

**RESOLUTION CENSURING STATE SENATOR BRUCE TUTVEDT
FLATHEAD COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 13, 2014**

Whereas, State Senator Tutvedt did personally represent the political action committee (PAC) called Montanans for Responsible Leadership (MRL PAC), (In CSKT Minutes). The MRL PAC's deputy treasurer is State Senator Tutvedt's daughter Emily Tutvedt. (Reports to Political Practices)

Whereas, State Senator Tutvedt personally appeared before the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Council on May 22, 2014 to solicit a \$22,000 contribution from the Tribe for the MRL PAC. (see attached tribal council minutes dated June 19th, 2014). In return for the contribution, State Senator Tutvedt stated *"I've written in the newspaper that I'm for the water compact. I am solidly one of the largest irrigators in Flathead County so I have skin in the game just like you do. If you've read the newspaper state-wide I've been in the Western Montana Stock Growers, with people complaining about me supporting the water compact so I've been throughout the state. I'm an AGR. We have a core commitment of people. I worked with Senator Llew Jones when we were working and worked on a compromise to try to get some money to show our good faith. I know Llew was instrumental in getting the Blackfoot compact. I have a core team that is ready to go and Dan Salomon is working with some core members too. There is a true group of people that want to do the right thing because it's the right reasons. This is a good agreement. I think you've negotiated a fair agreement, the more I understand it. I've never heard anything different. I think you've negotiated robustly but fairly. And if my guys win we're going to bring the compact in early in the session and just put it through. We have a plan in place how to fix that 60 vote problem in the house. Dan has that plan figured out. So there is a plan going on. This is an issue that will even affect how the key leadership in the house will play out. So yes we are committed, and yes it's going to happen. So thank you."*

Whereas, the MRL PAC also obtained a \$10,000.00 contribution from the healthcare union SEIU-Service Employees International Union and \$30,000.00 from Montana Business Advocates for Sensible Elections (MT BASE PAC), a Great Falls political action committee that attacks Republican elected officials and candidates statewide. The founding documents of MT BASE PAC declare its purpose is to support Bruce Tutvedt, Jessie O'Hara, Carmine Mowbray.

Whereas, State Senator Tutvedt personally donated \$5,000.00 to MT BASE PAC, which then donated \$30,000.00 to the MRL PAC. (Per C-6 reports to Political Practices dated 1/1/2013 – 1/27/2014) This juggling of funds appears to be an attempt by State Senator Tutvedt to launder a personal donation from his own PAC.

Whereas, State Senator Tutvedt, through his personal and financial involvement with MRL PAC and MT BASE PAC has attacked Republican candidates in the Flathead County and statewide, using deceptive, inflammatory and unethical allegations.

Whereas, State Senator Tutvedt, MT BASE PAC and MRL PAC used dark money expenditures to support efforts against fellow Republicans who had expressed their concerns about the CSKT Water Compact as currently written. At the same time, State Senator Tutvedt used MT BASE PAC and MRL PAC to hide his own identity and involvement.

Whereas, we believe State Senator Tutvedt, through his actions, has violated **Montana Code Annotated 2014, section 2-2-111 Rules of conduct for legislators**. Proof of commission of any act enumerated in this section is proof that the legislator committing the act has breached the legislator's public duty. A legislator may not:

- (1) accept a fee, contingent fee, or any other compensation, except the official compensation provided by statute, for promoting or opposing the passage of legislation;
- (2) seek other employment for the legislator or solicit a contract for the legislator's services by the use of the office; or
- (3) accept a fee or other compensation, except as provided for in 5-2-302, from a Montana state agency or a political subdivision of the state of Montana for speaking to the agency or political subdivision.

Whereas, State Senator Tutvedt's continued attacks on fellow Republican elected officials and candidates statewide and his active support of opposing political agendas undermine the credibility of Republicans in Flathead County.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:

The Flathead County Republican Central Committee hereby censures State Senator Bruce Tutvedt for official misconduct and for undermining the credibility of Republicans in Flathead County.

The Secretary of the Flathead County Republican Central Committee is directed to mail this Resolution to State Senator Bruce Tutvedt, with a copy to each Republican legislator statewide.

As authorized by a vote of the Flathead County Republican Party Central Committee on November 13, 2014.

FLATHEAD COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE

By: 

Jayson Peters, Chairman

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