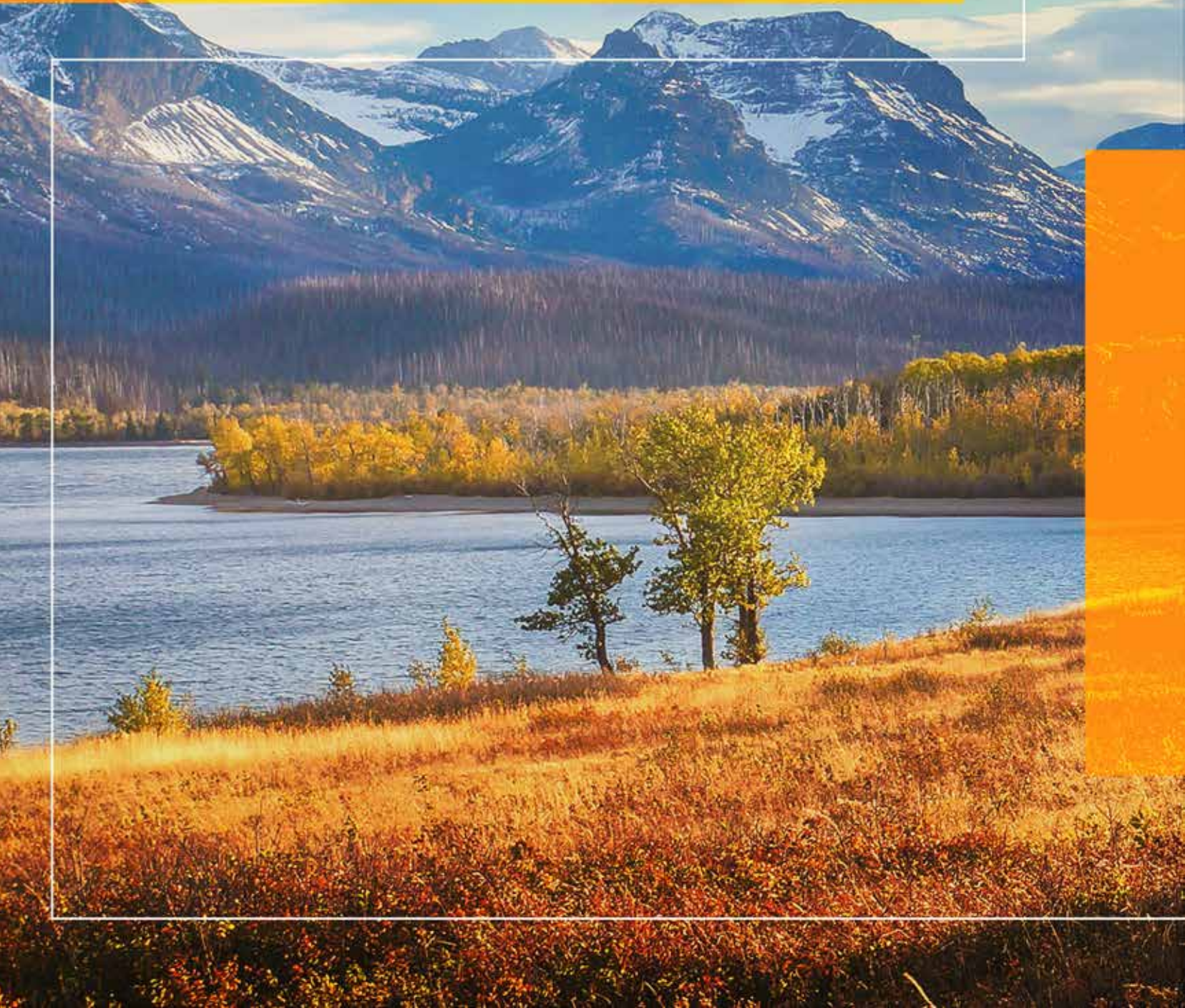




**montana**  
unified

# 2021

## Montana Legislature Scorecard





# INTRODUCTION

With over 1,300 bills introduced, Montana's 2021 legislative session was a whirlwind of activity. Among these bills were hundreds that have become law, and even more that didn't make the cut. Each session, legislators take thousands of votes that will have a tremendous impact on Montana and its residents, and input from the public is extremely important for shaping the outcome of our laws.

2021 was no exception. Thanks to a massive outpouring of voices from across the state, some of the most harmful bills that would have lowered wages, restricted Montanans' rights, and made workplaces more dangerous were defeated.

