

UPOM

UNITED PROPERTY OWNERS OF MONTANA



2017 Legislative Scorecard



PROPERTY RIGHTS HEROES

Special recognition for the outstanding champions of property rights in 2017



Sen. Eric Moore, Miles City

Senator Moore sponsored two of our scorecard bills this session and a third priority bill that did not make it through the process. The two bills that became law provide important protections for landowners who face condemnation of their property. He scored 116% in our scorecard.



Sen. Cary Smith, Billings

Senator Smith sponsored the Property Ownership Fairness Act, a version of the “regulatory takings” measure UPOM has supported for years. He scored 116% in this year’s scorecard.

Property Rights in the 2017 Legislative Session

Efforts continue to force unrestricted access onto private land

Property rights opponents were as relentless as ever during this legislative session in their efforts to erode our basic property rights. As in past sessions, we saw numerous attempts to blatantly force private landowners to allow unrestricted access to their property. These attempts came in the form of bills aimed at preventing landowners from gating roads on private land and decriminalizing trespassing.

Rep. Tom Jacobson (D-Great Falls) was the primary instigator of the anti-property agenda, including three of the most egregious bills—HB 295, HB 243, and HB 662. HB 295 would have allowed counties to implement a fine of \$500 per day on a landowner for gating any road—public or private—on which a member of the public wished to drive. HB 243 would have prohibited landowners from allowing outfitters to use a private road if that road eventually led to public land that was landlocked.

Finally, HB 662 would have decriminalized trespassing at section corners, allowing the public to use private property to travel to two noncontiguous parcels of public land. These bills will likely be brought up again in future legislative sessions, and we plan to continue our strong opposition to these bills.

Progress with the Property Ownership Fairness Act

Educating members of the Montana Legislature about the need for a regulatory takings statute in Montana has been a top priority for UPOM the last several legislative sessions. This session our regulatory takings bill, the Property Ownership Fairness Act (SB 98), moved further through the legislative process than ever before. The Property Ownership Fairness Act would allow landowners to seek compensation for damage to their property caused by actions taken by a government entity.

While ultimately SB 98 did not make it through the legislative process, we applaud Senator Cary Smith for his excellent work on this bill and the productive dialogue about private property rights that it brought before the members of our legislature.

New efforts underway to protect private property owners

This legislative session UPOM spearheaded several bills aimed at providing additional protections for private landowners. SB 207 and SB 286 are part of a set of several bills that would give new protections to landowners facing a pipeline crossing their property. SB 207 requires state agencies to keep any discovery of archeological or paleontological remains confidential if they are uncovered during the intrusive scoping process for a common-carrier pipeline. This allows landowners to control if and when the historical site or remains are made public.

Another protection UPOM worked to put in place this legislative session was SB 286, which provides landowners the ability to negotiate for one-way attorney’s fees in an easement agreement before condemnation proceedings begin. If the landowner negotiates one-way attorney’s fees into their contract with the condemnor it makes it easier for the landowner to sue for breach of contract if the stipulations of the agreement are not met. One-way attorney fees are otherwise illegal in Montana, and SB 286 creates the only exception to this rule. This shows the legislature’s recognition that landowners facing the industrial risk that a pipeline brings deserve to have a greater deal of protection.

This session UPOM proposed legislation intended to give landowners standing against individuals who trespass on private property with the use of unmanned aerial drones. While the bill contained certain exemptions to allow for emergency use of drones (for situations like wildfires, etc.), it would have imposed the same fines given for trespassing on land for trespassing with an aerial drone.

Bill Descriptions for UPOM's Legislative Scorecard

The following bills from the 2017 Legislative session were used to grade each legislator. The bills are weighted according to their impact, positive or negative, on property rights. Bonus points based on these weights are added to, or subtracted from, the scores of the primary sponsor of each bill included in our scorecard.

UPOM's 'Property Rights Heroes' are selected by UPOM's Board of Directors as those legislators who sponsored legislation, who scored over 100% on the scorecard, or who have exhibited an exemplary commitment to protecting private property rights throughout their tenure in the Montana State Legislature.

HB 295—Increase fine for grating a public road

Rep. Jacobson, D-Great Falls

Weight: 5 Oppose

Description: This bill was an attempt to force public access to private land and roads. It would have required county governments to fine landowners \$500 per day for gating any road—public or private—after a member of the public expresses interest in using that road.

