

# MONTANA

**VOTER INFORMATION PAMPHLET** 







Dear Fellow Montanans,

Serving as your Montana Secretary of State remains the greatest honor of my lifetime. I'm proud to work with the Montana Elections Team to ensure all Montanans are provided safe, secure, transparent, and accessible elections.

Montana's 2024 General Election is Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, and I encourage all eligible Montana citizens to let their voices be heard. Participating in our electoral process is one of the greatest civic duties we have, and every vote is important in determining the future of our great state and nation.

The information provided in this publication serves as a reference for you ahead of Election Day. Please read and learn about the ballot issues that will be presented to Montanans during this General Election. Visit VoteMT.gov for additional resources, including verifying your voter registration information, tracking your absentee ballot, and finding your polling place.

Thank you for voting, and God Bless America and Montana!

Sincerely,

CHRISTI JACOBSEN Secretary of State

Misti Gaerlins

# MONTANA VOTER INFORMATION PAMPHLET

#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

VOTER RESOURCES	<u>4</u>
CANDIDATE INFORMATION	<u>5</u>
2024 BALLOT ISSUES	<u>6</u>
CI-126	<u>6</u>
CI-127	14
CI-128	20
MONTANA VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION	26
APPLICATION FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT	27
COUNTY ELECTION OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION	28



Montana's 2024 General Election Day is Tuesday, November 5, 2024



This Voter Information Pamphlet is also available at VoteMT.gov. For copies or an alternative format, contact the Secretary of State's Office at (406) 444-9608 or email <a href="mailto:soselections@mt.gov">soselections@mt.gov</a>.

# **Montana Voter Resources** VoteMT.gov

# **Get Vote Ready!**

Are you vote ready for Montana's 2024 General Election? Visit Montana's voter resources website, VoteMT.gov, for quick links to important election information, including:

- Verifying your voter registration information
- Finding forms to register to vote or vote by absentee ballot
- Reviewing the 2024 Candidate List and Ballot Issues
- Signing up to serve as a poll worker
- Contacting county election offices
- Watching Montana's Election Education Video Series
- Frequently Asked Questions
- And much more!

# SCAN HERE

Scan with your phone or tablet to visit VoteMT.gov

## **Quick Links on VoteMT.gov**



#### **Voter Registration**

- · Voter Registration Qualifications
- How to Register to Vote
- How to Update Your Registration



#### **Absentee Voting**

- Application for Voting by Absentee Ballot
- Track Your Absentee Ballot



#### **Election Information**

- Confirm Your Voter Registration Information
- Find Your Polling Place
- View Your Sample Ballot



#### **Military and Overseas Voters**

- Absent Active-Duty Military and Family
- Overseas Citizen Electors
- Montana Electronic Absentee System (EAS)



#### **Identification Requirements**

- Acceptable ID for Registering to Vote
- Acceptable ID for Voting at the Polling Place



#### Voters with Disabilities

- Accessibility Information
- Electronic Ballot Request System (EBRS)



## 2024 MONTANA GENERAL ELECTION

#### **CANDIDATE INFORMATION**

Research the offices on the 2024 General Election ballot.



View the statewide & state district General Election candidates.



Find candidate contact information and campaign websites.



**Get vote ready today!** 



**VoteMT.gov** 

### **2024 BALLOT ISSUES**

DISCLAIMER: The information included in the Voter Information Pamphlet for each ballot issue is the official ballot language, the text of each issue, and the arguments and rebuttals for and against each issue as provided to the Secretary of State's Office. The opinions expressed therein do not necessarily represent the views of the Secretary of State or the State of Montana. The Secretary of State does not guarantee the truth or accuracy of the included statements.

#### **CONSTITUTIONAL INITIATIVE NO. 126 (CI-126)**

#### **BALLOT LANGUAGE:**

**CONSTITUTIONAL INITIATIVE NO. 126** 

A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

CI-126 amends the Montana Constitution to provide a top-four primary election. All candidates, regardless of political party, appear on one ballot. The four candidates receiving the most votes advance to the general election. A candidate may list a political party preference, but a candidate isn't required to be nominated by a political party. A candidate's political party preference isn't an endorsement by the political party. The legislature may require candidates gather signatures up to five percent of the votes received by the winning candidate in the last election to appear on the ballot. All voters may vote for one candidate for each covered office. CI-126 applies to elections for governor and lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor, attorney general, superintendent of public instruction, state representative, state senator, United States representative, and United States Senator.