In this scorecard we've collected some of the most important votes affecting Montana's working families and our rights and freedoms, to make it easy to see how your legislators voted on these key issues.







# SCORED VOTES

## **HB 251 - “Right to Work” bill, sponsored by Rep. Caleb Hinkle (Belgrade)**

This bill was the biggest assault on working Montanans in decades. Making Montana a so-called “Right to Work” state would have resulted in lower wages and silenced the voices of workers, whether or not they are members of a union.

### **Bill Status: Dead**

*A “no” vote on HB 251 was a vote in support of Montana’s working families and our rights and freedoms.*

## **HB 279 - Divert tax dollars to private and for-profit schools, sponsored by Rep. Seth Berglee (Joliet)**

This bill increases the tax credit for individual and corporate donations to private schools from \$125 to \$200,000. This is nothing but a tax giveaway to the wealthiest individuals and corporations, which takes critical funding away from public education.

### **Bill Status: Became Law**

*A “no” vote on HB 279 was a vote in support of Montana’s working families and our rights and freedoms.*

## **HB 201 - Revise prevailing wage districts, sponsored by Rep. Kenneth Holmlund (Miles City)**

HB 201 changes the districts used for calculating wages and travel expenses for construction workers who have to travel for taxpayer-funded projects. This will result in lower pay and kill construction jobs, right at a time when Montana needs to invest in infrastructure and good-paying jobs to get our economy back on track.

### **Bill Status: Became Law**

*A “no” vote on HB 201 was a vote in support of Montana’s working families and our rights and freedoms.*

## **HB 588 - Turn hundreds of state jobs into political appointments, sponsored by Rep. Casey Knudsen (Malta)**

This irresponsible bill would have allowed the Governor to appoint political allies and donors to hundreds of positions throughout state government, instead of hiring qualified, dedicated professionals.

### **Bill Status: Dead**

*A “no” vote on HB 588 was a vote in support of Montana’s working families and our rights and freedoms.*

## **SB 169 - Change Montana’s voter ID law, sponsored by Sen. Mike Cuffe (Eureka)**

SB 269 places unnecessary restrictions on Montanans’ right to vote. This bill won’t do anything to make elections more secure, but it will make it harder for people in our state to have their voices heard.

### **Bill Status: Became Law**

*A “no” vote on HB 169 was a vote in support of Montana’s working families and our rights and freedoms.*

# SCORED VOTES

## **HB 176 - Restrict dates for voter registration, sponsored by Rep. Sharon Greef (Florence)**

This bill is another that adds needless red tape between Montanans and the ballot box. It eliminates election day voter registration, and changes the deadline for registering to 5pm the Friday before the election. In every election, thousands of Montanans register and vote in the days leading up to election day, and on election day itself. HB 176 would prevent those Montanans from taking an active role in our democracy.

### **Bill Status: Became Law**

*A "no" vote on HB 176 was a vote in support of Montana's working families and our rights and freedoms.*

## **HB 632 - Appropriate federal stimulus and COVID recovery funds, sponsored by Rep. Frank Garner (Kalispell)**

HB 632 is the bill to allocate Montana's share of stimulus funds provided in the American Rescue Plan Act. This funding will go toward areas including education, healthcare, infrastructure, and local governments. This critically-needed stimulus will boost Montana's economy and help our state recover from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Bill Status: Became Law**

*A "Yes" vote on HB 632 was a vote in support of Montana's working families and our rights and freedoms.*

## **SB 89 - Paycheck deception bill, sponsored by Sen. Keith Regier (Kalispell)**

This corporate wishlist item would have added mountains of government red tape for public employees who wish to join a union. These unnecessary hurdles would have done nothing except make it harder for Montana workers to join together and exercise their First Amendment rights.

### **Bill Status: Dead**

*A "no" vote on HB 89 was a vote in support of Montana's working families and our rights and freedoms.*

## **SB 228 - Adding hurdles for public employees who wish to join a union, sponsored by Sen. Greg Hertz (Polson)**

SB 228 was another corporate-backed attempt to make it harder for public employees to form and join a union if they choose. This bill would have put government regulation in the middle of the relationship between employees and employers, and restricted workers' free speech in Montana.

### **Bill Status: Dead**

*A "no" vote on HB 228 was a vote in support of Montana's working families and our rights and freedoms.*



# SCORED VOTES

**SB 346 - Increase Montana's prevailing wage threshold, sponsored by Sen. Theresa Manzella (Hamilton)**

SB 346 would have made unnecessary and harmful changes to Montana's prevailing wage law, which ensures that workers in construction and building trades receive fair wages and are compensated when they have to travel for a job.

