

GREG GIANFORTE FOR GOVERNOR

GIANFORTE
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GOVERNOR

MONTANA COMEBACK PLAN

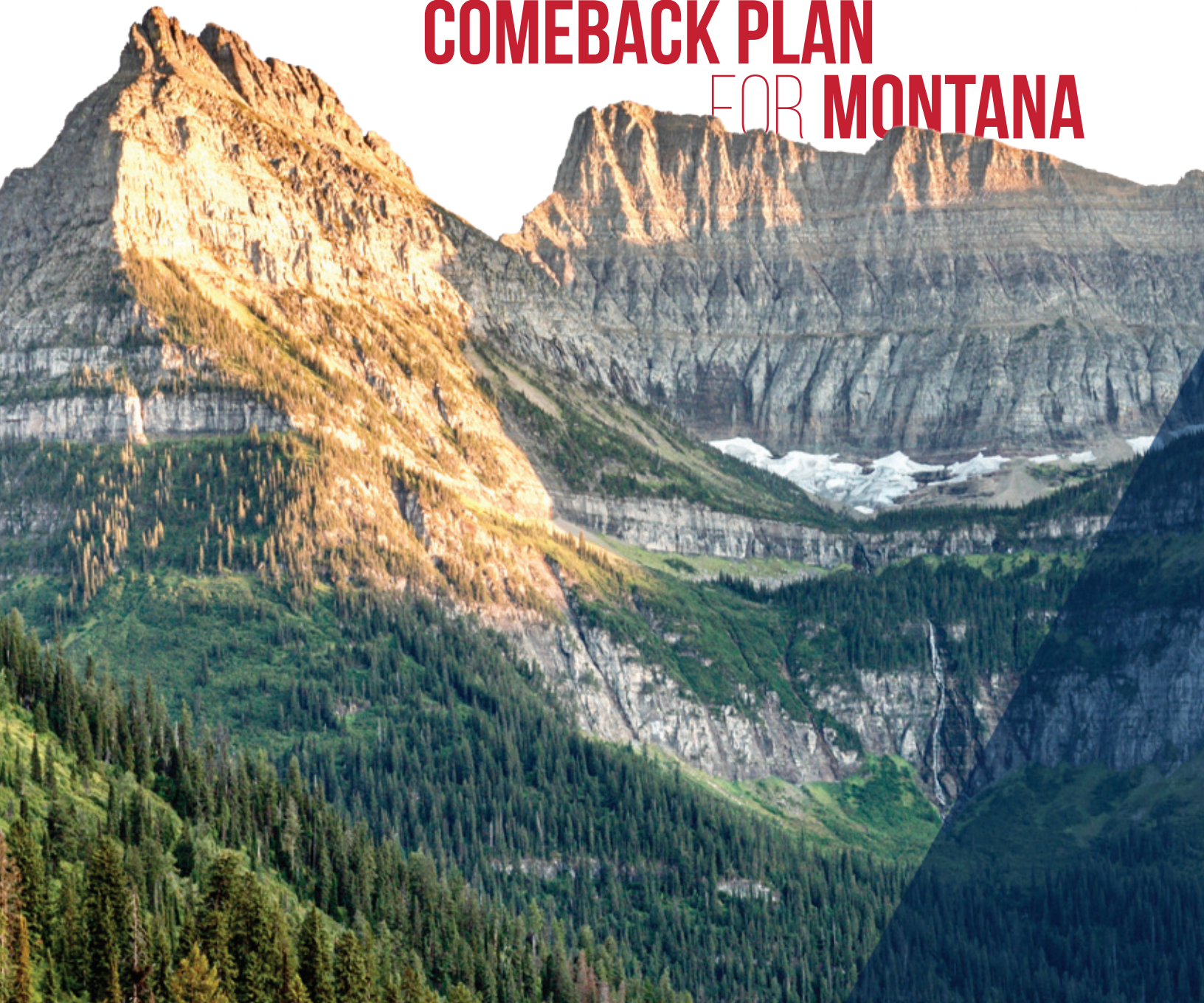
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GOOD JOBS AND THE MONTANA WAY OF LIFE

GREG GIANFORTE

GOVERNOR

COMEBACK PLAN
FOR MONTANA





Over and over, Montanans have proven they're resilient and hardworking. With the coronavirus outbreak and its economic fallout, I'm confident we'll bounce back.

We must get our economy going again. A thriving economy will create sustainable jobs and greater prosperity for more Montanans.

But even before the coronavirus, Montana hasn't lived up to our great potential. Our wages are among the lowest in the country. Low wages and fewer opportunities have taken too many Montanans from our great state for better opportunities—better jobs for better pay. Our kids and grandkids have become one of our largest exports, and too many Montana families have seen them leave.

To lead Montana's comeback and create better opportunities for more Montanans, we need proven business leadership in the governor's office. We need someone who's built a business and created good-paying jobs here in Montana.

I will bring that business leadership experience to the governor's office. My wife, Susan, and I started a business, RightNow Technologies, in our Bozeman home. It grew into the town's largest commercial employer, creating more than 500 high-wage jobs and helping launch the high-tech sector in our state.