[] YES on Constitutional Initiative CI-126

[] NO on Constitutional Initiative CI-126

#### **COMPLETE TEXT:**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Section 1.** Article IV of The Constitution of the State of Montana is amended by adding a new section 9 that reads:

**Section 9. Top-four primary election for certain offices.** (1) As used in this section, the term "covered office" means the office of governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor, attorney general, superintendent of public instruction, state representative, state senator, United States representative, United States senator, and other offices as provided by law.

- (2) The election for a covered office must consist of a primary election followed by a general election in which each of the four candidates for a covered office who receive the most votes in the primary election, and only those candidates, shall appear on the general election ballot.
  - (3) In an election for a covered office, the following conditions apply:
- (a) All candidates, regardless of political party preference, affiliation, nomination or lack of political party preference, affiliation, or nomination shall appear on the same primary election ballot separated by office.
- (b) Qualified electors, regardless of political party preference or affiliation or a lack thereof, may participate in the primary election for each covered office for which they are eligible to vote.
- (c) Each qualified elector may vote for no more than one candidate for each office in the primary election.
- (d) If it cannot be determined which four candidates received the most votes in the primary election because two or more candidates are tied, the tie shall be broken as provided by law.
- (e) If four or fewer candidates for a covered office qualify for the primary election ballot, a primary election is not required and all candidates shall appear on the general election ballot.
- (f) A space for write-in candidates may appear on the primary election ballot as provided by law.
- (g) A candidate may not be required to obtain the endorsement or nomination of any political party or organization in order to qualify for the primary election ballot.
- (h) If the legislature requires candidates to obtain signatures to qualify for the primary election ballot, the number of signatures required may not exceed 5% of the total votes cast for the candidate elected for the same office in the last general election for that office.

(i) A candidate may choose to have displayed next to the candidate's name on
the ballot the candidate's preference for a political party or that the candidate
prefers no political party. The format options must be as follows: "Party Preference
" or "No Party Preference."

- (j) The ballot may not indicate that a candidate has been endorsed by or nominated by any political party.
- (k) Each ballot must include a clear and conspicuous statement informing voters that a candidate's indicated political party preference does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the political party or that the political party approves of or associates with the candidate.
- (4) This section may not be construed to amend, repeal, or modify Article VI, section 2 of the Montana constitution.
  - (5) This section does not apply to special elections for covered offices.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Section 2. Severability.** If a part of [this act] is invalid, all valid parts that are severable from the invalid part remain in effect. If a part of [this act] is invalid in one or more of its applications, the part remains in effect in all valid applications that are severable from the invalid applications.

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date. [This act] is effective January 1, 2025.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Section 4. Applicability.** [This act] applies to elections for covered offices as defined in [section 1] held on or after January 1, 2025.

#### **ARGUMENTS FOR CI-126:**

Constitutional Initiative 126 (CI-126) will change primary elections so that **all qualified candidates of all parties would appear on one single ballot** in June and <u>all</u> voters will have the freedom to choose between them. The top four candidates would then move on to the November election, where voters would choose between them.

Voters in Montana are currently forced to choose one party's ballot to vote in primary elections – even though they might prefer candidates from different parties for different offices.

CI-126 gives Montana voters:

- Better choices on the ballot
- More freedom to vote for the person, not the party
- More voice in every tax-payer funded election
- Greater accountability over elected officials

This change to how we elect our leaders puts the power over Montana elections back into the hands of Montana voters. CI-126 does **not** change how candidates currently affiliate with parties, whether Republican, Democrat, or a third party. It simply allows all voters, regardless of their political party, to choose from all qualified candidates.

We represent a broad, bipartisan coalition from across the state who brought this solution to the ballot. Real challenges facing Montana families like rapid growth and rising cost of living are going unsolved because politicians only feel accountable to party bosses, not Montanans. We deserve elected officials who focus their energy on solving these problems, not just winning their next election – and under CI-126, they will have to work to earn our votes.

Currently, our election system prioritizes political parties and special interests, not individual citizens. By allowing voters to pick who they believe is the best candidate for each race, instead of restricting who they can choose from in primary elections, Montana citizens will have better choices and more voice in our elections.

In 1796, George Washington warned Americans that putting too much power in the hands of two political parties would "subvert the power of the people." His vision is becoming true in America today, where politicians are less and less accountable to us. We need to put the power over our Montana elections back in the hands of Montanans. A system that forces Montanans to choose just one partisan ballot in primary elections unfairly restricts our choices and limits our ability to hold politicians accountable.

