

Subject: Who is Brent Bien for Governor



Brent Bien, Republican Primary Candidate for Governor of Wyoming

My platform is to make Wyoming the freest state in the nation. Wyoming's rightful place is #1.

People come first. The people of Wyoming know best how to run their lives and businesses, not Cheyenne and not Washington D.C.. My job as governor is to remove obstacles so people have a level playing field to live and work without government interference.

I plan on doing that by actively and aggressively protecting personal freedoms including private property rights, Second Amendment rights, rights of the unborn, and making sure parents have primacy over the decisions for their children.

I strongly support our 2nd Amendment rights and believe that they secure the rest of our Constitutional liberties. Our Forefathers knew that to preserve freedom, the ultimate authority must reside with the people and not the government. My oath is to defend our Constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic; there is no expiration date on my oath.

I was convinced to run for governor after watching for years as Cheyenne bowed to federal overreach and refused to look out for the best interests of the people in Wyoming. The Governor's poor handling of the COVID pandemic reinforced the idea. After shutting down the state and declaring a state of emergency with just one case of COVID, we saw the governor put our freedom on the table and into the hands of unelected health officials who imposed draconian restrictions on all of us. When we protested he called us "Knuckleheads". Wyoming is 20,000 square miles larger and 300,000 people fewer than South Dakota and they were open for business, but Wyoming was closed down. I WILL NOT CLOSE WYOMING DOWN!

Greater government accountability is at the top of my agenda. I will do everything I can to regain the trust of our citizenry in our government by adhering to our state Constitution. The Legislature belongs to the people and voter integrity is the essence of our Republic. Every vote must count for the intended candidate and eliminating crossover voting deserves a hearing on the Legislature's floor, not shelved in the Speakers desk.

It's time we get our budget under control and be accountable to the people for all expenditures. I do not believe that we have any idea how much money it really takes to run this state, because we've never done a governmental redundancy analysis. I want to omit all redundancies, optimize our state government, and transition to cash-based/performance-based budgeting immediately followed by routine, recurring statewide audits. We need to determine how much money we actually need to run this state while simultaneously cutting taxes. With the energy we produce, there is no reason why we can't be like Alaska and return a dividend to Wyoming Citizens.

I will work with the federal government as long as it benefits the state of Wyoming and does not encroach upon our personal freedoms or the sovereignty of our state.

EDUCATION

Our greatest natural resource is our children. With over \$18,000 spent annually on each K-12 student, we should have the best public education system in the nation but we do not. We test our students but it may be time to test our teachers.

Changing Wyoming's education system is one of my top priorities. I intend to reinstate the basics of objective teaching across our public education system and require technical skills training in our high schools. Parents are the best teachers and must know through full transparency what is being taught to their children. As a strong supporter of school choice and education vouchers, competition between public and private education will increase education quality while reducing education costs. After receiving over \$1 billion in COVID relief money, Wyoming is required by the federal government to maintain and teach Common Core; I know that folks are not happy with that.

UW is a separate story that needs to be addressed. Over the last 20 years, the university has seen only a slight increase in student enrollment but has seen a significant increase in educators and tuition costs. Furthermore, given much of the "woke" curricula that is now being offered, UW is quickly transitioning from the land grant institution it was intended to be into the liberal arts college that the governor believes it is. Less than 5% of Wyoming's employment requires a college degree. Our kids have to leave the state to find a job. Why is that? UW has a \$800 million endowment so why is the taxpayer paying hundreds of millions per year on top?

ENERGY

I want to change how Wyoming's natural resources are perceived. For over a generation, the left has lied about the adverse effects of gas, oil, and coal; our young people are taught that each is bad. However, gas, oil, and particularly coal are just as important to our future as they were to our past. They are essential to our national and state sovereignty and energy independence. Did you know that we, the taxpayer, pay for wind turbines not to produce electricity? It is all subsidized. All sectors of energy must carry their own weight.

Wyoming produces 14 times more energy than it uses but I want us to produce much more. I want energy redundancy across all energy sectors but we must first standardize the permitting process to ensure that it is fair across the board.

We have a Commerce Clause fight ahead. Our state is land locked and denied access to the Pacific ports to ship our products to overseas markets. We are a sovereign state and denying us access to these markets is wrong. We can't fly our coal to India and Korea. I intend to do something about that.

Foreign interest and big money are buying our state. New World Order oligarchs like George Soros own controlling interests in Peabody and Arch Coal, the largest coal mines in America while Bill Gates plans to use billions of Biden's Green New Deal money to replace the Naughton power plant in Kemmerer with a frightening Nuclear plant that produces weapons grade uranium as a by-product. We must control our energy destination.

PERSONAL



Brent and Wife Susan

My wife Susan and I are Christian conservatives and believe that God alone grants freedom. All of my points of view are Constitutionally and the Biblically based. As a native of Laramie, I love our country and have traveled across our state promoting freedom and the greatness of Wyoming.

As a retired Marine Corps officer and aviator of nearly three decades, I flew Super Cobra Attack Helicopters in over 200 combat missions in support of contingency and combat operations in Bosnia/Herzegovina, Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq. I retired in 2019 at the rank of Colonel after finishing my military career as Officer-in-Charge of the U.S. Marine Corps base on Guam. Although I was stationed around our nation, I maintained my Wyoming residency the entire time.



Brent briefs Undersecretary of Defense

With a background in engineering earned from the University of Wyoming, I understand building things and their associated budgets. Politics is nothing new. As a military neighbor, I interfaced with civilian authorities on a daily basis and was instrumental in shaping legislation in North Carolina, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. I had extensive experience building diverse groups to work together for a common goal, as recently as my leadership position on Guam where various governments, environmental groups, and local citizens coalesced to build the Marine Corp base.

GOVERNORS RACE

I understand how difficult the road to the governor's office will be during this year's race. And, despite the entrenched establishment in Cheyenne, my rallying cry is "Make Wyoming number one!" Wyoming's rightful place is on top and we should settle for nothing less than being #1! The freest state in our nation!

Instead of taking the lead, Wyoming jumped on the bandwagon in several federal lawsuits against federal overreach, limitations on oil and gas leases on federal lands, and COVID vaccination mandates.

I want to see more pro-action out of our current administration — and I can assure you, we will be far more proactive if you elect me as the next governor of the great state of Wyoming!

I ask for your vote on August 16th to be the next Governor of Wyoming!

Sincerely,
Brent
Brent Bien
Republican Candidate
for Governor of Wyoming