We didn't do it alone, though. Hundreds of hardworking Montanans helped build it. We proved that, when you combine

the Montana work ethic with effective leadership, Montanans can prosper.

Folks, we can do better.

The path forward is clear. We need to get our economy going again, get Montana open for business, and get Montanans back to work in good-paying jobs.

This is our Montana Comeback Plan.

We asked Montanans for their ideas, and they answered the call. Folks across our state submitted their ideas, and they're here—from providing tax relief to all Montanans to increasing accountability in state government, from improving access to high-quality health care to protecting our Montana way of life. I'm grateful for your dedication and contributions.

Our Montana Comeback Plan is a starting point. We have much to do to get our state back on track and on our way to reaching its full, outstanding potential. Please keep your ideas coming. I'll continue collecting them as I see you throughout our state, or you can submit them online at montanabusinessplan.com.

I know our best days are ahead.



Greg Gianforte

GREG GIANFORTE



GETTING OUR ECONOMY GOING AGAIN

The response to the virus crisis has created an economic pandemic with Montanans out of work and without a paycheck, businesses shuttered, and beef and grain prices continuing to suffer.

The government shutdown of our economy has left state revenue in doubt, threatening essential services like K-12 education, public safety, and our social safety net for the most vulnerable.

Only a strong, vibrant economy will sustainably get people back to work, help small businesses prosper, and create robust markets for our farmers and ranchers. Greg's top priority is to get our economy going again and bring long-term, sustainable prosperity and greater opportunities to all Montanans, all while protecting our Montana way of life.

Develop Value-Added Agriculture

Agriculture is Montana's number one industry with more than 27,000 farms and ranches throughout our state. Our farmers and ranchers produce the best products, and they work hard to feed the world.

Yet the Montana brand is often lost as we export our high-quality commodities. As governor, Greg will partner with the ag industry to find ways to add value to our commodities here in Montana and preserve the Montana brand through our supply chains so that Montana producers can capture more of the value they create.

For example, we need increased beef processing capacity here in Montana, development of new value-added supply chains, and new markets for our ag products.

As he has done in Congress, Greg will work as governor to ensure our ag producers have access to open, fair markets across the globe.

Expand Manufacturing

Montana manufacturers can compete globally, but we need more skilled workers. Machinists, welders, electricians,



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carpenters and mechanics are essential. Greg will put an increased emphasis on trades education and apprenticeship opportunities to empower workers with in-demand skills and create better-paying Montana jobs.

We will also recruit new manufacturers to Montana as we repatriate our manufacturing from China for national security.

Finally, we will modernize our tax structure to encourage manufacturing investment in Montana.

Grow the Technology Sector

The high-tech sector, which now exceeds \$2 billion per year in revenue in Montana, is our fastest growing industry, and creates jobs that pay double the state average. Greg helped launch the high-tech sector in Montana with RightNow Technologies, the company he started in his home in Bozeman. At RightNow Technologies, the average Montana salary was \$86,000 per year plus benefits.

With broadband Internet, tech businesses can be in any Montana community and Montanans can return home, bringing remote work jobs with them to revitalize our rural communities. We should be encouraging high tech to complement our other strong Montana industries and expanding rural broadband to enable it.

Responsibly Develop Our Natural Resources

Montana is the Treasure State, rich in minerals, coal, oil, gas and timber. Too often, our state government has stood in the way of their responsible development, refusing to issue needed permits, for decades on some projects.

Meanwhile, other states have prevented us from getting our products to market. Our communities have suffered as a result.

We can responsibly develop our abundant Montana resources and simultaneously protect our environment. They aren't mutually exclusive. If we pursue those goals, the result will be more good-paying Montana jobs and conservation of our environment.

As governor, Greg will:

- Bring new leadership to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
- Streamline permitting processes to eliminate needless delays
- Use all available tools, like the Good Neighbor Authority Greg helped expand in the Farm Bill and collaborative stewardship agreements, to improve and expand forest management

- Leverage his relationships with senior leaders in Washington, D.C., and use the courts if necessary, to ensure other states do not inhibit our ability to get our products to market

Boost Tourism, Travel, and Hospitality

Montana's great outdoors is what drew Greg here 44 years ago. Our outdoor heritage as well as Montanans' friendliness, kindness, and strong work ethic is why he decided to make his life, start a business, and raise his family here.

Our outdoor recreation and destinations are second to none, and tourism is a leading industry in our state, supporting nearly 60,000 Montana jobs. Each year, Montana attracts more than 12 million out-of-state visitors who spend more than \$3.7 billion.

The coronavirus crisis, however, has upended our tourism industry. As a result of the economic shutdown, visitors aren't coming to Montana, our hotels sit vacant, our Main Street businesses and restaurants have little foot traffic, and our outfitters and guides are struggling.

