

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Global Strategy Group
DATE: August 27, 2020
RE: **MONTANA POLL RESULTS: Race for Governor a Dead Heat**

A poll of likely general election voters in Montana, conducted between August 18 and August 23 of 2020, shows that Lieutenant Governor Mike Cooney is in a dead heat with his opponent, Congressman Greg Gianforte. Further, general election voters overwhelmingly believe Mike Cooney will do a better job protecting Montana's public lands and will be a better candidate to bring Republicans and Democrats together to get things done. With the momentum on his side, it's clear that Mike Cooney has the credentials and the profile to deliver for voters. Key findings from Global Strategy Group's recent poll of 600 likely general election voters statewide are as follows:

KEY SURVEY FINDINGS:

- **The race for governor is a dead heat.** Cooney is now down 1 point against his opponent, Greg Gianforte (46% Cooney/47% Gianforte).
- **Cooney is more well-liked than his opponent.** Cooney maintains a strong net favorability with voters (42% favorable/30% unfavorable, +12 net favorability). Conversely, his opponent, who is near-universally known, is underwater with voters (43% favorable/49% unfavorable, -6 net favorability).
- **Cooney is seen as a candidate who will do a better job protecting public lands and bringing Republicans and Democrats together.** By a double-digit margin, voters trust Cooney to protect their public lands over Gianforte (47% Cooney/37% Gianforte) and believe Cooney will do a better job at bringing Republicans and Democrats together to get things done for the state (42% Cooney/32% Gianforte). Past research shows that these two issues are top priorities for voters when choosing their next governor.
- **Despite Republicans dumping money in the race this summer, Cooney has successfully tightened the race since June.** An earlier poll conducted by Global Strategy Group showed Cooney trailing by 4 points, and despite the money spent against him, Cooney has successfully closed the gap in this race.

The bottom line is this: Lieutenant Governor Mike Cooney has the background, profile, and proven track record to get results for Montana. Mike Cooney has voters' trust to address pressing challenges head on, like protecting their public lands and bringing Republicans and Democrats together to get things done for the state. It's why Montanans chose Cooney as their Lieutenant Governor in 2016, and it is why he is in a great position to capitalize on his strong profile in the race against Gianforte again this year.

ABOUT THIS POLL

Global Strategy Group conducted a telephone survey of 600 likely general election voters in Montana between August 18th and 23rd, 2020.