



WYOMING HOUSE *of* REPRESENTATIVES

February 4, 2022

The Honorable Eric Barlow
Speaker, Wyoming House of Representatives

Dear Speaker Barlow,

I appreciate you giving me the opportunity to respond to a complaint submitted '*as to whether I am acting outside my district of representation.*'

I have proudly served House District 43 in Laramie County for seventeen years as their representative in the Wyoming Legislature. As a 5th generation resident of Laramie County, where my family homesteaded in 1880, my husband and I are grateful to be raising the 6th generation of Wyomingites. My family has been committed to public service throughout Laramie County's history, with the first political foray starting with my great-great grandmother running for the Wyoming State Legislature in 1932. Over a century-and-a-half, the lineage of postmasters, teachers, business owners, firefighters, and civil servants in every generation of my family has helped grow our community and make it into what we know and love today. I remain humbled to have been elected to serve in public office representing my hometown, and have won re-election eight times, (six of them in contested races) now serving the people for my 9th term. I am as active as ever in my community, everything from attending community events, auctioneering large fundraisers, frequenting locally owned retail businesses, involving myself with my 8th grader's educational pursuits at Johnson Jr. High, and teaching political science and legislative law classes at Laramie County Community College in the heart of House District 43.

Undoubtedly, I represent my constituents well. The power of incumbency mixed with hard work and gained knowledge puts me at a significant advantage of representing my community's and my

constituent's interests far above when I was a new member to the legislature. Each of our colleagues are aware of my work product in the Wyoming Legislature. For eight years now I've served as both a standing committee chairman and select committee chairman, formerly serving as vice-chairman of multiple standing committees; I've held multiple duties within our caucus, and am now overseeing the decennial process of reapportionment of the Wyoming Legislature. It remains the highest privilege of my life to give my all toward making a positive difference in the future of Wyoming.

I believe the complaint stems from happenings in my life over the past year. During my term an unexpected opportunity became available, requiring me to put the best interests of my family first. This caused serious decision-making on how I best continue giving my full energies to competing obligations as a spouse, a parent, a foster parent, teacher, and a part-time citizen legislator with a full-time job. Due to our family situation, I currently spend significant time staying east of town outside the House 43 District boundary. As this life change was unexpected and occurred after the onset of my term in 2021, I pursued options to both continue my legislative commitment and keep our youngest child in LCSD#1 to finish junior high. I have always believed and continue to fully believe after discussing with multiple attorneys and legislators, that I am well-within the law to maintain multiple properties and divide my time as I see fit in order to manage the responsibilities and duties of my daily life.

I swore my oath to the State of Wyoming to serve my constituents in the 66th Wyoming Legislature, after receiving their vote to a 9th term in continuing to represent them. I take my oath and that promise seriously, and fully intend to continue the promise I made to give my District my all throughout the 66th Wyoming Legislature.

Again, thank you for giving me the opportunity to respond.

I remain,



Representative Dan Zwonitzer
Wyoming House District 43