As governor, Greg will help our tourism, travel, and hospitality industries recover through effective promotion so our state can reopen for business as quickly and safely as possible. In the immediate aftermath of the COVID-19 outbreak and recovery, we must capitalize on the unique nature of Montana—a wide open space where non-residents can enjoy our outdoors at a safe distance from one another.

Greg will ensure we continue to promote Montana's breathtaking experiences and relaxing hospitality as one of our country's vacation destinations of choice.



GETTING MONTANA OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Government does not create sustainable jobs, entrepreneurs and small business folks do. Government, however, can create an environment where businesses are able to thrive, create more good-paying jobs, and increase opportunities for all Montanans. We must reduce the cost of doing business in our state. It's time to open Montana for business.

Reform Our Anti-Jobs, Anti-Competitive Tax Code

Our state's anti-competitive tax code effectively hangs a "closed" sign on Montana's door. It places a heavy burden on small businesses, makes it challenging for Montanans to start a new business here, and drives away potential businesses from locating in our state and bringing good-paying jobs with them.

High property taxes, high income taxes, and a punishing, complex business equipment tax all conspire to make it harder for new businesses to start up in Montana and for existing businesses to make critical investments.

As a result, Montanans are losing out on opportunities and good-paying jobs.

We must reform our outdated, anti-competitive tax code to promote business investment and job creation.

As governor, Greg will be pro-jobs and pro-business. Greg will work with the legislature to make our tax code more competitive, so Montana can attract businesses, promote entrepreneurship, and have more good-paying jobs.

Review, Roll Back, and Repeal Unnecessary Regulations

Excessive regulations are a wet blanket on job creators of all sizes, but particularly on our Main Street business owners. Small business owners spend too much time and resources filling out paperwork and complying with burdensome regulations—time that could be spent with their family or building their business.

Small businesses, though, don't carry the burden alone. Consumers, particularly low- and middle-income individuals, bear the weight. Regulations raise consumer prices and make it more difficult for people, especially those struggling to make ends meet, to pay for goods and services.

Immediately upon being sworn in as governor, Greg will initiate a top-to-bottom regulatory review in every state agency to identify and eliminate excessive, outdated, and unnecessary regulations. The comprehensive review will revise necessary but over-complicated regulations to simplify compliance, ensuring they are user-friendly and easy to understand. The process will be thorough and careful to preserve regulations necessary to implement legislative directives, including the protection of consumer safety and public health.



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Greg will streamline state permitting. Current permitting requirements tie up critical projects in layers of red tape. Consider this: it took five years to build the Hoover Dam. But permitting has tied up the Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project, which provides water to more than 58,000 acres of family farms, for a decade. We have to streamline the permitting process.

Finally, as governor, Greg will insist that for every new regulation imposed two will be eliminated. Using the Small Business Impact Act, Greg will require agencies to analyze the economic impact of proposed regulations on Montana's small businesses.

Taken together, these regulatory reviews and reforms will open Montana for business, grow our economy, and bring good-paying jobs to Montana.

Encourage Entrepreneurship

As an entrepreneur and business leader, Greg is often asked to speak on entrepreneurship in schools and on campuses. Few students raise their hands when he asks, "Who wants to start a business?"

Entrepreneurs create businesses, and businesses create jobs. We need more entrepreneurs.

With about 1 in 10 Montanans owning a business, Montana is a national leader in entrepreneurship with more entrepreneurs per capita than any other state. It's no surprise—our quality of life attracts them, including our outstanding public lands. While we are a national leader, "Montana, like the rest of the country, has seen significant declines in the number of entrepreneurs and the share of workers who work at startups," according to the Montana Chamber of Commerce's 2018 State of Entrepreneurship Report.

As governor, Greg will partner with associations and businesses to promote entrepreneurship, particularly to our students.

Recruit New Businesses

The Montana work ethic is unmatched, and it provided a huge competitive advantage at Greg's Montana-based company, RightNow Technologies. Plus, the Montana quality of life inspires employees to do their best work.

As governor, Greg will work with the legislature to create a friendlier climate for business in Montana, including a more competitive tax code and regulatory relief.

Greg will also assemble a working committee of active and retired Montana-connected business executives to tell the Montana story broadly to recruit new job-creating businesses in our state.

Improve Infrastructure

Montana lags other states in access to broadband. According to the Federal Communications Commission, about 1 in 3 Montanans do not have access to broadband, which is three times the national average. The digital divide is even greater in our rural communities where 3 in 5 Montanans do not have access to broadband.

As a result of the coronavirus crisis, Montanans are increasingly teleworking, patients are relying on telemedicine to consult with their doctors remotely, and students are studying and taking classes online—all making the lack of access across our state more pronounced.

It's time we give rural Montana access to the same opportunities the rest of the state has. We have to bring reliable broadband to all our Montana communities. Deploying broadband to our rural areas is foundational for our new and evolving economy, whether it's ag or high-tech.

Expanding access to reliable broadband has been one of Greg's priorities as Montana's congressman. He introduced legislation to increase broadband access by streamlining the permitting process for broadband infrastructure projects.

As governor, Greg will work with consumers, stakeholders, and service providers to continue efforts to increase broadband access throughout Montana and close the digital divide.

