Senator Steve Daines 30 West 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 206 Helena, MT 59601

RE: Recommendation for Kurt Alme for U.S. Attorney for Montana

Senator Daines,

Please consider this letter of support for you to recommend Kurt Alme as President Trump's appointee to United States Attorney for the District of Montana. I have known Kurt for over fifteen years, and consider him not only an outstanding attorney, but a public servant with impeccable integrity who will serve Montana well.

Kurt's experience managing a large state government agency, helping lead the U.S. Attorney's office, and leading the Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch Foundation, demonstrate leadership skills that are unique and finely honed. In each of these challenges, he took on a large and complex organization, identified significant problems, and worked methodically with talented people to solve them. There is no doubt that Kurt is the ideal leader for this assignment.

I am the elected County Attorney for Broadwater County. As a member of a joint state and federal drug task force, my office struggles mightily to attack the drug epidemic that is ravaging many of Montana's communities. I have enjoyed working with the federal agencies, but I know there is much more we can do. Kurt Alme is already an experienced federal prosecutor, having successfully attacked both drug traffickers and their money network. He brings the talent, experience, and aggressiveness to improve federal investigations and prosecutions of large, complex drug cases. I am eager to work alongside him in this cause to protect our communities.

Finally, every prosecutor or law enforcement officer must do this job with a large dose of compassion. We encounter broken homes and people in dire need on a daily basis. Sometimes they are the victims, but they are also often the perpetrators of crime. In each case, we must understand what is truly needed to achieve justice. I am confident that Kurt brings that same compassion and dedication to justice to his job and his life.

I say this because Kurt has been known as a leader in the mental health care field for his entire legal career. He has dedicated many hours as a volunteer leader of community organizations to serve others in need. And his work at the Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch Foundation has been a labor of love, motivated by a desire to help young lives that have been devastated by others and events beyond their control. Kurt has done these things because of his compassion, and has turned down a much more lucrative legal career along the way.

There is no better candidate for the job of United States Attorney for the District of Montana than Kurt Alme. He has the experience of a leader who ran this office effectively, as well as the perspective of an outside observer who can envision new achievements. Kurt is a brilliant and competent attorney. More importantly, he is a man of integrity and compassion. In each case, and in each decision, I trust he will seek to achieve justice and do the right thing.

I am proud to call Kurt Alme my friend, and I urge you to recommend his appointment to President Donald Trump to be Montana's U.S. Attorney.

Sincerely,

Cory/J. Swanson 210 North Cherry St.

Townsend, MT 59644