CI-126 is a simple, common-sense change to our election system, brought to you by Montana citizens. CI-126 allows candidates of all parties to run in one primary election, letting Montana

voters choose the candidate they like best for every office, regardless of party. This puts Montana voters first, and we encourage every Montana voter to vote YES on CI-126 so we have better choices, more voice, and greater accountability in our elections.

Approval Committee: Douglas Campbell, Mary Sexton, Frank Garner

#### **ARGUMENTS AGAINST CI-126:**

#### What it does.

CI-126 would amend the Montana Constitution to provide that the top four finishers in the primary, regardless of party, advance to the general elections. This makes one wonder why there are primary elections at all. Voters today have a difficult time sorting through the political ads, mailers, and press in our current system. It is a terrible idea to make elections more difficult, time consuming, and expensive for the average voter.

Because twice as many candidates will qualify for the general election, they will be required to spend more money to be competitive. Since there will be more candidates qualifying for the general election, more candidates and more outside groups will be vying for your attention. Montana politics will become increasingly negative and more polarizing.

Opponents of CI-126 are not afraid of competition. However, that competition should be fair, free of outside money and influence and with the least possible impact on our constituents. CI-126 guarantees that the opposite will happen.

CI-126 is a solution in search of a problem. No one in Montana is clamoring for this change. In fact, most of the \$5 million spent on CI-126 so far came from three dark money groups headquartered in *Houston, Texas, Arlington, Virginia*, and *Washington, DC*.

These outside groups are conducting an experiment on the voters of Montana and Montana's political system. If this experiment turns out to be a failure—with more expensive and more polarized elections—Montanans will pay the price.

Together, CI-126 and CI-127 amount to a radical, expensive, and unnecessary experiment that is all but guaranteed to make political campaigns longer, more confusing, and even more dependent on special-interest money.

#### Summary.

CI-126's experimental top-four primary scheme makes primary elections largely unnecessary, makes decisions more difficult for voters, increases the number of candidates, requires candidates to be more reliant on special interest money, and doesn't represent the concerns of Montanans.

Vote no on CI-126.

**Rejection Committee:** Charles Denowh, Senator Shelley Vance, Representative Lee Deming, Senator Greg Hertz

#### PROPONENTS' REBUTTAL OF ARGUMENTS AGAINST CI-126:

Opponents of CI-126 seem to think Montana voters aren't capable of making informed decisions. Instead, they think we should have limited choices on the ballot. We disagree. More and better choices on the ballot means more freedom and independence for Montana voters and more accountability over elected officials.

Instead of political parties effectively choosing who we can vote for, **open primaries will give all voters the freedom to vote for their preferred candidate, regardless of political party.** Right now, big money special interests take advantage of our primary system, but open primaries put the power back into the hands of voters where it belongs.

A large and growing share of Montana voters consider themselves politically independent, but our current system forces us to choose one party's ballot in primary elections. That's not fair. CI-126 will create open primaries that give every Montanan, regardless of political party, the freedom to vote for who best represents them.

CI-126 was brought to the ballot by a group of everyday Montanans representing every political party and corner of the state. We believe that competition is good for our election system and that requiring candidates to work to earn our votes will make them more accountable to "we the people," not party bosses and special interests. It's time to put *voters* back in charge.

Please join us in voting YES on CI-126 to give Montana voters more freedom and better choices in our elections.

#### **OPPONENTS' REBUTTAL OF ARGUMENTS FOR CI-126:**

CI-126 would impose **California-style** "open" primaries on Montana, but with twice as many candidates on the ballot and no arguments as to why this is better for Montana. Just one state uses this "top-four primary" scheme and citizens there are now voting to repeal it.

Contrary to supporters' claims, CI-126 is an attack on our freedom and the voices of Montanans. Primaries allow voters who support a political party to choose a nominee to represent them in the general election. CI-126 violates this principle and would destroy this representation. It would let Democrats select Republican candidates and vice versa. CI-126 would deny Montanans the freedom to associate with like-minded citizens and choose candidates who share our values.

This proposed measure would make it harder to vote. It will force voters to choose from even more candidates. CI-126 guarantees that Montanans will have to spend more time deciphering complicated and lengthy ballots. More candidates mean more negative political advertising, and more out-of-state dark money fueling political campaigns.

In fact, the campaign for this initiative is almost exclusively funded by out-of-state groups. CI-126 claims to "put the power...in the hands of Montanans," but most of the funding is coming from out of state special interest groups based in Washington, D.C. and elsewhere. These dark money groups have spent almost \$5 million to experiment with Montana's elections and change how Montanans vote.

