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For Immediate Release: Thursday, August 12, 2010

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Promoting Wasteful Spending and the Candidates Who Support It

Red Lodge - On Thursday and Friday, Governor Schweitzer will be in Red Lodge to promote a local Democrat for State Senate and the costly solar panel project he voted for while on City Council. According to assumptions used by the City of Red Lodge, the panels will cost approximately \$594,000 while saving only \$5,551 annually on electricity - a stunningly wasteful payback of 107 years that exceeds the warranted life of the panels by 82 years. The public will be paying for these solar panels long after the panels are in the landfill.

"Washington's big spenders have found willing partners right here in Montana," says Jason Priest, Republican candidate for State Senate District 30 (Carbon, Stillwater, and Sweetgrass Counties). "While on the City Council, I voted against this financially wasteful, one-size-fits-all Washington DC energy experiment and in Helena I'll champion environmentally responsible, proven, cost-effective, Montana-made energy."

Montana faces unprecedented budget shortfalls as a result of out-of-control spending. Beginning with the 2005 legislative session, state spending has increased by 49% while household wages have increased only 14% through 2008. Yes, Montana's government spending has been growing three times as fast as the taxpayers' income.

Priest added that the solar panel project in Red Lodge is just one example of the wasteful spending in out-of-control government that will burden current and future generations. "The best way to end wasteful, job-killing spending and the growth of government in Washington and Helena is to elect people who believe in Montana energy and Montana's workers. We need less Washington DC in our approach to government and a lot more common-sense Montana-thinking if we are going to put people back to work."

Jason Priest is the fifth generation to reside and raise children in Montana. He lives in Red Lodge with his wife Anna and their three children. Jason has twice been elected to the City Council in Red Lodge and owns businesses in Montana and in other states. He has been active on energy and health care issues important to Montanans as the Executive Director of the Montana Growth Network.

www.Priest2010.com

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