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July 13, 2017

Senator Steve Daines 320 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510-2604

**Dear Senator Daines:** 

As the Executive Director of the Montana Nonprofit Association, I write today to offer wholehearted support of and appreciation for your referral of Kurt Alme to the President for nomination to be U. S. Attorney for Montana.

If I were to search Montana for an individual I believe fitted for this role – someone with a strong legal background, a deep, systemic understanding of serious mental health issues and substance addictions and their impact on Montana's peoples and communities, who is reasoned, smart, a servant to Montana and most important, has integrity – I would recommend Kurt Alme.

I am acquainted with Mr. Alme through our shared work in the nonprofit sector. Mr. Alme is currently the President and General Counsel of the Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch Foundation. He is one of a handful of individuals I find myself turning to for direction or advice on complex issues related to the sector – and I do so for two reasons. First, he has a depth and breadth of experience I appreciate given his work in all three sectors: public, private and nonprofit. Second, he is a good thinker. That might seem an odd phrase, but it is the highest compliment I can pay. I have found Mr. Alme to appreciate all sides of a multifaceted issue while also being decisive. In his work at the Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch Foundation, he has been deeply involved in addressing some of the most serious challenges facing Montana's families and youth. His approach is to analyze the whole picture, determine what systemic approaches will get at the root issue, and take action. This ability to focus, analyze and then act makes him effective, particularly in the face of some of the greatest challenges facing our state: mental illness and substance abuse, including drug abuse. His work with the Ranch Foundation has given him a front row seat to the severity of these issues in Montana, and an understanding of the need for a holistic approach that prioritizes safety, while including prevention and treatment.

I want to speak for a moment to Mr. Alme's character. In the years I've known him, several times I've seen him tackle significant issues that bear on the well-being of the nonprofit sector. In every case, he has done this without fanfare, entirely focused on the outcome, with no regard for who gets the credit. I suspect most nonprofit leaders in the state are unaware of the extent to which Mr. Alme has advanced the common good because he saw what needed to be done and thoughtfully gathered a group to take action. As we say in Montana, he is the real deal.

Senator, like you and me, Mr. Alme has a love for Montana. He has dedicated his career to serving our great state and ensuring our children are safe and our future strong. With tremendous respect for him and complete confidence in his capabilities and suitability for the role, I thank you and am proud to endorse your nomination. Please feel free to contact me at 406-449-3717 or 406-461-4964 if you have questions or I can provide further information.

Sincerely,

Liz Moore, Executive Director