



EXHIBIT 198

DATE 1/22/15

3 198

**MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE**

**LINDA McCULLOCH**

HB 198: Candidate Titles on Ballots  
House State Administration, Rm 445  
January 22, 2015 @ 9:00 a.m.  
Secretary of State Linda McCulloch's Testimony:

- Good afternoon Mr. Chair, members of the committee. For the record, I am Linda McCulloch, Montana Secretary of State.
- I support House Bill 198, which would prohibit listing a person's title on the ballot. This has been the official policy of the Secretary of State's office.
- Although current statute does not expressly prohibit the use of titles, 13-12-205 MCA says "...candidates' names must be arranged alphabetically on the ballot.....". Black's Law Dictionary defines "name" as "a word or phrase identifying or designating a person or thing and distinguishing that person or thing from others".
- A title does not identify or designate a person or distinguish a person from others, nor is a title part of a person's name, and it is under this premise that the Secretary of State has not allowed titles on ballots.
- Although this has been the policy, it is nice to have it specified in law. Thank you Representative Regier for bringing this bill.

*McCulloch*  
(6)

10/10/10  
10/10/10  
10/10/10

10/10/10  
10/10/10  
10/10/10  
10/10/10