Partner with Tribal Government

More good-paying jobs are just as needed on our reservations so all Montanans have access to opportunities to prosper. Greg will collaborate with tribal governments and peoples to help them create more and better opportunities.



GETTING MONTANANS BACK TO WORK

The coronavirus crisis has left too many Montanans out of work and without a paycheck. We must get our economy going again and get Montana open for business so we can get Montanans back to work.

Before the crisis, however, Montana remained near the bottom nationally in terms of wages, and too many Montanans struggled to make ends meet. While we must recover from the economic catastrophe of the virus shutdown, we must have a long-term plan to bring sustainable, good-paying jobs to Montana.

Create More Good-Paying Jobs

More than 20 years ago, Greg and his wife, Susan, started a business in a spare room in their Bozeman home. It grew to become the town's largest commercial employers, creating over 500 high-paying Montana jobs. After more than 30 years in the private sector, Greg knows what it takes to build a business and create jobs, and he'll bring that experience to the governor's office.

Improve Education and Empower Our Workforce

Education is the pathway to a brighter and more prosperous future. As governor, Greg's goal is to ensure our students have access to the best education possible to prepare them for the future.

- **Provide Better Resources for K-12 Educators** — Greg's mother was a math teacher, and he knows educators work hard every day to prepare our public school students, often without the resources necessary to fulfill their jobs. We should empower them by cutting red tape that hampers their ability to do their job, creating a rewarding environment, and paying them for the noble work they do.

Montana has one of the worst salaries for new teachers than any state in the country. Montana salaries for new teachers is significantly lower than neighboring states.

One Montana public school teacher told Greg he was unable to live on the salary he was receiving and had not had three meals a day for over a year. The teacher told Greg he relied on free food he was getting at school to survive.

We need to get more money to the classroom by eliminating education regulations and mandates so that we can attract and retain the very best educators. Parents, teachers, and local school boards make the best, most informed decisions about education—not bureaucrats in Helena or Washington.

- **Prepare Our Kids for the Jobs of Tomorrow** — No matter what profession a student pursues, knowledge of computers will be essential. That is why Greg will work to add Software Programming as an optional foreign language for High School graduation credit.
- **Build a Stronger Workforce Through Trades Education and Apprenticeships** — A four-year college degree isn't the right solution for every young person. There are many jobs where specialized skills are required. We need plumbers, carpenters, electricians, machinists and pipe fitters just as much as college grads. These are essential professions. We should encourage interested students to pursue them, and ensure they have access to education opportunities.

Apprenticeship programs ensure workers receive skills training that boosts their lifetime earnings. Individuals who complete apprenticeship programs earn \$240,000 more over the course of their career than similar nonparticipants, according to a 2012 study.

As governor, Greg will promote trades education and apprenticeship programs to empower Montana workers, expand their lifetime earning potential, and ensure Montana employers have a more highly-skilled workforce.

Bring Our Kids and Grandkids (and Their Jobs) Home to Montana

Too many Montanans across our state have seen their kids and grandkids move away for better opportunities—better jobs for better pay. Sadly, our state's most valuable export is our kids and grandkids. We must reverse that trend.

We must create greater opportunities and more good-paying jobs for Montanans to thrive here. When we do, our kids and grandkids will stay here or return, and the American dream will be within greater reach to more Montanans.



Access to broadband enables many people with a desk job to work remotely. We should encourage it. Many companies allow their employees to work from a distant location. Plus, the coronavirus crisis showed us that working from home is possible.

Three years ago, Greg worked with the then-mayor of Shelby to promote telework at a high school reunion. He recently reported that, as a result of those efforts, 15 families moved back to Shelby, bringing jobs with them. Each returning family bought or built a home, enrolled their kids in school, and started shopping and eating in town.

Imagine if every Montana town started having Montanans return home. We can bring economic vibrancy back to rural Montana.

Plus, by recruiting Montanans to come home, we preserve our Montana way of life.

As governor, Greg will work to expand broadband to communities that aren't connected so that teleworking is possible across our state.

We will also build on the success of the efforts in Shelby and directly market to Montanans who have moved away, asking them to consider coming home—and bringing a job with them.

Reduce Barriers to Employment

Occupational licensing is necessary to protect public health and safety and to provide consumers with assurances about the quality and skill of the service provider. No one wants to go into surgery with a doctor who has not been properly trained.

Montana's occupational licensing system, however, can pose an unnecessary barrier for some Montanans as they seek to work.

Take, for example, a shampooer in Montana. According to a 2017 report from the Institute for Justice, individuals who shampoo hair at a barbershop or salon in Montana must complete about 350 days of education and pass two exams to become licensed. By comparison, an EMT must complete about 26 days of education and pass two exams to be licensed in Montana.

As governor, Greg will work to ensure occupational licensing requirements in Montana make sense and that unnecessary barriers to work are removed.

Increase Opportunities for Veterans

About 1 in 9 Montanans have served our country in uniform, and we have the second highest per capita number of veterans in the country. They are part of the fabric of our state and our communities.

