

JON TESTER

Fighting for Young Montanans

Jon Tester is a proud product of public schools, a former school board member, and a former public school teacher himself. He knows firsthand how important education and workforce training are to keep our rural communities strong and maintain our Montana way of life – and he'll never stop fighting for our students, teachers, and parents.

Bringing Down the Cost of Higher Education

Young people shouldn't have to take on crippling debt just to earn a degree, and Jon is fighting to make college more affordable. Since 2021, Jon helped secure a \$900 increase to the maximum federal Pell Grant award, bringing it to \$7,395 per year. He also supported making Pell Grants available year-round.

Jon fought to allow student loan borrowers to refinance their debt, so that college graduates have the same opportunity as everyone else to get control of their finances, boost their credit score, and find lower-interest options for paying off their loans.

Jon Tester led the fight to hold Education Secretary Betsy DeVos accountable for her disastrous management of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) and Temporary Expanded Public Service Loan Forgiveness programs, which provide debt relief to Montanans who go into teaching, nursing, law enforcement, or other public service after graduation. Jon also passed legislation to ensure that those working to qualify for PSLF did not face penalties for missing payments due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Helping Young Montanans Afford Housing

Montana is facing a housing crisis, and young people are some of the hardest hit. Jon is working to combat the crisis of youth homelessness in America and secured \$3.5 million in grant funding to help support young people without permanent housing in Montana.

“Young Montanans are our future. As things get more expensive in Montana, it’s getting harder for our kids to get good-paying jobs and start their lives here. I’m working hard to bring down the cost of a college degree, make housing more affordable, and protect health care access for young people across our state...”

Jon Tester

Reproductive Freedom and Health Care

Jon is fighting to reinstate the protections of *Roe v. Wade* and voted for the *Women’s Health Protection Act*, which would have codified them into federal law. He slammed the Supreme Court’s decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade* because it has had a disastrous impact across the country, leaving women vulnerable to draconian abortion bans and restrictions on reproductive health care.

JON TESTER FOR U.S. SENATE

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Montanans don't want politicians or judges stripping away their personal freedoms, and they don't want the federal government in their bedrooms. Jon voted in support of the *Right to Contraception Act* to protect access to birth control.

Jon pushed Walgreens and CVS to continue providing medication abortion in pharmacies across the country to ensure rural Montana women have continued access to the health care they need.

Protecting LGBTQ+ Montanans

Jon has consistently been an original cosponsor of the *Equality Act* to amend the *Civil Rights Act* of 1964 to ban discrimination of LGBTQ+ Americans. Jon voted in support of the *Respect for Marriage Act* in 2022 to enshrine into law the requirement for all states in the country to honor and recognize same-sex marriages. This is one of the first bills that provides clear protections for LGBTQ+ people.

Investing in a Renewable Energy Future

Jon Tester sees the effects of our changing climate every day on his farm, where significant droughts

have led to some of the toughest harvests in recent years. Jon proudly supported tax credits for renewable energy production to create Montana jobs and reduce energy costs.

Apprenticeships & Job Trainings

A four-year degree isn't the right path for everyone to start their careers, and that's why Jon is fighting for apprenticeship programs and job training opportunities. Jon is relentlessly defending Montana's Job Corps and fought off attempts to shutter the Trapper Creek and Anaconda Job Corps Centers in 2019. Jon then successfully pushed the Biden administration to reopen the centers during the pandemic.

The Next Generation of Ag Producers

Jon still farms the same land that his grandparents homesteaded 100 years ago and knows how critically important family agriculture is. Jon is working hard to provide resources and support for the next generation of Montana's farmers and ranchers. He secured \$1.5 million in USDA resources for four Montana organizations targeted at teaching and training young farmers and ranchers through the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program.

Jon also introduced legislation to reverse a rule that jeopardizes FAFSA for those who have family farmland to ensure young Montanans from rural areas receive the aid they need to access higher education.

Protecting Hunter Education

Teaching hunter safety and shooting sports classes is a Montana tradition. When the Biden administration threatened funding for hunters' education programs in Montana, Jon Tester forced them to reverse course and successfully protected the funding.



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