Our elections are too important to jeopardize with untested schemes peddled by out-of-state special interests. **Vote NO on CI-126.** 

#### What Your Vote Will Do

YES	A <b>YES</b> vote would <b>APPROVE</b> amending the Montana Constitution as
TES	proposed.
NO	A <b>NO</b> vote would make <b>NO CHANGE</b> to the current Montana
NO	Constitution.

#### **CONSTITUTIONAL INITIATIVE NO. 127 (CI-127)**

#### **BALLOT LANGUAGE:**

#### **CONSTITUTIONAL INITIATIVE NO. 127**

#### A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

CI-127 amends the Montana Constitution to provide that elections for certain offices must be decided by majority vote as determined as provided by law rather than by a plurality or the largest amount of the votes. If it cannot be determined who received a majority of votes because two or more candidates are tied, then the winner of the election will be determined as provided by law. CI-127 applies to elections for governor and lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor, attorney general, superintendent of public instruction, state representative, state senator, United States representative, United States Senator, and other offices as provided by law.

[] YES on Constitutional Initiative CI-127 [] NO on Constitutional Initiative CI-127

#### **COMPLETE TEXT:**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Article IV, section 5 of The Constitution of the State of Montana is amended to read:

Section 5. Result of elections. (1) As used in this section, the term "covered office" means the office of governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor, attorney general, superintendent of public instruction, state representative, state senator, United States representative, United States senator, and other offices as provided by law.

- (2) In all elections held by the people for an office other than a covered office, the person or persons receiving the largest number of votes shall be declared elected.
- (3) In all elections held by the people for a covered office, the person receiving a majority of votes as determined as provided by law shall be declared elected. If it cannot be determined which person received a majority of votes because two or more persons are tied, the elected person shall be determined as provided by law.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Section 2. Severability.** If part of [this act] is invalid, all valid parts that are severable from the invalid part remain in effect. If a part of [this act] is invalid in one or more of its applications, the part remains in effect in all valid applications that are severable from the invalid applications.

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date. [This act] is effective January 1, 2025.

NEW SECTION. Section 4. Applicability. [This act] applies to elections held on or after January 1, 2025.

#### **ARGUMENTS FOR CI-127:**

Constitutional Initiative 127 (CI-127) requires candidates to receive a majority vote to win a General election instead of electing candidates who simply win the largest number of votes, as is current law. This measure would ensure that candidates have to appeal to a majority of their constituents by earning the support of over 50% of voters.

Currently, candidates can win election to office with less than half of voters' support. This enables candidates to focus on narrow interests and win elections without representing a majority of their constituents. Montana voters deserve elected officials who are accountable and responsive to Montana citizens.

Our elected officials should have to work to earn support from a broad majority of all voters in the state or their districts. **Majority-winner elections empower voters to hold politicians** accountable and force our elected officials to focus on finding solutions that benefit a majority of citizens.

Montana families currently face real problems related to rapid growth, higher cost of living, and rising property taxes. Our leaders need to be focused on listening to all Montanans and finding solutions to these problems, not just winning the next election. Majority-winner elections make politicians more responsive to all their constituents and encourage problem-solving and consensus-building that better serves the majority of Montanans.

We believe our election system should put Montana voters first, and we encourage voters to choose majority-winner elections and vote YES on CI-127.

Approval Committee: Douglas Campbell, Mary Sexton, Frank Garner

#### **ARGUMENTS AGAINST CI-127:**

#### What it does.

CI-127 amends the Montana Constitution to provide that a candidate must win more than 50% of the vote to win an election.

This already happens in most Montana elections. In our current system there are usually only two candidates participating thus resulting in the winning candidate receiving more than 50% of the vote. If CI-126 and CI-127 both pass, there will be an almost guaranteed runoff election leading to a lengthened election season into December and place greater burdens on voters and candidates.

More taxpayer money from property taxes will have to be spent on runoff elections. Voters and candidates will not know until well into December who won the election. Because terms of office begin in the first days of January following an election, CI-127 will delay training for successful candidates and a smooth transfer of office to the winning candidate.

#### Summary.

Constitutional amendments are almost permanent. The Montana Legislature can do nothing to fix problems caused by the passage of CI-127. CI-127 will have the effect of constitutionally mandating that more money coming from property taxes be spent on elections. That money will have to come from higher taxes or cutting budgets such as those dedicated to education, law enforcement, housing, health care, or conservation.

Together, CI-126 and CI-127 amount to a radical, expensive, and unnecessary experiment that is all but guaranteed to make political campaigns longer, more confusing, and even more dependent on special-interest money.