When active duty service members retire, we need to be sure their transition is as smooth as possible and that opportunities are there for them. Having gone through extensive training, veterans are highly skilled in their fields, and their experience should translate more easily in the civilian world. Valuing that experience, we should reduce barriers that require veterans to go through unnecessary licensing or certification requirements.

As governor, Greg will work to tear down these barriers to opportunity for our veterans, provide incentives for employers to hire veterans, and ensure services are available to veterans for them to thrive.



CHANGING HOW HELENA DOES BUSINESS

Montanans send their hard-earned tax dollars to Helena and wonder what they get for it. They see their taxes increase and spending keep pace.

Many dedicated state employees do their best every day to help Montanans, but for too long, they have not been led well. Absent clear goals, organizations lose their sense of purpose and serve their own needs rather than those of the people.

It's time to change how Helena does business.

Install New Leadership at State Agencies

Greg understands the importance of assembling a good team to execute a mission. There are many dedicated state employees who have been missing a good leader to guide them.

Everywhere he goes in Montana, Greg hears stories about state agencies, the whole alphabet soup – FWP, DEQ, DNRC, DPHHS, CPS, etc. For example, a property owner in Montana recently told him about how he's spent "hundreds of thousands of dollars and over 10 years" trying to get a state permit to clean up a small petroleum spill that he "could take care of in an afternoon with a skid-steer." He is still waiting—and paying.

Where new leadership is required, Greg will move quickly to make the necessary changes and insist on agencies adopting a culture of customer service to better serve their customers.

Emphasize Experience, Competency on State Oversight Boards

One of the biggest responsibilities of the governor is board appointments, including the Board of Regents, Board of Livestock, and Fish and Wildlife Commission. There are over 150 boards and hundreds of appointments. The governor is also responsible for filling judicial vacancies.

As a business leader, Greg spent 34 years in the private sector building effective teams. As governor, he'll select appointments to boards and fill judicial vacancies based on experience, competency, integrity, and ability to do the job.

Conduct a Top-to-Bottom Review of All State Agencies

State agencies have not had effective oversight in a very long time. As governor, Greg will conduct a comprehensive, top-to-bottom review of all state agencies and programs under his authority to cut waste, eliminate inefficiencies, streamline operations, and bring clarity to their missions. He will also ensure agencies have the resources they need to succeed and return any excess to the General Fund.

Increase Accountability

As a business leader, Greg understands that operational reviews are necessary to make sure a business is accomplishing its mission. State government should be no different. Greg will institute periodic operational reviews for all significant state agencies to measure their progress against their mission and hold them accountable for results.

Prioritize Customer Service

The business that Greg started in Bozeman, RightNow Technologies, grew to help nearly 2,000 multinational corporations all over the world adopt cultures of great customer service. That was their business, and customer service was their focus.

State government could benefit too. As governor, Greg will ensure that a core component of each agency mission is to adopt a culture of customer service toward Montanans. We will measure outcomes from citizens' perspectives to ensure continuous improvement and mission success.

Hold the Line on State Spending

When you're in a hole, the first step to getting out is to stop digging. State government spending goes up every single year. In fact, it has gone up over 60 percent in the past 10 years alone.

Just because state government brings in more money, it doesn't mean it has to spend it. After all, it's not the state's money; it's the money you earned that you're sending to Helena.

As governor, Greg will hold the line on state spending.

Cut Taxes for All Montana Taxpayers

You know how to spend your hard-earned money better than a bureaucrat in Helena, and you should be able to keep more of what you earn.

- **Reduce Taxes for All Montana Taxpayers** — Greg is committed to conducting a comprehensive, top-to-bottom review of all state agencies to cut waste and hold the line on state spending. As those processes move forward, the resulting budget surpluses will go toward permanently reducing property and income taxes for all Montana taxpayers.
- **Oppose Sales Taxes** — Greg will guide Montana through our recovery from the coronavirus crisis and to our comeback without raising taxes. He opposes a sales tax under any circumstance. Period.





INCREASING ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, HIGH-QUALITY HEALTH CARE

Montanans don't have enough choice in health care, and what they do have, they pay too much for—from their health care premiums to their prescription drugs. Montanans deserve a health system that provides access to high-quality, affordable care, protects people with preexisting conditions, and offers transparency and choice.

To fix our health care system, we need Montana solutions—not a top-down, one-size-fits-all approach with mandates from bureaucrats in Washington.

Lower the Cost of Health Care

The Affordable Care Act has reduced choices for consumers and driven up the cost of health premiums and other out-of-pocket expenses without addressing the drivers of increased health care costs. What good is health insurance if you can't afford it?

When we work together, we can achieve real, meaningful results. In Congress, Greg has worked with Republicans and Democrats to bring down the cost of health care.

As governor, Greg will continue that approach. He will bring together patients, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, hospital administrators, association leaders, behavioral health care providers, health policy experts, and others from across our state—from our rural, frontier, and larger communities—to develop meaningful, innovative solutions that work for Montana and that lower the cost of health care.