House Vote: Blast Motion 2/27, died 48-51

Senate Vote: No Vote Taken

Final Status: Died in Process

SB 207—Provide for confidentiality of heritage properties and paleontological remains

Sen. Moore, R-Miles City

Weight: 2 Support

Description: This bill will protect landowners by requiring state agencies to keep confidential the location and other information regarding paleontological remains or heritage properties that are discovered on private property during the scoping process for common carrier pipelines.

House Vote: 3rd Reading 3/24, passed 57-41

Senate Vote: 3rd Reading 2/24, passed 43-7

Final Status: Became Law

SB 286—Revise laws regarding contractual right to attorney's fees

Sen. Moore, R-Miles City

Weight: 3 Support

Description: This bill will allow landowners to negotiate for one-way attorney's fees in an easement agreement when the opposite party has condemnation authority. One-way attorney's fees make it easier for landowners to sue if stipulations of the easement agreement are not met.

House Vote: 3rd Reading 4/5, passed 95-5

Senate Vote: 3rd Reading 2/24, passed 50-0

Final Status: Became Law

HB 523—Revise archaeological survey requirements

Rep. C. Knudsen, R-Malta

Weight: 1 Support

Description: This bill prohibits state agencies from requiring an archeological survey of their property as a condition for permitting an irrigation ditch.

House Vote: 3rd Reading 2/27, passed 94-5

Senate Vote: 3rd Reading 3/22, passed 47-2

Final Status: Became Law

HB 597—Create voluntary contribution account to acquire public access easements

Rep. Doane, R-Bloomfield

Weight: 3 Support

Description: This bill creates a grant program to pay for costs associated with the purchase of access easements for outdoor recreation. It provides another tool to improve public access without degrading private property rights or penalizing landowners.

House Vote: 3rd Reading 3/30, passed 96-4

Senate Vote: 3rd Reading 4/19, passed 48-2

Final Status: Became Law

SB 297—Generally revise laws related to voters in school district elections

Sen. Hinkle, R-Belgrade

Weight: 3 Support

Description: This bill would have given those paying for a school bond a voice by allowing those with real property in a school district to vote on the bond even though they may reside outside the school district.

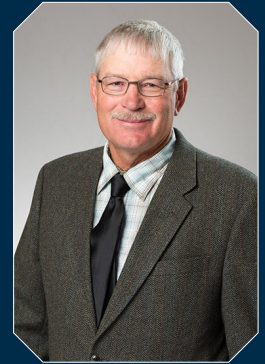
House Vote: Committee vote, died 10-10

Senate Vote: 3rd Reading 2/24, passed 33-17

Final Status: Died in Process

PROPERTY RIGHTS HEROES

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Sen. Steve Hinebauch, Wibaux

In his first session in the legislature, Senator Hinebauch sponsored a major piece of legislation aimed at clarifying landowner rights as they relate to trespass by aerial drones. He score 113% in our scorecard.



Rep. Kelly Flynn, Townsend

Rep. Flynn was an exemplary Chair of the House Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Committee. His Wildlife Habitat Improvement & Public Access Act that passed this session is a step in the right direction to get the FWP Department to be more responsive to weed management. He scored 110% in our scorecard.

PROPERTY RIGHTS HEROES

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Rep. Alan Doane, Bloomfield

Rep. Doane sponsored a bill that creates a state account funded by voluntary contributions to purchase access easements on private property. He also sponsored one other UPOM priority bill that did not pass. He scored 115% in the scorecard.



Rep. Kerry White, Bozeman

Rep. White has long been a solid ally to UPOM and property owners. This session, he sponsored a resolution calling on Congress to release certain wilderness study areas in Montana. He scored 108% in this scorecard.

HJ 9—Resolution supporting the release of certain wilderness study areas

Rep. White, R-Bozeman

Weight: 4 Support

Description: This resolution encourages Congress to release certain wilderness study areas from inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation Program.

