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April 6, 2017

U.S. Senator Steve Daines
30 West 14th Street, Suite 206
Helena, Montana 59601

RE: Kurt Alme recommendation for United States Attorney

Dear Senator Daines:

It is my privilege to recommend to you Kurt Alme for the position of United States Attorney for the State of Montana. As set forth more fully below, I do not believe there to be a better or more qualified candidate at a time in our country and state's history where that position must have a significant impact. Our children's futures are at stake. Montana needs a person with the character, intelligence, and commitment to excel as our United States Attorney. Mr. Alme's exceptional character and intelligence, combined with his vast breadth of experience, make him uniquely qualified to perform the duties of Montana's United States Attorney in the best possible manner.

As a Senior Counsel for the Montana Department of Revenue for the past nearly 22 years, I worked very closely with Mr. Alme from 2001 through part of 2003 while he was Director of the Department. That period of time was a tumultuous time for the Department, as severe budget cuts due to difficult economic times and an expensive failed computer system left from the prior administration combined to create not only difficult political issues, but also complex Department wide management decisions. In the face of all of this adversity, Mr. Alme demonstrated his exceptional character and integrity as he skillfully navigated the Department through this most difficult time. In handling these issues before the Montana Legislature, his honesty was beyond reproach, and people from both sides of the political aisle showed him great respect because of it. In the current political atmosphere, there is no better person than Mr. Alme to perform the difficult task as United States Attorney while at the same time helping mend the great political divides.

In addition to his excellent management skills and ability to earn the respect of people from diverse political backgrounds, Mr. Alme is also a supremely qualified attorney. While I had no experience with Mr. Alme in the realm of criminal law, my role as the Senior litigator for the Montana Department of Revenue placed me in the position to spend long hours with him developing complex civil litigation positions, strategy, and tactics. It was during this time with Mr. Alme that he demonstrated to me his superior legal abilities.

Mr. Alme's tenure as Director of the Department came at the time of electric and natural gas deregulation, and with that came significant litigation concerning the tax treatment of certain businesses in the new realm. Often, litigation strategy was complex and the results of positions

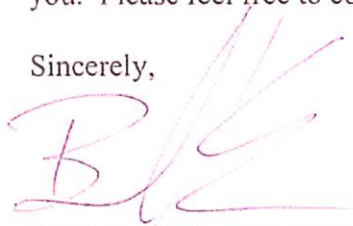
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taken by the Department would have significant impacts on taxing jurisdictions as diverse as the Whitewater, Montana School District to infrastructure projects in Missoula. Mr. Alme worked tirelessly with me on most decisions made because he truly cared about any effect our positions would have on every citizen in Montana. He demonstrated his understanding of the intricacies of complex litigation and their far reaching effects. He always questioned and analyzed any strategic decision with me. This resulted in not only improving my skills as his counsel, but also the best possible outcome for Montana and its citizens.

Regardless of what decisions Mr. Alme made during his time as Director of the Montana Department of Revenue, he always put Montana citizens' well-being as his top priority. I never witnessed him putting politics or personal differences before the best interest of Montanans. He is a true statesman with an incredible legal mind and unquestionable character. Mr. Alme's diverse experience, combined with his character and integrity, make him the best possible candidate to be Montana's next United States Attorney. I am both honored and humbled to be presenting you with my recommendation.

Should you have any questions for me about Mr. Alme, I would be happy to discuss them with you. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,



BRENDAN R. BEATTY