We recognize that these initiatives are probably a back-door attempt to replace our traditional election system with Ranked Choice Voting (RCV). RCV is a complicated and expensive experiment that does not guarantee that the candidate preferred by the voters will win an election and it is currently unconstitutional in Montana without this change to our constitution.

Vote no on CI-127.

**Rejection Committee:** Charles Denowh, Senator Shelley Vance, Representative Lee Deming, Senator Greg Hertz

#### PROPONENTS' REBUTTAL OF ARGUMENTS AGAINST CI-127:

Right now, candidates in Montana can win with less than 50% of the vote. That means they can appeal to a minority of voters to get elected instead of representing the values and interests of a majority of their constituents.

Montana voters deserve elected officials who are responsive to Montanans, not big money special interests. Requiring candidates to earn a majority of votes (50% +1) to win ensures that Montana voters can hold our elected officials accountable to us. Accountability is a value that Montanans deserve to have enshrined in our Constitution.

Opponents of CI-127 and majority-winner elections don't want power put back into the hands of Montana voters, but we believe that's where it belongs.

Vote YES on CI-127 so we can hold politicians accountable.

#### **OPPONENTS' REBUTTAL OF ARGUMENTS FOR CI-127:**

Today in Montana, the candidate with the most votes wins the election. Pretty simple, right? And winners usually do have majority support. Those pushing CI-127 make it sound like that does not happen, but it almost always does.

Take 2022, when Montana had 88 contested elections for state legislature. How many were won without a majority? **Zero—none!** One of our Congressmen did win without a majority, but he had **49.6**% of the vote (a third-party candidate got almost 4%.) The claim that Montanans would be better off if he had 0.4% more votes seems silly, but maybe there is another agenda behind CI-127?

There are only two ways to guarantee that winners have an outright majority: require a runoff, or use ranked-choice voting. Runoffs would mean yet another election for voters, while ranked-choice voting—used in only two states—would be an even more drastic change.

It turns out that ranked-choice voting is what the big out-of-state donors to CI-127 are pushing all over the country. Just like runoffs, ranked-choice voting is complicated and expensive.

Supporters talk about the rising cost of living and property taxes, but CI-127 would make things worse because it would make Montana's elections more expensive. That can only mean higher property taxes.

At best, CI-127 is a solution in search of a problem. At worst, it will result in ranked-choice voting. Either way, voters who want honest elections and efficient government should vote NO on CI-127.

#### What Your Vote Will Do

YES	A <b>YES</b> vote would <b>APPROVE</b> amending the Montana Constitution as
11=5	proposed.
NO	A <b>NO</b> vote would make <b>NO CHANGE</b> to the current Montana
NO	Constitution.

#### **CONSTITUTIONAL INITIATIVE NO. 128 (CI-128)**

#### **BALLOT LANGUAGE:**

#### **CONSTITUTIONAL INITIATIVE NO. 128**

#### A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

CI-128 would amend the Montana Constitution to expressly provide a right to make and carry out decisions about one's own pregnancy, including the right to abortion. It would prohibit the government from denying or burdening the right to abortion before fetal viability. It would also prohibit the government from denying or burdening access to an abortion when a treating healthcare professional determines it is medically indicated to protect the pregnant patient's life or health. CI-128 prevents the government from penalizing patients, healthcare providers, or anyone who assists someone in exercising their right to make and carry out voluntary decisions about their pregnancy.

[] YES on Constitutional Initiative CI-128 [] NO on Constitutional Initiative CI-128

#### **COMPLETE TEXT:**

Article II of The Constitution of The State of Montana is amended by adding a new section 36 that reads:

#### Section 36. Right to make decisions about pregnancy.

- (1) There is a right to make and carry out decisions about one's own pregnancy, including the right to abortion. This right shall not be denied or burdened unless justified by a compelling government interest achieved by the least restrictive means.
- (2) The government may regulate the provision of abortion care after fetal viability provided that in no circumstance shall the government deny or burden access to an abortion that, in the good faith judgment of a treating health care professional, is medically indicated to protect the life or health of the pregnant patient.
- (3) The government shall not penalize, prosecute, or otherwise take adverse action against a person based on the person's actual, potential, perceived, or alleged pregnancy outcomes. The government shall not penalize, prosecute, or otherwise take adverse action against a person for aiding or assisting another person in exercising their right to make and carry out decisions about their pregnancy with their voluntary consent.

