

Resolution to add the following section to the Montana GOP Bylaws

Section 1: The Montana Republican Party is a private organization dedicated to the promotion of certain political ideals, primarily by supporting candidates who pledge to support the United States and Montana Constitutions and the Montana Republican Party Platform under their Rules. The support from this Party is very beneficial to those who make such a pledge and once elected, keeping that pledge is paramount to the integrity of the Party and the confidence of the voters who elected them.

Section 2: Without enforcement, the expressed principles of the Party are nothing more than ideals and philosophy. Republican legislators have at times, defied their pledge and oath, voting on legislative matters substantially contrary to the Party's expressed platform and constitutional principles. Republican Constitutional and county officers also have at times, conducted their offices contrary to Republican and constitutional principles.

Section 3: The Montana Republican State Central Committee, and County Central Committees are hereby empowered to call into question the conduct of a Republican elected official; give fair consideration to alleged violations and provide a meaningful opportunity for the official to be heard; determine if substantive violations of Party Platform or Constitutions have occurred; provide censure by motion upon the first determination of substantive violations; and by motion for any substantive violations by the same elected official occurring after the first determination of censure has issued and following the same procedures outlined below, may remove Party support and prohibit the use of Republican Party identifiers on campaign information and advertising from the elected official during any subsequent campaign for Montana political office for a period of five (5) years.

- a) The Montana Republican State Central Committee, by petition to the State Chair from at least 20% of Central Committee members from at least 5 counties, shall call a US Senator for Montana, a US Representative for Montana, or a Montana State constitutional officer to a Republican State Central Committee meeting to answer the alleged violations. Within ten (30) days of receipt of the petition, the State Chair shall notify the elected official of the petition and set a date for a meeting to determine the merits of the petition not more than one hundred (100) days or less than forty (40) days from receipt of the petition. The meeting may be in conjunction with a regular meeting of the State Central Committee or at a Special Meeting.
- b) A County Central Committee, by petition to the County Chair of at least 20% of County Central Committee members, shall call an elected county official of that county or legislative district to a County Central Committee meeting to answer the alleged violations. Within ten (10) days of receipt of the petition, the County Chair shall notify the elected official of the petition and set a date for the meeting to determine the merits of the petition not more than one hundred (100) days or less than forty (40) days from

receipt of the petition. The meeting may be in conjunction with a regular meeting of the County Central Committee or at a Special Meeting.

Section 4: The elected official called to answer the alleged violations may, at their discretion, appear in person or by video, if the video system provides two-way communication between the official and the committee and video conferencing is available at the venue where the meeting is to be held.

Section 5: At the meeting, one or more of the petitioners will present the alleged Party Platform or constitutional violation(s). The responding elected official shall be afforded adequate time and opportunity to answer the alleged violations.

Section 6: The State or County Central Committee, after fair consideration of the merits of the petition and the response, if any, by the elected official, shall make a determination of the merits of the petition. If this is the first time the elected official has been called to answer for violation(s) a simple majority of the Committee members present is required to provide censure to the elected official. If this is a subsequent time the elected official has been called to answer for violation(s) which occurred after the first determination of censure, a super majority vote of sixty (60) percent of the Committee members present is required to remove Party support and prohibit the use of Republican Party identifiers on campaign information and advertising from the elected official during any subsequent campaign for Montana political office for a period of five (5) years.

It shall be the duty of the County or District Chair to notify the State Chair within ten (10) days of any affirmative determination by the respective committee of any Platform or constitutional violation(s) by an elected Republican official.

Section 7: If a Committee determines to censure an elected official, or upon subsequent determination, remove Party support and prohibit the use of Republican Party identifiers on campaign information and advertising from the elected official during any subsequent campaign for political office for a period of five (5) years, the State Party shall publish the same on the State Party website. within ten (10) days of receiving notice thereof from the committee Chair. It shall be the duty of the State Party to maintain a website page, publicly accessible, of any such determinations made by the respective Committees.

Section 8: Any elected Republican official aggrieved by a second determination of Platform or constitutional violation(s), which removed Party support, the use of Party identifiers, may appeal such decision to the Executive Committee of the State Republican Party within thirty (30) days of issuance of the decision. The State Executive Committee shall give opportunity to the affected parties to be heard and may uphold or overturn the determination of the respective Central Committee. The appeal will be heard and decided at the next regular meeting of the State Executive Committee that occurs at least 14 days after the appeal is filed.