To Greg, fixing our broken health care system centers on three pillars: bringing down the cost of care, protecting Montanans with preexisting conditions, and preserving rural access to care.

As governor, Greg is committed to reducing health care costs by increasing choice, encouraging innovation, reducing unnecessary regulations, promoting competition, and increasing transparency.

Bring Down Prescription Drug Prices

There's no question that Montanans pay too much for their health care, particularly for prescription drugs. People shouldn't have to walk away from the pharmacy counter because they can't afford the medications they need.

In Congress, Greg has worked with Republicans and Democrats to bring down the cost of prescription drugs by

bringing generic drugs to market faster, increasing drug pricing transparency, and holding middlemen accountable.

As governor, Greg will continue working to reduce prescription drug prices. Building on his efforts in Congress, Greg will focus on holding pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) accountable. A lack of transparency into PBMs' practices has long contributed to the rising cost of prescription drugs. In 2019, the state legislature passed a bipartisan measure to lower prescription drug prices by bringing transparency and accountability to PBMs, but the governor vetoed it. As governor, Greg will work to pass the bill again and will sign it into law.

End Surprise Medical Billing

After someone goes to the hospital for an emergency, the last thing they want is to be surprised by an enormous bill in the mail. A resident of rural Montana told Greg she was shocked to receive a \$70,000 bill from a small Montana hospital. She had no idea how to handle the situation or get it resolved. But she's not alone in confronting surprise medical bills.

We need to make sure that all Montanans, who are trying in good faith to receive care and pay their bills, aren't caught in the middle when providers and insurers can't agree.

In Congress, Greg has supported bipartisan efforts to prohibit surprise medical billing, hold patients harmless in emergency situations, and create a process to resolve disputes between providers and insurers so patients aren't on the hook for disputes.

As governor, Greg will continue his work to end surprise medical billing. He'll work with health care providers and insurers to make sure Montanans have greater transparency and they're not caught in the middle of a dispute between providers and insurers.

Protect Montanans with Preexisting Conditions

About 150,000 Montanans have a preexisting health condition, and not one of them should be denied access to health insurance because of a preexisting condition.

In Congress, Greg has sponsored and voted for legislation that protects people with preexisting conditions.

As governor, Greg will keep that commitment to Montanans and will protect health coverage for Montanans with preexisting conditions.

Preserve Rural Access to Care

Many Montanans live in frontier and rural communities where access to doctors and specialists pose a big challenge. Not only do they worry about when they can see a doctor, but they also worry whether there's a doctor to see.

Greg understands the challenges of delivering and accessing health care in our rural and frontier areas.

- **Expand Telehealth Services** — In Congress, Greg has worked with Republicans and Democrats to expand telehealth services—one way to preserve and expand rural access to health care. Telehealth services use telecommunications technologies for patients to increase access to care by engaging remotely with doctors, from mental health care providers to oncologists and other specialists.

As governor, Greg will continue his efforts to increase telehealth services which can transform how care is delivered in our more rural communities. To preserve access to rural care, we must use modern technology to make affordable, high-quality health care more accessible. Telehealth services can connect a specialist in Billings to a patient in Jordan, all while reducing health care costs.

Central to the expansion of telehealth is the expansion of broadband access. As governor, Greg will work to expand access to reliable broadband to our rural and frontier communities.

- **Protect Critical Access Hospitals** — Greg also understands the importance of critical access hospitals, the challenges they face, and the role they play in keeping Montanans healthy and our communities vibrant. As governor, Greg will work with stakeholders to improve the financial viability of critical access hospitals and ensure Montanans in our rural and frontier areas have reliable access to care that's close to them.

Improve Mental Health Care

According to the National Association on Mental Illness, about 164,000 Montanans have a mental health condition. Unfortunately, mental health care is not available to many Montanans. More than 600,000 Montanans live in an area where there is a shortage of mental health professionals.

Montana faces a tragic epidemic of suicide. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Montana is third in the nation in suicides, and suicide is the sixth leading cause of death in our state. The rate of suicide among Montana veterans is nearly triple that of our entire population, and the suicide rate among farmers has been increasing.

In Congress, Greg has worked to expand telemedicine as a way to expand access to mental health care to underserved areas. Greg has also worked on bipartisan measures to implement 9-8-8 as a universal, national suicide hotline to provide an essential resource to those facing a crisis.

As governor, Greg will work to increase access to mental health care and suicide prevention services to help Montana get and stay healthy. Greg will work with stakeholders to implement a strategy to increase the number of mental health practitioners in the state. Greg will also work to expand telemedicine services so that Montanans, wherever they live, can access care from a mental health provider.

Provide a Strong Safety Net for the Most Vulnerable

We must ensure services, resources, and support are available to the most vulnerable among us. Medicaid provides a safety net for those who can't afford health care, and it must be preserved.

Montana currently does not verify eligibility, and about 1 in 5 Montanans have signed up for these benefits. If all are allowed to climb on the safety net, it will collapse under its own weight. To ensure Medicaid is there for those who need it, Greg will insist that Montana checks the eligibility of all enrollees.