House Vote: 3rd Reading 3/1, passed 56-44

Senate Vote: 3rd Reading 4/7, passed 33-17

Final Status: Filed with Secretary of State

HB 243—Prohibit outfitting on state lands inaccessible to the public

Rep. Jacobson, D- Great Falls

Weight: 5 Oppose

Description: This bill attempted to set a dangerous precedent of allowing the government to dictate to landowners who they could let on their property and for what purpose by fining them for allowing outfitters to cross their land if they were on their way to a landlocked parcel of public land.

House Vote: Motion to Table 2/2, passed 10-6

Senate Vote: No Vote Taken

Final Status: Died in Process

HB 434—Create Montana wildlife habitat improvement and public access act

Rep. Flynn, R-Townsend

Weight: 2 Support

Description: This bill allows for the use of federal funds to control noxious weeds in order to improve wildlife habitat and existing public lands.

House Vote: 3rd Reading 4/25, passed 100-0

Senate Vote: 3rd Reading 4/13, passed 38-12

Final Status: Became Law

HB 662—Allow corner crossing when moving from one public property to another

Rep. Jacobson, D- Great Falls

Weight: 5 Oppose

Description: This bill would have decriminalized trespass at section corners in order to allow the public to cross private property to travel between two noncontiguous public parcels.

House Vote: No Vote Taken

Senate Vote: No Vote Taken

Final Status: Introduced, No Hearing

Bill descriptions cont.

SB 98—Establish Property Ownership Fairness Act

Sen. Cary Smith, R-Billings

Weight: 5 Support

Description: Would have required the compensation of landowners for government actions that result in the taking of property or diminution of its value.

House Vote: No Vote Taken

Senate Vote: 2nd Reading 2/22, failed 20-30

Final Status: Died in Process

SB 170—Provide civil liability for unmanned aerial vehicle trespass

Sen. Hinebauch, R-Wibaux

Weight: 4 Support

Description: Would have provided protections for private property owners against individuals trespassing with the use of unmanned aerial vehicles.

House Vote: No Vote Taken

Senate Vote: 2nd Reading 3/30, failed 22-26

Final Status: Died in Process

SB 358—Revise laws regarding removal of highway encroachments

Sen. Cohenour, D-East Helena

Weight: 5 Oppose

Description: This bill was one of several attempts this session to prohibit landowners from gating private roads in order to force public access to private land. It would place the legal burden on the landowner and require them to prove whether the road is public or private.

House Vote: No Vote Taken

Senate Vote: Blast Motion 3/30, failed 20-30

Final Status: Died in Process

SB 262—Revise laws governing public road access

Sen. McClafferty, D-Butte

Weight: 5 Oppose

Description: This bill would have forced private landowners to provide public access on private roads. It also would have required that a landowner appear at a public hearing before the local County Commissioners and prove that a road was private before erecting a gate or other barrier.

House Vote: No Vote Taken

Senate Vote: Committee vote 2/22, failed 4-6

Final Status: Died in Process

Montana Senate Scorecard

Bill		SB 98	SB 170	SB 207	SB 286	HB 523	HB 597	SB 358	SB 297	HJ 9	HB 434	SB 262
Position		S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	O
Weight		5	4	2	3	1	3	5	3	4	2	5
Senator	Score											
DUANE ANKNEY (R)	84%	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
DICK BARRETT (D)	34%	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	
MARK BLASDEL (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
CYNDIE BOLAND (D)	24%	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
DEE BROWN (R)	89%	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
EDWARD BUTTREY (R)	86%	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
MARY CAFERRO (D)	22%	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	
JILL COHENOUR (D)	19%	-	-	+	+	+	+	Sp.	-	-	+	
PAT CONNELL (R)	72%	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
TOM FACEY (D)	34%	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	
JENNIFER FIELDER (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
STEVE FITZPATRICK (R)	76%	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
TERRY GAUTHIER (R)	100%	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
JEN GROSS (D)	19%	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
STEVE HINEBAUCH (R)	113%	+	Sp.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
JEDEDIAH HINKLE (R)	109%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	Sp.	+	+	
BRIAN HOVEN (R)	75%	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	
DAVID HOWARD (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
LLEW JONES (R)	84%	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
DOUG KARY (R)	88%	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
BOB KEENAN (R)	91%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	
MIKE LANG (R)	78%	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	
MARGARET MACDONALD(D)	28%	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	
SUE MALEK (D)	25%	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	
EDIE MCCLAFFERTY (D)	22%	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	Sp.
MARY MCNALLY (D)	28%	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	
FREDERICK (ERIC) MOORE (R)	116%	+	+	Sp.	Sp.	+	+	+	+	+	+	
ALBERT OLSZEWSKI (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
RYAN OSMUNDSON (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
MIKE PHILLIPS (D)	34%	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	
JP POMNICHOWSKI (D)	16%	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
KEITH REGIER (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
TOM RICHMOND (R)	84%	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	

Legend:
Sp. - Bill Sponsor S - UPOM-supported bill O - UPOM-opposed bill A - Absent
Scores greater than 100% include bonus points for bill sponsorship.

