

WHY MONTANA NEEDS AMERICAN LAWS FOR AMERICAN COURTS

Some 235 years ago, America's forefathers gathered in Philadelphia to debate and write a unique document. That single-page document announced the formation of a new country—one that would no longer find itself in the clutches of a foreign power. That document was the Declaration of Independence. Eleven years later, many of those same men gathered again to lay the foundation for how the United States of America was to be governed: The US Constitution, a form of government like no other *by the people, of the people and for the people*.

For more than two centuries, hundreds of thousands of courageous men and women have given their lives to protect America's sovereignty and freedom.

American constitutional rights must be preserved in order to preserve unique American values of liberty and freedom. State legislatures have a role to play in preserving constitutional rights and American values of liberty and freedom. If States did not have such a role to play, why then do states have constitutions which often mirror, echo and reinforce the US constitution?

America has unique values of liberty which do not exist in some foreign legal systems. Included among, but not limited to, those values and rights are:

- Freedom of Religion
- Freedom of Speech
- Freedom of the Press
- Due Process
- Right to Privacy
- Right to Keep and Bear Arms

Civil and Criminal Law Serve as the Bedrock for American Values: We are a nation of laws. Unfortunately, increasingly, foreign laws and legal doctrines are finding their way into US court cases.

Invoking foreign laws and foreign legal doctrines, especially in family law cases, is a means of imposing an agenda on the American people while circumventing the US and state constitutions by using foreign laws which do not recognize our constitutional rights and liberties in US courts. The potential impact of using foreign and international laws and legal doctrines in US courts on the liberty of ordinary American citizens are as profound as they are despairing. The embrace of foreign legal systems, some of which are inherently hostile to our constitutional liberties, is a violation of the principles on which our nation was founded.

The founders of our nation believed that the United States of America and its individual states should never be subservient to any foreign power, country or legal system and that no foreign power, country or legal system should be allowed to encroach upon our rights under the Constitution.

The purpose of American Laws for American Courts is to preserve the sovereignty of US and Montana and their respective Constitutions by preventing the encroachment of foreign laws and legal systems that run counter to our individual, fundamental constitutional liberties and freedoms. By passing American Laws for American Courts, the Montana legislature will be preserving fundamental *individual* liberties and freedoms which become eroded by the encroachment of foreign laws and foreign legal doctrines.

It is imperative that we safeguard our Constitutions' fundamentals, particularly the individual guarantees in the Bill of Rights, the sovereignty of our Nation and its people, and the principles of the rule of law—*American laws, not foreign laws.*

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February 5, 2015