



Montana State Legislature
MONTANA SENATE

Open letter to Senator Jonathan Windy Boy

Sen. Windy Boy,

As you are aware, disturbing allegations of sexual misconduct have been made against you. As reported by the press, it is alleged that you engaged in sexually explicit conversations with minors, including at least one attempt to solicit them for sex. You have also been accused of sexually harassing a fellow legislator and a member of legislative staff. These serious allegations, at least some of which are well-documented, establish a pattern of behavior that we believe is disqualifying for anyone holding public office.

Any credible allegation of sexual misconduct with minors is beyond alarming. That potentially criminal activity is a breach of the trust given to you as an elected official. Further, the Montana Senate and the Legislature as a whole have a duty to protect the ability of every legislator, staff person, and member of the public to safely do their jobs and participate in the legislative process in a dignified manner.

We believe that the right thing for you to do for yourself personally, for the Legislature, and for your constituents is to immediately resign from your position in the Senate. We do not request this of you lightly; the gravity of these allegations and the duty we have to protect the integrity of our institution and the people it serves leaves us no choice.

We recognize that you have a right to due process and the presumption of innocence. However, allegations of this nature—involving minors and abuse of position—carry serious implications for the credibility and functioning of the Legislature. The continued controversy surrounding these allegations risks undermining public confidence in the Montana Senate and distracting from the work of the Legislature. Choosing to resign is an opportunity to uphold the high standard that the public expects of its lawmakers and to show your dedication to the dignity of the Montana Senate. We also believe it would be the best decision for you personally, as this issue is not going to go away and will undoubtedly continue to escalate the longer you choose to remain in office.

In order to preserve the integrity and due process of any potential Senate Ethics Committee proceedings during the interim, the Senate Ethics Committee members (Sens. Mandeville, McGillvray, Smith, and Pope) have been recused from signing this letter.

Sincerely,



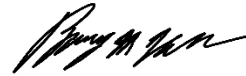
Senator Matt Regier
President



Senator Pat Flowers
Minority Leader



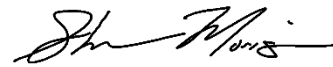
Senator Kenneth Bogner
President Pro-Tempore



Senator Barry Usher



Senator Sue Vinton



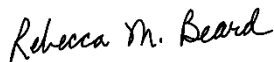
Senator Shane Morigeau



Senator Daniel Zolnikov



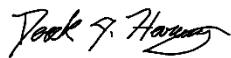
Senator Ellie Boldman



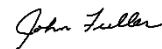
Senator Becky Beard



Senator Willis Curdy



Senator Derek Harvey



Senator John Fuller



Senator Vince Ricci



Senator Mary Ann Dunwell



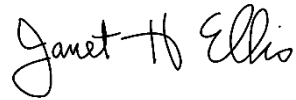
Senator Sara Novak



Senator Wylie Galt



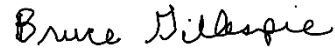
Senator Daniel Emrich



Senator Janet Ellis



Senator Theresa Manzella



Senator Butch Gillespie



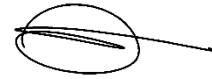
Senator Bob Phalen



Senator Jacinda Morigeau



Senator Carl Glimm



Senator Cora Neumann



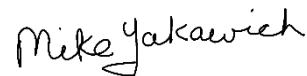
Senator Shelley Vance



Senator Tony Tezak



Senator Josh Kassmier



Senator Mike Yakawich

Senator Dennis Lenz

Senator Gregg Hunter

Senator Greg Hertz

Senator Gayle Lammers

Senator Wendy McKamey

Senator Mark Noland

Senator Mike Cuffe

Senator Jeremy Trebas

Senator Susan Webber

Senator Dave Fern

Senator Emma Kerr-Carpenter