- (4) For the purposes of this section:
  - (a) A government interest is "compelling" only if it clearly and convincingly addresses a medically acknowledged, bona fide health risk to a pregnant patient and does not infringe on the patient's autonomous decision making.
  - (b) "Fetal viability" means the point in pregnancy when, in the good faith judgment of a treating health care professional and based on the particular facts of the case, there is a significant likelihood of the fetus's sustained survival outside the uterus without the application of extraordinary medical measures.

#### **ARGUMENTS FOR CI-128:**

Vote YES on CI-128 to protect Montanans' freedom to make their own private decisions about pregnancy, including abortion, free from government interference.

What does this mean?

- YES on CI-128 ensures the government cannot deny or burden access to an abortion when it is necessary to protect the patient's life or health.
- YES on CI-128 prohibits the government from denying or burdening the right to abortion before fetal viability.
- YES on CI-128 prevents the government from punishing patients, health care providers, or those who assist someone seeking reproductive care, including abortion care.

Montanans should have the freedom and right to decide what is best for their health and their family. Too often the government has tried to mandate what we can and can't do by controlling decisions around pregnancy that should be between women, families, and their health care providers. CI-128 defends our right to keep government out of our private decisions.

Decisions around pregnancy are deeply personal, especially when it comes to abortion. Whether faced with life-threatening pregnancy complications, miscarriage, birth control failing, or a pregnancy resulting from rape or incest, Montanans deserve the right to make healthcare decisions privately with their families and health care providers - not government.

Reproductive rights and personal freedom are under attack all across the country, including here in Montana. By voting YES on CI-128, we can prevent an abortion ban in Montana.

Vote YES on CI-128 to protect our right to abortion care for generations to come.

**Approval Committee:** Samuel Dickman, Alex Rate, Tara Veazey

#### **ARGUMENTS AGAINST CI-128:**

CI-128 is one of the **most radical abortion laws** in the United States and the Western world. CI-128 aligns with **abortion policy in Communist China** by allowing elective abortions for any reason until a baby is born.

#### CI-128:

- forces taxpayers to pay for more abortions
- allows a young girl to be taken for an abortion without her parents' consent or knowledge
- puts unaccountable abortion providers ahead of the health and safety of women
- is a constitutional trainwreck that will empower wealthy trial lawyers and activist judges

**CI-128 forces taxpayers to pay for more abortions.** CI-128 radically expands taxpayer funding for abortions. CI-128 will mandate Montanans' tax dollars be used to pay for abortions for women who travel to Montana from other states for an abortion.

CI-128 undermines parental rights for their daughters' health care. CI-128 allows teachers, counselors, and even sexual abusers to take a girl to get an abortion without even notifying her parents. CI-128 even uses language that could remove parental rights in transgender cases.

CI-128 puts unaccountable abortion providers ahead of the health and safety of women. CI-128 relies on abortion providers' subjective judgment, and prohibits all common sense state regulation of abortion, including licensing, reporting, or who may perform them. Under CI-128, the State of Montana could not require a safe medical setting for an abortion or allow women to sue for damages if they are harmed from a botched abortion. CI-128 empowers unaccountable abortion providers and undermines the health and safety of their patients.

CI-128 is a poorly written constitutional trainwreck that swings open the door for trials lawyers and judicial activism. CI-128 invents brand new, confusing legal standards that will require expensive jury trials and invites judicial activism. It is filled with unclear, complicated sentences and exceptions for judges to interpret it in wildly different and potentially ideological ways.

The public raised all these concerns, among others, at a legislative hearing on CI-128. As a result, the bipartisan Law and Justice Committee unanimously opposed CI-128.

Vote NO on CI-128 to protect the health of Montana women, the rights of parents, and taxpayer funds.

Vote NO on CI-128 to ensure the abortion issue remains with the people, not wealthy trial lawyers and activist judges.

Vote NO on CI-128.

**Rejection Committee:** Jeff Laszloffy, Anita Milanovich, Representative Jane Gillette, Senator Jeremy Trebas, Dale Schowengerdt

#### PROPONENTS' REBUTTAL OF ARGUMENTS AGAINST CI-128:

Deception and propaganda have no place in the voter information pamphlet, but that's what Montanans see in the statement opposing CI-128. The truth: This amendment ensures Montana women and families can make their own personal decisions around pregnancy, miscarriage, and abortion – not government.

- CI-128 is a commonsense initiative to keep government out of deeply personal decisions about pregnancy, miscarriage, and abortion. No matter what your personal position is on abortion, we can all agree people should have the right to make their own health care decisions, without government interference.
- CI-128 clearly allows limits on abortion after fetal viability and ensures the life and health of the patient is protected at all times.
- CI-128 will not impact Montana taxpayers. It simply ensures women can get the healthcare they need, without government interference.
- CI-128 won't change parental rights. If anything, it strengthens parents' ability to help their children navigate challenging or scary situations without having to worry about government overreach.
- CI-128 maintains existing health and safety standards that keep patients safe while
  ensuring doctors can provide needed abortion care should a patient face a miscarriage or
  a life-threatening pregnancy.

