

Legislative Program – 18 Annual Conference

Public Programs & Services

MFPE *supports* legislation to:

1. Fund a collectively bargained state employee pay plan.
2. Invest in public programs and services through career ladders and educational opportunities.
3. Provide state funding to build, maintain, and improve public schools and facilities.
4. Reimburse employees' reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred while on state business or at mandated state professional development.

MFPE *opposes* legislation to:

5. Privatize public programs and services.
6. Limit or deny opportunities for public employees to serve in public office.
7. Authorize weapons in public buildings including schools and the state Capitol.

Public Education

MFPE *supports* legislation to:

8. Expand formula driven state funded public education opportunities to all pre-k school age children.
9. Fund annual stipends for teachers who earn National Board Certification.
10. Support public charter programs and schools pursuant to board of public education rules.
11. Maintain state funding of the Montana Digital Academy.
12. Annually inflate state special education funding.
13. Mandate compulsory enrollment from age 6 to age 18 or completion of high school diploma or equivalent.

14. Fund 70% of the academic costs of the Montana University System.

MFPE **opposes** legislation to:

15. Directly or indirectly invest taxpayer dollars in private (including charter schools) and religious schools.
16. Dictate school accreditation and teacher licensure standards, curricula, and methods of instruction.
17. Authorize school districts to employ non-licensed persons as professional educators.
18. Diminish or repeal Montana teacher tenure.
19. Authorize school employees to carry guns in public pre-k through higher education schools.

Union Rights

MFPE **opposes** legislation to:

20. Truncate the right of all public and private sector employees to organize and bargain collectively.
21. Repeal fair share negotiated provisions and/or exclusive representation.
22. Prohibit payroll deduction of union dues.

Taxation and Revenue

MFPE **supports** legislation to:

23. Create and maintain a state tax system that is adequate, equitable, balanced, simple, progressive, and universal.

MFPE **opposes** legislation to:

24. Eliminate property or income taxes.

Retirement

MFPE *supports* legislation to:

25. Increase state funding of the Montana University System Retirement Plan.
26. Ensure actuarial soundness of all public employee pension plans.

MFPE *opposes* legislation to:

27. Eliminate public employee defined benefit retirement plans.
28. Reduce or eliminate guaranteed annual benefit adjustments in public employee pensions.

Health Care

MFPE *supports* legislation to:

29. Expand Medicaid to eligible Montana citizens.
30. Expand school employee health care options.
31. Expand state employee health care centers and other cost saving opportunities providing quality health care benefits.

Voter Rights

MFPE *opposes* legislation to:

32. Deny any eligible citizen easy opportunity to register and vote.

Public Lands

MFPE *opposes* legislation to:

33. Transfer federal public property to state or private ownership and restrict or eliminate public access to state and federal land and water.