

September 15-16, 2021

ITEM 196-2008-R0921**Request for Authorization to Award Honorary Doctorate to Taylor Brown; Montana State University**

THAT

In recognition of many career achievements and the distinction brought to the Montana University System as an alumnus, the Board of Regents grants Montana State University the authority to confer an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Taylor Brown.

EXPLANATION

Taylor Brown, a third generation Montana rancher from Sand Springs, Montana and a two-term state senator, has had an impressive career in television and radio broadcasting. After graduating in 1979 with his B.S. degree in Animal Science, his 40+ year career in broadcasting began with Northern Ag Network.

Taylor and his wife, Shannon, took over Northern Broadcasting which now consists of the Northern Ag Network, the Northern News Network, the Northern Sports Network and KGHL AM-790 and FM 94.7. They reach more than 70 stations in four states, delivering a wide spectrum of radio, television and digital content dealing with agriculture, weather, news, sports and talk. He was elected as Montana's first President of the National Association of Farm Broadcasting in 1992.

Taylor has committed himself to the sustainment of agriculture in Montana through service and outreach and is an advocate for rural farm and ranch families. He served two terms as a state senator from 2009-2016, including chairman of both the Agriculture and Education Committees, as well as being elected Majority Whip. He served as the first Chairman of the College of Agriculture Development Board and led the movement to raise 60% of the funding for the \$15.7 million Animal Bioscience Building by enlisting nearly 200 ranchers and businesses to fund the new permanent home of the MSU Animal and Range Sciences Department. Taylor Brown's sense of community, commitment to Montana and his passion for the land-grant mission of Montana State University clearly distinguishes him as one of MSU's most outstanding graduates.

For these and his other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters at Montana State University to Taylor Brown and wishes him well for many years in the future.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1: Letter of Nomination from President Cruzado