A YES Vote on CI-128 will make sure women can make their own personal health care decisions about pregnancy and abortion without government interference. Voting Yes on CI-128 keeps Montanans in charge of their personal medical decisions.

#### **OPPONENTS' REBUTTAL OF ARGUMENTS FOR CI-128:**

Proponents' statement is heavy on emotion but light on facts. While the proponents paint a picture of what they **think** the initiative does, their text is not what will appear in the Constitution. The actual constitutional language is a muddled, confusing mess of undefined terms that **funds trial lawyers**, **invites judicial activism**, **costs taxpayers money and places young girls at risk**.

**Beware of the unintended consequences.** CI-128 seeks to outlaw anything that simply "burdens abortion":

Involving parents in a young girl's decision to have an abortion "burdens abortion." **So** parents cannot be involved in this life-changing decision.

Basic clinic health and safety standards "burdens abortion." Even requiring a medical doctor to be involved "burdens abortion." That's why they use the term "healthcare professional." **So women's health and safety is at risk.** 

The cost of an abortion "burdens abortion." **So Montana taxpayers will foot the bill, including paying for abortions for out-of-staters.** 

CI-128 will be **one of the most radical abortion laws** that has ever existed, going well beyond even *Roe v. Wade*. **Taxpayers and women will pay for even substandard abortions performed for any reason right up until the moment a baby is born.** 

This amendment is far too radical for Montana.

Vote NO on CI-128.

#### What Your Vote Will Do

YES	A <b>YES</b> vote would <b>APPROVE</b> amending the Montana Constitution as
11=5	proposed.
NO	A <b>NO</b> vote would make <b>NO CHANGE</b> to the current Montana
NO	Constitution.



#### **Montana Voter Registration Application**

Please type or print clearly using black or blue ink. Fields marked with an asterisk (\*) are required. If you do not provide all the required information, your application to register to vote will not be complete.

Check all that apply:	New Registration	Name Change	Address Change	Signature Upda	ate Other	
SECTION 1: ELIGIBILITY RE						
Are you a citizen of th				Yes	∐ No	
	3 years of age on or before			∐ Yes	∐ No	
Will you be a Montan	a resident for at least 30 d	ays before the next ele	ection?*	Yes	No	
	ed "No" in response to		ons, you do not meet	the eligibility requ	irements to	vote.
SECTION 2: APPLICANT AI	ND IDENTIFICATION INFOR	RMATION				
Name*: Last Name*		First Name*		Middl	e Name/Initial	Suffix
Date of Birth*:	/ / Phone (Red	commended):	Ema	ail (Recommended):		
	wing identification (ID) op	tions and provide the	required information*:			
l have a Mo	ntana driver's license # and	d it is:				
☐ I do not hav	e a Montana driver's licen	se. The last 4 digits of	my Social Security Num	ber (SSN) are:		
valid photo name OR ar	e a Montana driver's licen: ID (including but not limite a alternative form of identi ent document).	ed to, Tribal ID, Militan	y ID, or school district o	r post secondary edu	ication photo II	D) that shows r
Montana Residential	Address*	(	City	County		Zip Code
Mailing Address (if dig	ferent than residential)	(	City	State		Zip Code
	mestic (or military spouse o erseas (or overseas military Overseas			ill be absent from pla	ce of registrati	on
	GISTRATION INFORMATION  OF OR IF PREVIOUSLY REGISTER				diction)	
Previous Registration	Name:					
Address of previous re	egistration		City	State		Zip Code
SECTION 4: ABSENTEE BA	LLOT INFORMATION					
I request an absentee b	allot to be mailed to me for	ALL elections in which	I am eligible to vote as lo	ng as I reside at the ac	dress listed on	this application.
	s differs during certain tim nal mailing address for the		add the seasonal mailin / through Mor	/ /	n, or contact y	our county
Seasonal Mailing Add	dress (if applicable)	(	City	State		Zip Code
SECTION 5: AFFIRMATION	I					
I affirm under penalty in a penal institution	y of perjury that the inform nor have been found to be subject to a fine or impris	e of unsound mind by	a court. I understand t	hat if I have given fa		
Signature*:	ADDITION FOR VOTER RECIETS		NIP ARRIVEANT PARTIES	Date*:	ICATION COOL	No page service



#### Application for Absentee Ballot

Including Absentee List Request, Election Specific Absentee Ballot Request, Request for Absentee Ballot Due to Illness or Health Emergency or to be removed from receiving an Absentee Ballot.

