



2007 Montana Legislative Voting Record on Choice

An analysis of votes made on bills related to reproductive rights and health at the 60th Legislative Session



NPCMF activists and Coalition partners rallied at the capitol in support of funding for family planning programs. Anti-choice legislators tried repeatedly to strip funding for this essential health care program.

2007 Session at a Glance

- We secured record levels of funding for family planning services.
- All attempts to restrict Montanans' reproductive freedoms were defeated.
- There were eight votes against access to birth control and family planning throughout the 2007 Regular and Special Sessions.
- 24 Senators received an "A" voting record grade
- 24 Senators received an "F" voting record grade
- 45 Reps. received an "A" voting record grade
- 46 Reps received an "F" voting record grade

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NARAL Pro-Choice Montana and NARAL Pro-Choice Montana Foundation are proud to release the 2007 Montana Legislative Voting Record on Choice.

As we look back on the politics of division that characterized the 2007 Legislative Session, we must celebrate the advancements we were able to make for women's health in spite of this highly charged environment.

Once again, the pro-choice community in Montana stood up to extremists at the Montana legislature, successfully defeating every anti-choice initiative for the 4th legislative session in a row! And with our partners in the Montana Reproductive Rights Coalition, we were able to secure record levels of family planning funding for 15 clinics in 29 communities across the state of Montana, serving 28,268 women and men.

Anti-choice legislators, emboldened by their leadership positions in the House of Representatives, went so far as to support a constitutional amendment to declare that life begins at conception. This same leadership ensured our attempt to create responsible sex education programs would not make it out of committee despite an outpouring of public support.

These extremists say they oppose abortion, yet in the 2007 Session, they opposed birth control, medically accurate sex education and access to family planning services for Montana women.

NARAL Pro-Choice Montana members and supporters were on the front lines of the battle for reproductive rights in Helena. Our grassroots network of supporters sent thousands of e-mails, made thousands of calls into targeted legislative districts, wrote letters to the editor in papers across the state and participated in face to face lobbying visits, ensuring anti-choice messages from a vocal minority did not go unanswered.

The only way we can continue to be effective in protecting women's rights is to maintain the grassroots pressure our members put on the state legislature to do the right thing. NARAL Pro-Choice Montana is committed to maintaining this grassroots network and training the next generation of pro-choice leaders.

Nearly 200 pro-choice Montanans turned out in support of reproductive rights at the 2007 Roe Anniversary Rally.



Get involved at www.prochoicemontana.org



Explanation of Votes

HB 118 - Revise Law on Dispensing Contraceptives, Sponsor Rep. Teresa Henry (D-Missoula) HB 118 allows registered nurses employed by family planning clinics under contract with the Department of Public Health and Human Services to dispense both pill and non-pill, pre-packaged contraceptives. Under the former law, nurses were only allowed to dispense oral contraceptives and could not dispense other newer contraceptives such as the patch and vaginal ring. This bill was tabled in committee and had to be "blasted" onto the floor of the House. It passed and was signed into law by Governor Brian Schweitzer on April 5th, 2007. A "Yes" vote is a pro-choice vote.

HB 321 - Revise Judicial Bypass Provisions under the Parental Notice of Abortion Act, Sponsor Rep. Tom McGillvray (R-Billings) Montana courts have already struck down a parental notification law, making HB 321 unconstitutional. This poorly drafted law applied only to emancipated minors, young women who do not have a parent or guardian. In 2006, only 6.6% of Montana patients accessing abortion care state wide were minors, 83% of whom included a parent in their decision. Parental notification laws endanger young women who cannot turn to a parent when faced with an unintended pregnancy because of an abusive home or for any other reasons that could force them to take matters into their own hands. This bill passed in the House and died in the Senate Public Health Welfare and Safety Committee. Two attempts to "blast" this bill onto the Senate floor for debate failed. A "No" vote is a pro-choice vote.

HB 403 - Constitutionally Recognize Life Begins at Conception, Sponsor Rep. Rick Jore (C-Ronan) The goal of HB 403 was to limit the rights of Montana women. By defining fertilization as the beginning of life, HB 403 attempted to establish constitutional rights for a fertilized egg that were separate from the pregnant woman. HB 403 would have severely undermined the medical decision making process for both pregnant women and health care providers. HB 403 would have instituted basis for a total ban on abortion in Montana with no exemptions should Roe v. Wade be overturned. Furthermore, HB 403 would have established a state constitutional basis to prohibit the use of many contraceptives, including birth control pills and IUD's. This bill died on the floor of the House. A "No" vote is a pro-choice vote.

