

THE STATE OF MONTANA

Commissioner of Political Practices 1209 Eighth Avenue Post Office Box 202401 Helena, MT 59620-2401 Phone: 406-444-2942 Fax: 406-444-1643 www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

Campaign Finance and Practices

Complaint Form (08/17)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIVED

2020 OCT 30 P 1:04

COLLECTOR OF TAXES HAND DELIVERED [check]

SIGNED/NOTARIZED [check]

Type or print in ink all information on this form except for verification signature

Person bringing complaint (Complainant):

Complete Name Trent Bolger, MDP
Complete Mailing Address PO Box 802 Helena, MT 59624
Phone Numbers: Work 406-442-9520 Home

Person or organization against whom complaint is brought (Respondent):

Complete Name Montana Citizens for Right to Work
Complete Mailing Address PO Box 624 Belgrade, MT 59714
Phone Numbers: Work 406) 599-8511 Home

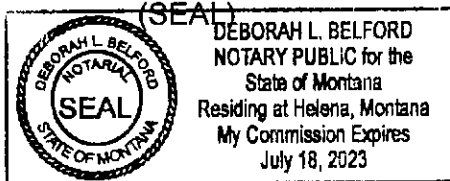
Please complete the second page of this form and describe in detail the facts of the alledged violation.

Verification by oath or affirmation

State of Montana, County of Lewis & Clark

I, Trent Bolger, being duly sworn, state that the information in this Complaint is complete, true, and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of Complainant



Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30 day of October, 2020.

Signature of Notary Public Deborah L Belford

My Commission Expires: 7-18-2023

**Statement of facts:**

Describe in detail the alleged violation(s) and cite the statute or statutes you believe have been violated. Please attach copies of documentary evidence to support the facts alleged in your statement.

If the space provided below is insufficient, you may attach additional pages as necessary.

See Attached.

**Complaints must be:**

- signed
- notarized
- delivered in person or by mail.

Commissioner Jeff Mangan  
Commissioner of Political Practices  
1209 Eighth Avenue  
P.O. BOX 202401  
Helena, MT 59620-2401  
[cpphelp@mt.gov](mailto:cpphelp@mt.gov)

Dear Commissioner Mangan:

I write to file a formal complaint against Randy Pope and the Montana Right to Work Committee for clear violations of MCA 13-35-401 otherwise known as the Clean Campaign Act.

On October 29, 2020, we became aware of a "Electioneering Communication" mentioning several Democratic candidates in a negative light (please see Exhibits A, B, C, and D). This mailer clearly meets the definition of "Electioneering Communications" under MCA 13-1-101(16) a. It was made within 60 days of the initiation of voting, The day that Montana Citizens for Right to Work's C-7e says that it paid for was 10/28/2020 (see Exhibit E) and the day that it hit mail boxes was 10/29/20. The C-7 E also says that 15,916 mailers were sent out. The mailer clearly identifies one or more candidates in this election, and depicts the names of candidates and an instruction to "do all you can to hold your politicians accountable" (see Exhibit B). Clearly, due to the timing of this mailer it is designed to dissuade voters to vote for the Democratic candidates named.

Montana Citizens for Right to Work is registered with the COPP as an incidental committee which under MCA 13-1-101(31)b is a Political Committee. Under MCA 13-35-4(1) Political Committees must " provide to candidates listed in subsection (2) any final copy of campaign advertising in print media, in printed material, or by broadcast media that is intended for public distribution in the 10 days prior to an election".

Under Exhibit E, 40 candidates are listed under the subject matter filing. I have spoken to several Democratic candidates in these races that have not received notice of this mailing. Our records do not indicate that the same mailer was sent out before October 25<sup>th</sup> deadline and thus would not qualify under the exception found in MCA 13-35-402(3) a.

Please find Montana Citizens for Right to Work in violation of the Clean Campaign Act and assess a penalty under your authority under MCA 13-35-403.

Additionally, I request that the Commissioner determine if Montana Citizens for Right to Work meet the definition of an incidental committee with the organization's primary purpose as set forth in ARM 44.11.203(2).

Sincerely,



Trent Bolger, Sr. Advisor  
Montana Democratic Party

**Montana  
Citizens for Right to Work****Actiongram**

P.O. Box 624 • Belgrade, MT 59714

October 21, 2020

Dear Friend:

You may recall, I recently sent you a letter reporting the results of Montana Citizens for Right to Work's Candidate Survey Program.

And with the November 3 General Election only two weeks away, I wanted to write you again to fill you in on what's been going on.

You see, the race for State Representative in House District 83, where you live, may be one of the most important in the state.

And this year, freedom, jobs and our state's economy are all on the line.

The fact is, forcing workers to pay union dues to get or keep a job is just plain wrong.

A state Right to Work law would restore every Montana worker's right to decide whether or not to join or pay dues to a labor union.

Not only that, but it would also mean more and better jobs for Montana workers.

Over the past decade, private sector employment growth in Right to Work states surged almost 17% -- nearly double what we saw here in forced-unionism states.

Meanwhile, households in Right to Work states average \$4,276 more in cost of living-adjusted after-tax income than those in forced-dues states.

So, you see, for the future of Montana, it's vital you know where your candidates stand on forced unionism.

Today, I must report good and bad news.

The good news -- as I already reported -- is, one of your candidates, Republican Darin Gaub, has pledged 100% support for Right to Work.

Darin Gaub has staked out his position in favor of a state Right to Work law -- and more freedom, jobs and economic prosperity.

The bad news is, the other candidate, Democrat incumbent Kim Abbott, is still refusing to return her Candidate Survey.

It's vital you give Kim Abbott a piece of your mind IMMEDIATELY.