Fields marked with an asterisk (\*) are required fields.

Please type or use black or blue pen only and print clearly. COMPLETE FORM AND SUBMIT TO COUNTY ELECTION OFFICE BY NOON THE DAY BEFORE ELECTION DAY

APPLICANT IDENTIFYING AND CONTACT INFORMATION				
Last Name*	First Name*	Middle Nan	ne (Optional)	
Birthdate* (MM/DD/YYYY)	Phone Number (Optional)	Email Addre	ess (Optional)	
County where you reside and are registered to vote*	Montana Residence Address*		City*	Zip Code*
Mailing Address (required if differs from residence address*)	City and State		Zip Code	
Check if the mailing address listed above is for par Clearly print the complete mailing address(es) and specif				list only).
Seasonal Mailing Address (Optional)	City and State		Zip Code	Period (mm/dd/yyyy-mm/dd/yyyy)
BALLOT REQUEST OPTIONS AND VOTER AFFIRMA	TION			
Yes, I request an absentee ballot to be address listed on this application. I understan	nd that if I file a change of address		_	_
return a confirmation notice mailed to me by	the county election office;			
OR				
I hereby request an absentee ballot for	the upcoming election (check only	y one):		
Primary General Mu	nicipal Other	elect	ion to be held on	
By signing below, I understand that I am off residency requirement before voting my absenergency.)				_
*Signature of Elector		*Date Sign	ed	
Optional – Voter Information Pamphlet Requ	est (An electronic version of this p	amphlet can	be found at sosm	t.gov/elections.)
Please send current Voter Information	Pamphlet, if applicable to this ele	ction		
Optional – Designate another person to pick	up your absentee ballot			
I, the elector who signed below, hereby design	nate		to pi	ck up my absentee ballot.
Receipt of absentee ballot by designee: I rec	eived the absentee ballot for the	applicant on	Date ballot receive	
Signature of Designee	Signature of Elector	D	ate Signed	
Optional – Revert to Non-Absentee Voter (Ti Please check this box to affirm that you place on election day.				o vote at your local polling
Optional – Affidavit of elector (due to illness	or health emergency)			
Optional: I hereby declare that I am prevente on the Friday preceding the election and 8 p.	ed from voting at the polls due to	illness or hea	Ith emergency occ	curring between 5:00 p.m.
Signature of Elector	Date Signed			

### **County Election Office Contact Information**

P PHONE NUMBER
25 (406) 683-3720
034 (406) 665-9796
9523 (406) 357-3240
59644 (406) 266-3405
59068 (406) 446-1220
324 (406) 775-8749
59403 (406) 454-6803
T 59442 (406) 622-5151
59301 (406) 874-3343
263 (406) 487-5561
9330 (406) 377-3058
59711 (406) 563-4046
(110)
9901 (406) 758-5535
9715 (406) 582-3060
337 (406) 557-2760
9427 (406) 873-3607
0074 (406) 568-2231
T 59858 (406) 859-3771 opt 2
01 (406) 400-2412
0632 (406) 225-4020
9479 (406) 566-2277 x109
360 (406) 883-7268
623 (406) 447-8339
522 (406) 759-5365
3 (406) 283-2302
T 59755 (406) 843-4270
15 (406) 485-3505
Springs MT 59645 (406) 547-3612 opt 2
9872 (406) 822-3520 opt 4
9801 (406) 258-4751
9072 (406) 323-1104
59047 (406) 222-4110
9087 (406) 429-5311
38 (406) 654-2423
425 (406) 271-4000
9317 (406) 436-2361
T 59722 (406) 846-9786
9 (406) 635-5575
59840 (406) 375-6550
270 (406) 433-1708
59201 (406) 653-6250
327 (406) 346-7318
s MT 59873 (406) 827-3038
T 59254 (406) 765-3403
01 (406) 497-6342
59019 (406) 322-8000
59011 (406) 932-5152
9422 (406) 466-2693
174 (406) 424-8300
9038 (406) 342-5547
(400) 542-5547
9230 (406) 228-6226
9230 (406) 228-6226

MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR PO BOX 202801 HELENA, MT 59620-2801

510,000 copies of this public document were published at an estimated cost of \$0.0875 per copy, for a total cost of \$44,625.00 for printing. Distribution costs were paid for by county governments.