HB 638 - State Funding for Family Planning, Sponsor Bob Bergren (D-Havre) This bill asked the state of Montana to invest in family planning services. In 2006, Montana's family planning clinics served 29,000 women and men, the majority of whom are uninsured or under insured. Dramatically increased pharmaceutical, laboratory, and health care personnel costs have put these clinics into financial crises. HB 638 would have reinstated state funding to the family planning network at a time when such funding is especially critical. This bill died in the House Appropriations Committee. Funding for family planning clinics was ultimately included in the state budget during the special session (HB 2). A "Yes" vote is a pro-choice vote.

HB 2, Amendment 4 - General Appropriations Act of 2007, Remove Medicaid Family Planning Waiver Funding, Sponsored by Rep. Rick Jore (C-Ronan) This amendment sought to remove funding for an expansion of family planning coverage under Montana's Medicaid program for women who are otherwise not eligible for Medicaid. The federal government provides 90 cents of every Medicaid family planning dollar to help states meet women's needs. This amendment failed. A "No" vote is a pro-choice vote.

HB 820, Amendment 90 - Biennial Funding for Certain Executive Branch Agencies, Remove State Funding for Family Planning, Sponsored by Sen. Verdell Jackson (R-Kalispell) After HB 638 died in the House Appropriations Committee, pro-choice advocates worked with Senators on the Senate Finance and Claims Committee to include family planning funding in the state budget. This amendment failed. A "No" Vote is a pro-choice vote.

HB 2, Amendment 2- General Appropriations Act of 2007, Remove State Funding for Family Planning, Sponsor Sen. Dan McGee (R-Laurel) This amendment sought to remove state funding for family planning clinics. This amendment failed. A "No" vote is a pro-choice vote.

SB 500 - Removing the Prohibition in CHIP Insurance for Contraception, Sponsor Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D-Helena) This bill would have corrected discrimination in CHIP which prohibits insurance coverage of birth control for pregnancy prevention but at the same time covers prenatal care, childbirth, and newborn care. 1,477 young women ages 15-19 are currently enrolled in the program. Last year, twenty-six teen pregnancies were covered by CHIP. This bill passed out of the Senate Public Health Welfare and Safety Committee and died on a tie vote on the floor of the Senate. A "Yes" vote is a pro-choice vote.

What is a "blast" motion?
If a bill does not pass out of committee, it may be withdrawn from that committee by a "blast" motion approved by not less than three-fifths of the members of the House of Representatives present and voting or a simple majority in the Senate.
If the motion is successful, it is placed on second reading and proceeds like any other bill.



Last Name	First Name	Party/City	HB 118	HB 118 B	HB 321	HB 403	HB 638 B	HB 2 A4	%
Ankney	Duane	R Colstrip	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	60
Arntzen	Elsie	R Billings	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	15
Augare	Shannon	D Browning	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Barrett	Debby	R Dillon	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Beck	Bill	R Whitefish	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	5
Becker	Arlene	D Billings	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Bergren	Bob	D Havre	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Bixby	Norma	D Lame Deer	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Blasdel	Mark	R Somers	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	5
Boggio	Scott	R Red Lodge	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Branae	Gary	D Billings	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Butcher	Edward	R Winifred	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Caferro	Mary	D Helena	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Callahan	Tim	D Great Falls	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Campbell	Margarett	D Poplar	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Clark	Edith	R Sweet Grass	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excused	No	20
Cohenour	Jill	D East Helena	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Cordier	Douglas	D Columbia Falls	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	70
Dickenson	Sue	D Great Falls	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Driscoll	Robyn	D Billings	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Dutton	Ernie	R Billings	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	15
Ebinger	Bob	D Livingston	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Erickson	Ron	D Missoula	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Everett	George	R Kalispell	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Franklin	Eve	D Great Falls	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
French	Julie	D Scobey	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	70
Furey	Kevin	D Missoula	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Gallik	Dave	D Helena	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Glaser	William	R Huntley	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	10
Grinde	Wanda	D Billings	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Groesbeck	George	D Butte	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	90
Hamilton	Robin	D Missoula	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Hands	Betsy	D Missoula	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Hawk	Ray	R Florence	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Heinert	Ralph	R Libby	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	5
Hendrick	Gordon	R Superior	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	10
Henry	Teresa	D Missoula	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Hilbert	Edward	R Glendive	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	5
Himmelberger	Dennis	R Billings	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	15
Hiner	Cynthia	D Deer Lodge	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	70
Hollenbaugh	Galen	D Helena	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Ingraham	Pat	R Thomspen Falls	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	10
Jacobson	Hal	D Helena	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Jayne	Joey	D Arlee	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Jones	Llew	R Conrad	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	20
Jones	William	R Bigfork	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	15
Jopek	Mike	D Whitefish	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Jore	Rick	C Ronan	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Kasten	Dave	R Brockway	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Keane	Jim	D Butte	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	70