Montana Senate Scorecard

Bill		SB 98	SB 170	SB 207	SB 286	HB 523	HB 597	SB 358	SB 297	HJ 9	HB 434	SB 262
Position		S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	O
Weight		5	4	2	3	1	3	5	3	4	2	5
Senator	Score											
SCOTT SALES (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
DANIEL SALOMON (R)	72%	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
DIANE SANDS (D)	28%	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	
JON SESSO (D)	28%	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	
JASON SMALL (R)	72%	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
FRANK SMITH (D)	43%	-	A	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	
CARY SMITH (R)	116%	Sp.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
NELS SWANDAL (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
RUSSEL TEMPEL (R)	84%	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
FRED THOMAS (R)	82%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	A	+	
GORDON VANCE (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
CHAS VINCENT (R)	84%	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
GENE VUCKOVICH (D)	56%	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	
ROGER WEBB (R)	89%	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
JEFFREY WELBORN (R)	56%	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	
LEA WHITFORD (D)	16%	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
CYNTHIA WOLKEN (D)	22%	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	

For more information on legislators, bills, and voting records, please visit www.leg.mt.gov

Legend:

Sp. - Bill Sponsor S - UPOM-supported bill O - UPOM-opposed bill A - Absent
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Montana House Scorecard

Bill		HB 295	SB 207	SB 286	HB 523	HB 597	SB 297	HJ 9	HB 243	HB 434
Position		O	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S
Weight		5	2	3	1	3	3	4	5	2
Representative	Score									
KIM ABBOTT (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
FRED ANDERSON (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
JACOB BACHMEIER (D)	39%	-	-	+	+	+	-	-		+
NANCY BALLANCE (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
DAN BARTEL (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
BECKY BEARD (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
BRYCE BENNETT (D)	39%	-	-	+	+	+	-	-		+
SETH BERGLEE (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
LAURIE BISHOP (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
RANDY BRODEHL (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
ZACH BROWN (D)	56%	-	-	+	+	+		-	+	+
BOB BROWN (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+
TOM BURNETT (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
ROB COOK (R)	75%	-	+	+	+	+		+		+
VIRGINIA COURT (D)	36%	-	-	+	+	+		-	-	+
MIKE CUFFE (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
WILLIS CURDY (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
AMANDA CURTIS (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
GERALDINE CUSTER (R)	65%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+		+
ALAN DOANE (R)	115%	+	+	+	+	Sp.		+		+
KIMBERLY DUDIK (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
MARY ANN DUNWELL (D)	40%	-	-	+	-	+		-		+
JENNY ECK (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
RON EHLI (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
JANET ELLIS (D)	40%	-	-	+	-	+		-		+
JEFF ESSMANN (R)	75%	-	+	+	+	+		+		+
DAVE FERN (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
ROSS FITZGERALD (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
JOHN FLEMING (D)	39%	-	-	+	+	+	-	-		+
KELLY FLYNN (R)	110%	+	+	+	+	+		+		Sp.
MOFFIE FUNK (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
WYLIE GALT (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
FRANK GARNER (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+
CARL GLIMM (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
EDWARD GREEF (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+
BRUCE GRUBBS (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
STEVE GUNDERSON (R)	100%	+	A	+	+	+		+		+