**Bill Status: Dead**

*A "no" vote on HB 346 was a vote in support of Montana's working families and our rights and freedoms.*

**SB 387 - Destabilize retirement for Montana teachers, sponsored by Sen. Brian Hoven (Great Falls)**

After the Senate State Administration committee wisely tabled this bad bill, some extremist legislators tried to bring it back for a vote in the full Senate, where it went down again. SB 387 would have drained Montana's teacher retirement system while raising costs and reducing benefits. This bill would have put the entire system at risk and hurt school districts' ability to hire and retain educators.

**Bill status: Dead**

*A "no" vote on HB 387 was a vote in support of Montana's working families and our rights and freedoms.*







# ABOUT MONTANA UNIFIED

Montana Unified is a coalition of Montanans coming together to stand up for working families. We are a combination of public and private sector employees ranging from front-line workers, nurses, delivery drivers, educators, food service workers, bus drivers, and road maintenance workers just to name a few. Above all, we are Montanans of all backgrounds with the shared goal of standing up to out-of-state special interests and corporations that want to lower wages, drive up the cost of healthcare, and erode the rights of working Montanans. For more information, you can visit

[www.MontanaUnified.org](http://www.MontanaUnified.org)









# SCORECARD - SENATE

District	Legislator	City	Score %	SB 89	SB 228	SB 346	HB 201	HB 588	SB 387	SB 169	HB 176	HB 632
1	Mike Cuffe	Eureka	22%	×	×	×	×	×	✓	×	×	✓
2	Carl Glimm	Kila	0%	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×
3	Keith Regier	Kalispell	11%	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	✓
4	Mark Blasdel	Kalispell	11%	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	✓
5	Bob Keenan	Big Fork	22%	×	×	×	×	✓	×	×	×	✓
6	Greg Hertz	Polson	11%	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	✓
7	Bob Brown	Thompson Falls	13%	×	×	×	×	Excused	×	×	×	✓
8	Susan Webber	Browning	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Bruce Gillespie	Ethridge	11%	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	✓
10	Steve Fitzpatrick	Great Falls	11%	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	✓
11	Tom Jacobson	Great Falls	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	Carlie Boland	Great Falls	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
13	Brian Hoven	Great Falls	22%	×	×	×	×	✓	×	×	×	✓
14	Russ Tempel	Chester	44%	✓	×	×	×	✓	✓	×	×	✓
15	Ryan Osmundson	Buffalo	22%	×	×	×	×	×	✓	×	×	✓
16	Mike Fox	Hays	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17	Mike Lang	Malta	11%	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	✓
18	Steve Hinebauch	Wibaux	0%	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×
19	Kenneth Bogner	Miles City	11%	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	✓
20	Duane Ankney	Colstrip	75%	✓	✓	Excused	✓	✓	✓	×	×	✓
21	Jason Small	Busby	89%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	✓	✓
22	Doug Kary	Billings	22%	×	×	×	×	×	✓	×	×	✓
23	Tom McGillvray	Billings	11%	×	×	×	×	×	✓	×	×	×
24	Mary McNally	Billings	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25	Jen Gross	Billings	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Excused	✓	✓







# SCORECARD - HOUSE

	Legislator	City	Score %	HB 251	HB 279	HB 201	HB 588	SB 169	HB 176	HB 632
1	Steve Gunderson	Libby	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
2	Neil Duram	Eureka	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
3	Braxton Mitchell	Columbia Falls	29%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
4	Matt Regier	Kalispell	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
5	Dave Fern	Whitefish	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	Amy Regier	Kalispell	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
7	Frank Garner	Kalispell	29%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
8	John Fuller	Kalispell	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
9	Brian Putnam	Kalispell	57%	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
10	Mark Noland	Big Fork	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
11	Derek Skees	Kalispell	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
12	Linda Reksten	Big Fork	14%	✗	✗	✗	Excused	✗	✗	✓
13	Paul Fielder	Thompson Falls	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
14	Denley Loge	St. Regis	29%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
15	Marvin Weatherwax Jr.	Browning	86%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
16	Tyson Runningwolf	Browning	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17	Ross Fitzgerald	Fairfield	43%	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
18	Llew Jones	Conrad	43%	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓
19	Wendy McKamey	Ulm	29%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
20	Fred Anderson	Great Falls	29%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
21	Ed Buttrey	Great Falls	29%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
22	Lola Sheldon-Galloway	Great Falls	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
23	Scot Kerns	Great Falls	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
24	Steven Galloway	Great Falls	29%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
25	Steve Gist	Cascade	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓

# SCORECARD - HOUSE

Legislator	City	Score %	HB 251	HB 279	HB 201	HB 588	SB 169	HB 176	HB 632
26	Jeremy Trebas	Great Falls	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
27	Josh Kassmier	Fort Benton	43%	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓
28	Ed Hill	Havre	29%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
29	Dan Bartel	Lewistown	29%	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓
30	Wylie Galt	Martinsdale	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
31	Frank Smith	Poplar	86%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
32	Jonathan Windy Boy	Box Elder	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
33	Casey Knudsen	Malta	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
34	Rhonda Knudsen	Culbertson	0%	✗	✗	Excused	✗	✗	Absent
35	Brandon Ler	Savage	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
36	Bob Phalen	Lindsay	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
37	Jerry Schillinger	Circle	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
38	Kenneth Holmund	Miles City	43%	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓
39	Geraldine Custer	Forsyth	71%	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
40	Barry Usher	Billings	29%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
41	Rynalea Whiteman-Pena	Lame Deer	86%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
42	Sharon Stewart-Peregoy	Crow Agency	83%	✓	✓	✓	✓	Excused	✗
43	Kerri Seekins-Crowe	Billings	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
44	Larry Brewster	Billings	57%	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
45	Katie Zolnikov	Billings	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
46	Bill Mercer	Billings	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
47	Kathy Kelker	Billings	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
48	Jessica Karjala	Billings	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
49	Emma Kerr-Carpenter	Billings	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
50	Malerie Stromswold	Billings	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓



# SCORECARD - HOUSE

Legislator	City	Score %	HB 251	HB 279	HB 201	HB 588	SB 169	HB 176	HB 632
51 Frank Fleming	Billings	40%	✓	Excused	✗	✗	Excused	✗	✓
52 Jimmy Patelis	Billings	43%	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓
53 Dennis Lenz	Billings	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
54 Terry Moore	Billings	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
55 Vince Ricci	Laurel	29%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
56 Sue Vinton	Billings	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
57 Fiona Nave	Columbus	29%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
58 Seth Berglee	Joliet	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
59 Marty Malone	Pray	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
60 Laurie Bishop	Livingston	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
61 Jim Hamilton	Bozeman	86%	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
62 Ed Stafman	Bozeman	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
63 Alice Buckley	Bozeman	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
64 Jane Gillette	Bozeman	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
65 Kelly Kortum	Bozeman	86%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
66 Denise Hayman	Bozeman	86%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
67 Jedediah Hinkle	Belgrade	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
68 Caleb Hinkle	Belgrade	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
69 Jennifer Carlson	Manhattan	29%	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓
70 Julie Dooling	Helena	29%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
71 Kenneth Walsh	Twin Bridges	29%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
72 Tom Welch	Dillon	43%	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
73 Jim Keane	Butte	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
74 Derek Harvey	Butte	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
75 Marta Bertoglio	Clancy	29%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓

# SCORECARD - HOUSE

Legislator	City	Score %	HB 251	HB 279	HB 201	HB 588	SB 169	HB 176	HB 632
76	Donavon Hawk	Butte	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
77	Sara Novak	Anaconda	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
78	Gregory Frazer	Deer Lodge	43%	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
79	Rob Farris-Olson	Helena	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
80	Becky Beard	Elliston	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
81	Mary Caffero	Helena	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
82	Moffie Funk	Helena	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
83	Kim Abbott	Helena	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
84	Mary Ann Dunwell	Helena	86%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
85	Michele Binkley	Hamilton	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
86	David Bedey	Hamilton	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
87	Ron Marshall	Hamilton	29%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
88	Sharon Greef	Florence	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
89	Katie Sullivan	Missoula	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
90	Marilyn Marler	Missoula	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
91	Connie Keogh	Missoula	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Mike Hopkins	Missoula	17%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
93	Joe Read	Ronan	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
94	Tom France	Missoula	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
95	Danny Tenenbaum	Missoula	100%	✓	✓	Absent	✓	✓	✓
96	Kathy Whitman	Missoula	43%	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
97	Brad Tschida	Missoula	43%	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
98	Willis Curdy	Missoula	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
99	Mark Thane	Missoula	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
100	Andrea Olsen	Missoula	86%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗





montana  
unified