House Votes 2007 Legislative Session (continued)

Last Name	First Name	Party/City	HB 118	HB 118 B	HB 321	HB 403	HB 638 B	HB 2 A4	%
Kerns	Krayton	R Laurel	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	5
Klock	Harry	R Harlowton	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	20
Koopman	Roger	R Bozeman	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Kottel	Deborah	D Great Falls	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Lake	Bob	R Hamilton	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Lambert	Carol	R Broadus	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	60
Lange	Michael	R Billings	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
MacLaren	Gary	R Victor	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	50
Malcom	Bruce	R Emigrant	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	15
McAlpin	Dave	D Missoula	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
McChesney	Bill	D Miles City	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
McGillvray	Tom	R Billings	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	5
McNutt	Walter	R Sidney	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	90
Mendenhall	Scott	R Clancy	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Milburn	Mike	R Cascade	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	10
Morgan	Penny	R Billings	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	20
Musgrove	John	D Havre	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Noonan	Art	D Butte	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Nooney	Bill	R Missoula	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	5
O'Hara	Jesse	R Great Falls	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Olson	Alan	R Roundup	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	20
Parker	John	D Great Falls	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Peterson	Ken	R Billings	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Phillips	Mike	D Bozeman	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Pomnichowski	JP	D Bozeman	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Raser	Holly	D Missoula	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Reinhart	Michele	D Missoula	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Rice	Diane	R Harrison	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Ripley	Rick	R Wolf Creek	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Ross	John (Jack)	R Absarokee	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	45
Sales	Scott	R Bozeman	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Sands	Diane	D Missoula	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Sesso	Jon	D Butte	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Sinrud	John	R Bozeman	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Small-Eastman	Veronica	D Lodge Grass	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Sonju	Jon	R Kalispell	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	5
Stahl	Wayne	R Saco	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	90
Stoker	Ron	R Darby	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	5
Taylor	Janna	R Dayton	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	10
Thomas	Bill	D Great Falls	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	70
Van Dyk	Kendall	D Billings	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Villa	Dan	D Anaconda	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Vincent	Chas	R Libby	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Absent	No	60
Ward	John	R Helena	Excused	Excused	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Wells	Jack	R Bozeman	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0
Wilmer	Franke	D Bozeman	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Wilson	Bill	D Great Falls	Yes	Excused	No	No	Yes	No	100
Windy Boy	Jonathan	D Box Elder	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	65
Wiseman	Brady	D Bozeman	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	100
Witte	Craig	R Kalispell	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0



