

# REPRESENTATIVE MARGARETT CAMPBELL



July 20, 2007

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Dear Delegates:

This letter constitutes my formal announcement as a candidate for the Vice Chair position with the Montana Democratic Party. I have carried the banner of the Democratic Party for over thirty-five years, and I now wish to serve the party in a manner, and from a position, that effectively promotes our Democratic ideals and philosophies. I was honored during this past legislative session to be chosen as the Minority Whip, and I am certain that my professional background and proven leadership ability will be an asset to the Democratic Party. My political activism, and my personal belief that our Democratic values best serve our respective constituencies, has led me to step forward and ask to be honored with your support for the position of Vice Chair of the Montana State Democratic Party.

I have led voter registration campaigns, and organized voters since 1972, beginning on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation. I moved to the Fort Peck Indian Reservation in 1996, where I am an enrolled member of the Assiniboine Tribe, and became actively involved with voter registration, voter education and GOTV efforts. Throughout this time, I have been an active participant in the issues of redistricting and reapportionment. I have attended innumerable hearings on this matter, and have testified before each Redistricting Commission. In an effort to obtain Indian Legislative seats, I have been named a Plaintiff against the State of Montana after both the 1990 and 2000 Census. Most seats in the state legislature, currently held by Indians, are a direct result of this process. And, as one can clearly see from the legislative map, the only consistent pockets of Democratic voters in eastern Montana are Indian Reservations.

My involvement in this redistricting and apportionment process began in 1980, because I firmly believe that Indian people of the State of Montana must have a voice of their own. Until the Redistricting Commission acted in good faith, and as a direct result of federal intervention, we as Indian people were willing to support whichever candidate we thought would best represent us. Those days are behind us—we now want to represent ourselves.

By profession, I am a college administrator. Over the past twenty-five years I have been a faculty member, Academic Dean, College President, and Community Services Vice President. I am an evaluator for the Northwest Commission on Colleges, an accrediting agency, covering the states of Montana, Idaho, Utah, Washington, and Oregon. Areas of expertise include fundraising, economic and social development, educational planning, board training, assessment and evaluation techniques, and educational and community leadership. I conduct school board training for K-12 schools, college boards and other non-profit organizations.

I am a leader in field of education and hold a doctorate degree in Educational Leadership and Technology Management from the University of Montana; from MSU-Northern I have received a Masters Degree in Vocational Technical Education Administration, a Bachelor's degree in Business Education, and an Associate Degree in Business Administration/Accounting.

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While most of my professional and political colleagues know of my personal status, for those of you who do not, I would like to introduce my husband, Warren Means. Warren is my ardent supporter, and chief critic. Together we have six children and fourteen grandchildren, all of which bring great joy to our lives. My daughters enjoy professional careers, and my sons have chosen a variety of careers. One son holds a Doctorate of Education degree and is a University professor, while the others have found their calling in the construction trades, as blue-collar workers. All of them are darn fine people.

As Vice Chair of the Montana Democratic Party, I will work tirelessly to elect Democrats from every district across the State. I will support State policies that reflect our Democratic principles and philosophies, and I will continue to promote the dignity and rights of our constituents. Thank you for your support, I will represent your personal and professional interests to the fullest of my ability.

Respectfully,

Margarett H. Campbell

P.S. I welcome the opportunity to discuss my candidacy for Vice-Chair of the Montana Democratic Party with you. Please feel free to contact me at any time at 406.738.3500. Thank you.