PROTECTING OUR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

In Montana, drug addiction and the crimes associated with it are devastating our communities. Meth use and opioid misuse have touched too many Montanans. We must ensure addicts have access to treatment, and we must enforce existing laws and enact stricter ones against the criminals that push drugs into our communities.

Combat the Drug Epidemic

Montana faces a drug crisis that is ripping apart our families and devastating our communities. Meth use and opioid misuse have impacted far too many Montanans. The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services estimates about 64,000 Montanans have a substance use disorder. Addiction hurts not only the addict, but also the addict's family, friends, and community.

Montana business leaders have told Greg that over 50 percent of job applicants can't pass a drug test. Law enforcement officers have told Greg that over 90 percent of burglaries, vandalism, and domestic violence are drug related. Tragically, drug use also contributes to the breakdown of the family with over 4,000 Montana kids in foster care.

It's critical we act. While there is no silver bullet that will end the drug epidemic, there are steps we can take to combat it.

We must focus on prevention and on promoting treatment and recovery for non-violent addicts. Locking them up doesn't help them get clean and healthy.

Treatment courts work. Three years after completing treatment court, 70 percent of graduates are clean and holding a job. Not only do treatment courts help addicts rebuild their lives, but also they cost a fraction of incarceration. Treatment courts pay for themselves and produce a better result. Too many counties, however, don't have a treatment court. As governor, Greg will work to expand this successful program into more communities.

Punish Drug Dealers and Cartels

While treatment and recovery help to reduce the demand for drugs, we must also crack down on drug dealers. As governor, Greg will enforce existing laws and work with the legislature to enact stricter ones against the criminals that push drugs into our communities. Greg will make sure we aggressively pursue and prosecute dealers. By working with local law enforcement, drug pushers and the cartels that supply them will have no sanctuary in Montana.

Stop Sanctuary Cities

We are a nation of laws, but we have seen too many state and local government choose to ignore existing federal immigration laws. In Congress, Greg voted to crack down on sanctuary cities. As governor, Greg will not permit sanctuary cities in Montana.

Crack Down on Fraud

Scammers are also targeting Montanans, particularly our seniors. We're getting called with bogus insurance offers, threats of legal action, and false promises of government grants. Robocall scams put Montanans at risk of being robbed. Scammers constantly try to steal private, personal information—Social Security numbers, credit card numbers, and banking information—from unsuspecting Montanans. The coronavirus crisis has emboldened scam artists who have systematically sought to take economic stimulus payments from individuals.

In Congress, Greg introduced legislation, which President Trump signed into law, that cracks down on illegal robocalls. As governor, Greg will continue his efforts, coordinating with law enforcement officials to curb fraud and scams.

End Human Trafficking

Dangerous, transnational gangs aren't just trafficking in drugs. They're also profiting off more vulnerable populations through human trafficking. The victims of their callous crimes tend to be women, children, the poor, and the addicted. Many are sold into slavery or the sex trade.

In Congress, Greg has cracked down on these gangs and on websites that promote prostitution and human trafficking.

As governor, Greg will work with federal, state, and local law enforcement officials to end human trafficking in Montana. Greg will also work with agencies and organizations to ensure victims of human trafficking have access to assistance, aftercare, and rehabilitation to help them recover and rebuild their lives.

Protect Indigenous Women

Tragically, Native American women face a murder rate 10 times higher than the national average, and 84 percent experience some form of violence in their lifetime.

Last year, Kaysera Stops Pretty Places disappeared. Days later, her body was found beside a wood pile in Hardin. The circumstances of her disappearance and death are unknown.

We face a crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women. They're our sisters, daughters, and granddaughters. They deserve justice, and so do their families.

In 2019, Greg met with Montanans in each of our 56 counties and the eight recognized tribal governments. He heard firsthand about the challenges to ending this crisis. We must do better.

When someone goes missing, time is of the essence. Improving cooperation among local, state, tribal and federal governments is critical. In Congress, Greg introduced Savanna's Act to improve communication among law enforcement. With these improved tools, we can start finding answers and prevent tragedies.

There is more we must do—for Kaysera Stops Pretty Places and the thousands of missing Indigenous women across our country.

As governor, Greg will work with the legislature, federal officials, law enforcement, and tribal governments to address this epidemic, and will use the full resources of the governor's office to end this crisis.

Protect and Promote the Family

Families are the basic fabric of society. Without strong families, kids are less likely to graduate from high school, more frequently live in poverty, and more often end up in jail. Government can't fix this alone. As governor, Greg will partner with community-based programs that strengthen families, so we have better outcomes and our families and communities are healthier and stronger.

Greg will also ensure there is a strong social safety net for individuals with disabilities, seniors, and the most vulnerable among us who need it most.

Greg will also staunchly defend life. Our nation's founders understood the importance of preserving life. Our Constitution explicitly protects life, and our Declaration of Independence clearly states that, as Americans, we enjoy inalienable rights, including "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."