Last Name	First Name	Party/City	HB 118	HB 321 B1	HB 321 B2	HB 820 A90	HB 2 A2	SB 500	%
Bales	Keith	R Otter	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	0
Balyeat	Joe	R Bozeman	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	0
Barkus	Gregory	R Kalispell	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	0
Black	Jerry	R Shelby	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	15
Brown	Roy	R Billings	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	0
Brueggeman	John	R Polson	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	25
Cobb	John	R Augusta	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	85
Cocchiarella	Vicki	D Missoula	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Cooney	Mike	D Helena	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Curtiss	Aubyn	R Fortine	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	0
Elliot	Jim	D Trout Creek	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Esp	John	R Big Timber	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	5
Essmann	Jeff	R Billings	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	0
Gallus	Steve	D Butte	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Gebhardt	Kelly	R Roundup	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	0
Gillan	Kim	D Billings	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Hansen	Ken (Kim)	D Harlem	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Harrington	Dan	D Butte	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Hawks	Bob	D Bozeman	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Jackson	Verdell	R Kalispell	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	30
Jent	Larry	D Bozeman	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Juneau	Carol	D Browning	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Kaufmann	Christine	D Helena	Yes	No	No	Excused	No	Yes	100
Kitzenberg	Sam	D Glasgow	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	70
Laible	Rick	R Darby	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Excused	No	15
Larson	Lane	D Billings	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Laslovich	Jesse	D Anaconda	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Lewis	Dave	R Helena	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	0
Lind	Greg	D Missoula	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
McGee	Daniel	R Laurel	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	0
Moss	Lynda	D Billings	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Murphy	Terry	R Cardwell	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	5
O'Neil	Jerry	R Columbia Falls	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	0
Pease	Gerald	D Lodge Grass	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	90
Perry	Gary	R Manhattan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excused	No	5
Peterson	Jim	R Buffalo	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	5
Ryan	Don	D Great Falls	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Schmidt	Trudi	D Great Falls	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Schockley	Jim	R Victor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	5
Smith	Frank	D Poplar	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Squires	Carolyn	D Missoula	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Stapleton	Corey	R Billings	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	0
Steinbeisser	Donald	R Sidney	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	0
Story	Robert	R Park City	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	5
Tash	Bill	R Dillon	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	15
Tropila	Joe	D Great Falls	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	40
Tropila	Mitch	D Great Falls	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Wanzenried	David	D Missoula	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Weinberg	Dan	D Whitefish	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100
Williams	Carol	D Missoula	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	100



Senate Public Health, Welfare & Safety Committee

Last Name	First Name	Party/City	HB 321
Weinberg (Ch)	Dan	D Whitefish	No
Cobb	John	R Augusta	No
Esp	John	R Big Timber	Yes
Gillan	Kim	D Billings	No
Moss	Lynda	D Billings	No
Murphy	Terry	R Cardwell	Yes
O'Neil	Jerry	R Columbia Falls	Yes
Schmidt	Trudi	D Great Falls	No
Williams	Carol	D Missoula	No

HB 321-Revise Judicial Bypass Provisions under the Parental Notice of Abortion Act, Sponsor Rep. Tom McGillvray (R-Billings) Montana courts have already struck down a parental notification law, making HB 321 unconstitutional. See page two for further explanation. This bill passed in the House and died in the Senate Public Health Welfare and Safety Committee. A "No" vote is a pro-choice vote.

House Human Services Committee HB 118 & HB 612

Last Name	First Name	Party/City	HB 118	HB 612
Stoker (Ch)	Ron	R Darby	No	No
McGillvray (VC)	Tom	R Billings	No	No
Becker (VC)	Arlene	D Billings	Yes	Yes
Caferro	Mary	D Helena	Yes	Yes
Dutton	Ernie	R Billings	No	No
French	Julie	D Scobey	Yes	Yes
Ingraham	Pat	R Thomspson Falls	No	No
Jones	William	R Bigfork	No	No
Kerns	Krayton	R Laurel	No	No
McAlpin	Dave	D Missoula	Yes	Yes
Milburn	Mike	R Cascade	No	No
Peterson	Ken	R Billings	No	No
Reinhart	Michele	D Missoula	Yes	Abstain*
Sands	Diane	D Missoula	Yes	Yes

HB 118-Revise Law on Dispensing Contraceptives, Sponsor Rep. Teresa Henry (D-Missoula) HB 118 allows registered nurses employed by family planning clinics under contract with the Department of Public Health and Human Services to dispense both pill and non-pill, pre-packaged contraceptives. Under the former law, nurses were only allowed to dispense oral contraceptives and could not dispense other newer contraceptives such as the patch and vaginal ring. This bill was tabled in committee and had to be "blasted" onto the floor of the House. A "Yes" vote is a pro-choice vote.

HB 612-Healthy Youth Program Act, Sponsor Teresa Henry (D-Missoula) Research has shown that President Bush's current Abstinence-Only program does not work. HB 612 was an attempt to allow county health departments and tribal health agencies to receive comprehensive sex education funding to develop and implement programs in their respective communities. HB 612 sought to build healthy futures for Montana's youth by providing young people with the information they need to make responsible, safe decisions if and/or when they become sexually active. This bill died in the House Human Services Committee. A "Yes" vote is a pro-choice vote.

*Rep. Reinhart, a champion of reproductive health, abstained from the committee vote when anti-choice representatives moved to table the bill without discussion, believing this was an important bill that deserved their consideration before moving to table.



NARAL Pro-Choice Montana

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2007 Choice Voting Record Inside!