Tell her that you demand 100% support for Right to Work

## Exhibit B

from your next State Representative and that her failure to return her Right to Work Candidate Survey is unacceptable.

You see, long, bitter experience has taught us that when candidates refuse to answer their Candidate Surveys, it almost always means we can expect them to vote with the union bosses.

The issue couldn't be simpler.

Either politicians stand with the nearly 80% of Montana citizens who support Right to Work and thus freedom and economic prosperity -- or they stand with the union bosses and for forced unionism.

You and I both know the high price every American pays for forced unionism:

- \*\*\* Millions of workers are forced to surrender billions of dollars each year to keep their jobs. This cash funds violent "organizing" drives and a limousine lifestyle for union bigwigs;
- \*\*\* Big Labor's power is deadly to millions of small businesses. Pro-forced-unionism politicians and bureaucracies are strangling small businesses with confiscatory taxes, destructive laws and straitjacket regulations; and
- \*\*\* Wasteful work rules, job featherbedding, slowdowns, "sick-outs," strikes and the union-label, hate-the-boss mentality have all taken their crippling toll.

And the fact is, in the wake of all the economic dislocation that came with the COVID-19 pandemic, Montana needs every economic advantage it can get.

That's why your immediate action is needed today.

Give Kim Abbott a piece of your mind TODAY. Tell her that her refusal to come out in opposition to forced unionism is unacceptable.

Please make sure ALL of your candidates know that anything less than total support for Right to Work and 100% opposition to forced unionism is unacceptable.

Please do all you can to hold your politicians accountable.

Sincerely,



Randy Pope  
Executive Director

P.S. It's vital you act TODAY to put the heat on Democrat incumbent Kim Abbott. Give her a piece of your mind and tell her anything less than 100% opposition to forced unionism is unacceptable.

And, if you have time, please thank Republican Darin Gaub for his 100% opposition to forced unionism and for pledging to support a Montana Right to Work law this year.

**• Montana Citizens for Right to Work •**

**2020 Candidate Survey**

**November 3 General Election**

1. Will you support efforts to enact a statutory Right to Work law in Montana?
2. Will you support legislation that ends monopoly bargaining over government employees by union officials?
3. If elected, will you oppose any legislation designed to circumvent the Supreme Court's *Janus* decision?
4. If elected, will you support a ban on all "project labor agreements" which, if enacted, would allow contractors to bid on state construction projects regardless of whether or not their employees pay dues to a union boss?

**Candidate Responses -- State House District 83**

	Question #	1	2	3	4
Kim Abbott-D.....		-	-	-	-
Darin Gaub-R.....		Y	Y	Y	Y

Hon. Kim Abbott-D  
P.O. Box 1752  
Helena, MT 59624

Mr. Darin Gaub-R  
524 8th Ave.  
Helena, MT 59601

Note: Montana Citizens for Right to Work, of course, endorses no candidates. We are a nonpartisan organization. But we believe that you have a right to lobby your candidates and as a Right to Work supporter are entitled to know which candidates will support the right of every Montanan to earn a living -- without having to pay union bosses for the privilege. Paid for by Montana Citizens for Right to Work, Randy Pope, Executive Director, P.O. Box 624, Belgrade, MT, 59741

# Right to Work Survey Reply Memo

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

To: Randy Pope  
Montana Citizens for  
Right to Work  
P.O. Box 624  
Belgrade, MT 59714

SS203MTG

Dear Randy:

I understand that today in Montana tens of thousands of workers are forced to pay union dues just to keep their jobs.

And I know that passage of a Right to Work law here would not only end forced union dues, but that Right to Work states also have stronger records in attracting good, high-paying jobs.

That's why I have:

- Contacted House District 83 Democrat incumbent Kim Abbott to give her a piece of my mind and tell her that her refusal to come clean on forced unionism is unacceptable;
- Contacted Republican Darin Gaub and thanked him for answering his Candidate Survey and standing up for Right to Work.

Sincerely,

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Note: We will not accept any contributions sent in response to this mailing.

# Committee Finance Report (C-7E)

## Committee Information

Date Filed: 05/22/2020

Original Filing for: 10/26/2020 - 11/03/2020

Report Type: Initial

Receive and File Date: 10/29/2020

Report Status: Filed

Montana Citizens for Right to Work  
PO Box 624 Belgrade, MT 59714

Election Year: 2020

Committee Type: Incidental

**Treasurer:**

POPE, RANDAL Alan  
PO Box Belgrade, MT 59714

**Bank Information:**

Bank of America  
100 N. Tryon St. Charlotte, NC 28255

## Expenditures

No entries found.

## Expenditures: Independent

Entity	Election	Electioneerin g Communication	Purpose	Candidate/Is sue	Platform	Quantity	Subject Matter	Date	Amount
Montana Citizens for Right to Work PO Box 624, Belgrade, MT 59714	General	Yes	Mail reporting survey results to our supporters. We do not support or oppose any candidate in this mail.		USPS	15916	Reporting survey results to our supporters for candidates; K Regier, G Quist, C Friedel, M McDonald, J Butterbaugh, E McClafferty, S Nordwick, M Sweeney, D Solomon, C Porter Gay, L Rekston, G Brownning, S Gist, J Krotkov, F Fleming, A Guiliano, J Read, L Pavlock, K Whitman, L Conley, B Tschida, L Hansen, C Owens, D Fern, E Buttrey, J Horn, L Verrill J-Rhys, Jessica Karjala, J Lamm, L Bishop, J Hinkle, C Campbell, D Rivera, R Farris-Olsen, D Westlake, M Funk, D Gaub, K Abbott, C Hull and M Dunwell.	10/28/2020	\$7,071.98