



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Christensen Announces Bid for U.S. House of Representatives** *Cites Washington's War on Wyoming's Energy & Agriculture as "Battle We Must Fight, We Must Win"*

**Alta, Wyoming** – Citing concerns over the continual, job-killing overreach of the federal government into Wyoming, Wyoming State Senator Leland Christensen (R-Alta) announced today he is running for Wyoming's lone seat in the United States House of Representatives.

"I cannot stand idly by and watch as Washington wages war on our economy. The Obama Administration's recent suspension of coal leases on federal lands is an all too common example of how Washington is taking aim at Wyoming families," Christensen said. "I simply won't allow this assault on our way of life to go unaddressed."

"Washington's heavy-handed regulations are not only a threat to our energy industry and the jobs it supports, but a threat to our families, our schools, our lands and our Wyoming way of life," Christensen said. "The battle for Wyoming jobs is one we must fight, and we must win."

"My dad used to say to me, 'Leland, leave it better than you found it.' I've always tried to apply that to all aspects of my life – our ranch, community, church, the Sheriff's office or the State Legislature," Christensen said. "That's what I intend to do for Wyoming people in Washington."

**Christensen announced his campaign today with the backing of community leaders from across the state including current and former state legislators, county commissioners, party leaders and sheriffs. Annaliese Wiederspahn, a fifth-generation Wyoming native from Cheyenne, is chairing Christensen's campaign.** Wiederspahn is the daughter of former Wyoming state legislator Alvin Wiederspahn and Congressman Cynthia Lummis.

"We only have one voice in the U.S. House, so it better be authentic. Leland Christensen knows the value of an honest day's work. Leland knows what it is to fight to make ends

meet. Leland is tough. In other words, Leland Christensen is a true Wyoming guy,” said Wiederspahn. “I’m not worried that Leland will go back to Washington and get caught up in political games or personal ambition. I am confident he will use his voice and our vote to put Wyoming families first.”

“Wyoming’s congressional delegation is small in size, but enormous in impact,” Christensen said. “In Wyoming, we know how to do more with less. I will take that mentality to Washington and push the federal government to rein in job-killing regulation, runaway spending and the vast intrusions into our livelihoods.”

“A big part of that success has come from their ability to work together – combining efforts to keep the focus on doing what is best for Wyoming. It’s a team that gets things done and we’ve seen that with Senator Enzi, Senator Barrasso and Representative Lummis. I know and respect them, and I can be part of that team, representing Wyoming and fighting for her people everyday.”

-End-

**Enclosures:**

- Biography on Leland Christensen
- Christensen for Wyoming Statewide Committee List

*Biography:*

Leland Christensen, a Wyoming State Senator and Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, is a fifth generation Wyoming native. He served 15 years in the 19th Special Forces Airborne Army and the National Guard and is a Wyoming lawman, working in the Teton County and Lincoln County Sheriff’s offices for 20 years. Christensen was twice elected to the Teton County Board of Commission and is currently serving his second term in the Wyoming Senate.

Christensen’s family first moved to Wyoming to work in the coal mines and later built successful farming, cattle, and sheep operations. Christensen grew up in Alta, Wyoming where his father was a teacher and small business owner. The Republican lawmaker was raised moving water and hauling hay, feeding cattle and chasing horses. Over the years, Christensen and his family were very involved with 4-H where he helped his children raise bulls, steers and pigs.

Christensen’s rich heritage - rooted in Wyoming agriculture, energy, law enforcement and education - is the driving force behind his run to represent Wyoming in Washington.

Christensen started in small business as a logger and continues today as an auctioneer. He has volunteered for and served on a variety of local and state governing and non-governing boards including the Commission on Judicial Conduct and Ethics, Salvation Army, Crime Stoppers and the Teton County Fair Board. A 20 year Rotarian and past

Rotary Foundation President, Christensen is an active member of American Legion Post 43, a former Scoutmaster and 4-H leader.

Christensen is in his sixth year on the Senate Judiciary Committee and currently serves as Chairman. He has spent four years on the Travel Recreation Wildlife and Cultural Resources Committee, and two years on the Agriculture Committee.

A lifelong sportsman, Christensen holds an 'A' rating from the National Rifle Association (NRA) for his staunch support of Second Amendment rights. The National Federation of Small Business Wyoming chapter has previously endorsed him. He is ranked 4th in the 2015 Wyoming Senate Liberty index for his consistent support of bills that uphold the individual liberty of Wyoming citizens.

Christensen has been married to his wife, Anita, for 35 years. Together, they have five children and seven grandchildren.

*Initial Members of Christensen's Statewide Campaign Committee include:*

### **Southeast Wyoming**

Annaliese Wiederspahn, Laramie County  
Danny Glick, Laramie County Sheriff, Laramie County  
Larry Hicks, Wyoming State Senator Carbon & Albany Counties  
Fred Emerich, Wyoming State Senator, Laramie County  
Terry Weickum, Carbon County

### **Central Wyoming**

Skip Hornecker, Fremont County Sheriff, Fremont County  
Gerry Geis, Wyoming State Senator, Washakie, Park, Bighorn & Hot Springs Counties  
John Lumley, Hot Springs County Commissioner, Hot Springs County  
Brad Basse, Hot Springs County Commissioner, Hot Springs County

### **Northeast Wyoming**

Tyler Lindholm, Wyoming State Representative, Crook County  
Ogden Driskill, Wyoming State Senator, Crook, Weston & Campbell Counties  
Chris Smith, Campbell County  
Scott Matheny, Campbell County Sheriff, Campbell County  
Rita Lubnau, Campbell County  
Richard Ladwig, Niobrara County Commissioner, Wyoming County Commissioners Association President, Niobrara County  
Jesus Rios, Sheridan Town Councilor, Sheridan County  
Bob Rolston, Sheridan County Commissioner/Chairman, Sheridan County

### **Northwest Wyoming**

Hank Coe, Wyoming State Senator, Park County  
Deb Simpson, Park County  
Ray Peterson, Wyoming State Senator, Big Horn & Park Counties

Bud Betts, Former State Representative, Fremont & Teton Counties  
JuliAnne Forrest, Teton County  
Paul Vogelheim, Teton County Commissioner, Teton County  
Mark Barron, Former Mayor of Jackson, Teton County  
Ruth Ann Petroff, Wyoming State Representative, Teton County  
Dan Dockstader, Wyoming State Senator, Lincoln, Teton & Sublette Counties  
Shane Johnson, Lincoln County Sheriff, Lincoln County

**Southwest Wyoming**

Ryan Bell, Sweetwater County  
Kade Bell, Sweetwater County  
Kathy Davison, Former Wyoming State Representative, Lincoln, Sublette & Sweetwater Counties