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Position		O	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S
Weight		5	2	3	1	3	3	4	5	2
Representative	Score									
JIM HAMILTON (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
BRADLEY MAXON HAMLETT (D)	75%	-	+	+	+	+		+		+
BILL HARRIS (R)	85%	+	+	+	+	-		+		+
DENISE HAYMAN (D)	39%	-	-	+	+	+	-	-		+
GREG HERTZ (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
ADAM HERTZ (R)	75%	-	+	+	+	+		+		+
ELLIE HILL SMITH (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
KENNETH HOLMLUND (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
MIKE HOPKINS (R)	80%	+	+	+	+	+		-		+
TOM JACOBSON (D)*	-20%	Sp.	-	+	+	+		-	Sp.	+
DONALD JONES (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
JESSICA KARJALA (D)	39%	-	-	+	+	+	-	-		+
JIM KEANE (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
KATHY KELKER (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
GEORGE KIPP III (D)	42%	A	-	+	A	+		-	-	+
JON KNOKEY (R)	75%	-	+	+	+	+		+		+
CASEY KNUDSEN (R)	92%	+	+	+	Sp.	-		+	+	+
AUSTIN KNUDSEN (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+
STEVE LAVIN (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
DENNIS LENZ (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+
DENLEY LOGE (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+
RYAN LYNCH (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
FORREST MANDEVILLE (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+
THERESA MANZELLA (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
KELLY MCCARTHY (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
NATE MCCONNELL (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
WENDY MCKAMEY (R)	74%	+	+	+	+	-	-	+		+
SHANE MORIGEAU (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
DALE MORTENSEN (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
MARK NOLAND (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
JAMES O'HARA (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
ANDREA OLSEN (D)	25%	-	-	-	-	+		-		+
JIMMY PATELIS (R)	75%	-	+	+	+	+		+		+
RAE PEPPERS (D)	25%	-	-	-	-	+		-		+
ZAC PERRY (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
GORDON PIERSON (D)	65%	-	-	+	+	+		+		+
JEAN PRICE (D)	32%	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+

Legend:
Sp. - Bill Sponsor S - UPOM-supported bill O - UPOM-opposed bill A - Absent
Scores greater than 100% include bonus points for bill sponsorship.
**Rep. Jacobsen's score includes HB 662, which he sponsored but for which no vote was taken.*

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Bill		HB 295	SB 207	SB 286	HB 523	HB 597	SB 297	HJ 9	HB 243	HB 434
Position		O	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S
Weight		5	2	3	1	3	3	4	5	2
Representative	Score									
ALAN REDFIELD (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
MATT REGIER (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+
VINCE RICCI (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
ADAM ROSENDALE (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+
MARILYN RYAN (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
WALT SALES (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+
CASEY SCHREINER (D)	45%	-	-	+	+	+		-		+
RAY SHAW (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
LOLA SHELDON-GALLOWAY (R)	75%	-	+	+	+	+		+		+
DEREK SKEES (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+
BRIDGET SMITH (D)	20%	-	-	+	-	-		-	-	+
SCOTT STAFFANSON (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+
SHARON STEWART-PEREGOY (D)	24%	-	-	-	+	+		-	-	+
KATHY SWANSON (D)	39%	-	-	+	+	+	-	-		+
JEREMY TREBAS (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
BRAD TSCHIDA (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
BARRY USHER (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
SUE VINTON (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+
KIRK WAGONER (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+		+
PEGGY WEBB (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+
SUSAN WEBBER (D)	39%	-	-	+	+	+	-	-		+
TOM WELCH (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+
KERRY WHITE (R)	108%	+	-	+	+	+		Sp.	+	+
JONATHAN WINDY BOY (D)	30%	-	-	-	+	+		-		+
TOM WOODS (D)	30%	-	-	-	+	+		-		+
DANIEL ZOLNIKOV (R)	72%	-	A	+	+	+		+		+

Legend:
Sp. - Bill Sponsor S - UPOM-supported bill O - UPOM-opposed bill A - Absent
Scores greater than 100% include bonus points for bill sponsorship.

About United Property Owners of Montana

In recent years government and special interest groups have advocated for new policies on land use, environmental protection, and social change. Unfortunately, many of those policies necessitate the erosion of private property rights. Put it all together and we have a growing movement in Montana that challenges the rights landowners have to possess, protect, and use property.

The attacks on our property rights threaten to undermine the unique culture and traditions that make Montana such a special place. UPOM is dedicated to protecting our property rights in order to preserve our ag heritage for future generations. Our philosophy is simple: the erosion of one person’s rights affects us all. We hope you’ll join our efforts to protect Montana’s property rights.