

2018 Election Campaign

Hello Sublette County, this is Albert Sommers. I intend to run for re-election to House District 20, and I am asking for your support. I have had the pleasure of serving Sublette County in the Wyoming House of Representatives for three terms (six years). Though HD 20 does not encompass all of Sublette County, I have always sought and valued input from all county residents.

During my time in the Legislature I have served on three standing committees: Minerals, Business, and Economic Development; Education; and currently the Appropriations Committee. I have also served on one Select Committee on digital privacy, and on multiple select committees dealing with education issues. I have served as Co-Chair of the Select Committee on School Finance. I have steadfastly supported K12 education and more local control of education. During my most recent term in office, I had the privilege of being elected Majority Whip by House Republicans.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I played an integral part in developing Wyoming's budget for the 2019/2020 biennium. This committee requires a tremendous amount of time, but I have learned a great deal about the internal workings of state government. Wyoming needs to obtain a greater rate of return from its investments, as we have billions of dollars in constitutionally inviolate trust funds, and we need to continue to modernize our revenue flows to reflect where our challenges currently exist. By starting down this path last session, we found a way to replace the loss of federal Coal Lease Bonus money, which had paid for K12 major maintenance and capital construction for the last decade. Wyoming must continue to seek economic diversification in all regions of the state, while realizing that our state engine still runs on coal, oil, and natural gas.

If elected, I will continue to examine issues brought forth by you folks, and try to direct pertinent issues to the appropriate committee, or draft a bill in response. I have had the good fortune to be able to help local government and county citizens navigate the bureaucracies of state agencies on several occasions.

Issues facing our county and state will change over time, and if elected I will continue to seek and articulate solutions to these challenges. I believe politicians at all levels need to maintain civility and work together to find solutions to the issues facing government and the people. By

bringing common sense, hard work and integrity to the state legislature, I have gained the respect of my colleagues and support for issues of importance to Sublette County and Wyoming. I see the best government as that closest to the people. If elected I will continue to look for guidance from the leaders and elected bodies of Sublette County, but I will value the opinions of all county citizens.