PROTECTING OUR MONTANA WAY OF LIFE

Our rich heritage, public lands, work ethic, freedoms, and liberties contribute to our Montana way of life. We have an obligation to protect it for the generations that follow us.

Protect Our Public Lands

An essential part of our way of life, our public lands are ideal for hiking, hunting, camping, fishing, floating, and all forms of recreation. Greg and Susan raised their four kids recreating on our public lands and instilled in them the importance of them.

When considering public lands policy, Greg is guided by three core principles:

- Keep public lands in public hands
- Increase public access to our public lands
- Listen to the voices of local communities

In Congress, Greg championed and saw signed into law two important public lands measures. First, in 2018, President Trump signed Greg's first bill into law which designated the East Rosebud near Red Lodge as a "wild and scenic river." His bipartisan bill conserved about 20 miles of the creek and secured Montana's first "wild and scenic river" designation in more than 40 years.

Second, Gianforte guided his bipartisan bill to protect the Paradise Valley into law in 2019. Gianforte's law withdraws mineral rights and bans mining operations on public land at the gateway to Yellowstone National Park.



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In both cases, Greg listened to the voices of the impacted communities and acted.

As governor, Greg will continue his commitment to keep public lands in public hands, increase public access to our public lands, and listen to local communities.

We will protect our public lands for all Montanans and for generations to come.

Protect Property Rights While Guaranteeing Public Access

As governor, Greg will uphold our existing stream access laws and look for ways to expand access to other lands while respecting private property rights. In addition, we will increase recreational access by working to reopen gated roads on our public lands.

Promote Better Stewardship of Our Public Lands

Our public lands are not for sale. Period.

They, however, need to be managed better. Because many of Montana's federal forests have not been well cared for, our forests aren't healthy, wildlife habitat is diminished, there are fewer recreational opportunities for Montanans, and our forests are prone to devastating fires.

In Congress, Greg has been a successful champion for forest management reform. Greg sponsored and voted for a bill that provides commonsense, comprehensive reforms, parts of which have been signed into law. Greg understands that meaningful forest management will improve the health of our forests, improve wildlife habitats, create good-paying Montana jobs, and reduce the severity of our wildfires.

With Greg as governor, we will more actively manage our federal lands in Montana through increased use of the Good Neighbor Authority and collaborative stewardship agreements. Greg will continue bringing together conservation organizations, foresters, stakeholders, local leaders, and others who want to be part of a constructive conversation to develop an actionable plan to improve how we manage our forests. The result will be a healthier landscape, more recreational opportunities, more jobs, and less severe wildfires.

Protect and Defend Our Constitutional Rights

Our U.S. Constitution is the best governmental document ever written to ensure liberty and freedom, but we must remain vigilant.

- **Defend Freedom of Speech and Religion** — Our First Amendment is unambiguous: it guarantees our freedom of religion and speech. With Greg as governor, Montanans will be able to exercise their First Amendment rights throughout our state without fear of government encroachment on those rights.
- **Protect Our Gun Rights** — Each person's right to keep and bear arms is part of Montana's, and our nation's, rich heritage. As governor, Greg will defend the Second Amendment-protected rights of Montana's law-abiding gun owners.
- **Fight Against Federal Overreach** — Our Tenth Amendment is very clear: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." The Tenth Amendment was designed to prevent federal overreach, but Montanans have seen too many federal efforts that would undermine our way of life.

As governor, Greg will use the relationships he has built in Washington, D.C., the courts, and all available tools to protect Montana's interests from federal overreach.

GIANFORTE

— JURAS —

GOVERNOR

ABOUT GREG

Greg fell in love with Montana nearly 40 years ago when he first came here on a school trip. Greg built a life, started a small business and raised a family in this state.

Married for 32 years, Greg and Susan raised their four children in Bozeman hunting, fishing, rafting, climbing, skiing and backpacking on Montana's public lands.

They founded RightNow Technologies two decades ago in their Bozeman home, and they grew it into the town's largest commercial employer, creating over 500 high-paying Montana jobs.

Greg spent his entire career focusing on creating jobs and opportunities. He founded five different start-up companies. He's worked to improve Montana's economy through the "Better Montana Jobs" project. He also launched scholarship programs to help low-income students and veterans pursue the education and training they need to start a career in Montana.

After spending 34 years in the private sector, Montanans entrusted Greg to be their voice in Congress. Serving as Montana's congressman, Greg has worked with President Trump to cut taxes, stop job-killing regulations and protect our Montana way of life.

ABOUT KRISTEN

A fourth-generation Montanan, Kristen Juras grew up on her family's ranch near Conrad. As an attorney in private practice in Great Falls, Kristen has helped farmers, ranchers, and small business owners navigate legal issues, and she has provided pro bono services to clients with disabilities who confront homelessness and addiction.

Kristen graduated from the University of Montana, the University of Georgia Law School and she has taught at the University of Montana Law School for 20 years. Kristen ran for the Montana Supreme Court in 2016.

Kristen and her husband of 35 years, John, have three sons and two grandchildren.



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