

Maryland Matt moved here only because he purchased a vacation home and a luxurious multi-million-dollar ranch. In the state legislature, he pushed his pro-development agenda, hurting Montana farmers and ranchers by repeatedly voting for land use measures that would help developers like himself and hurt farmers

**June 2002: Matt Rosendale Moved From The Eastern Shore Of Maryland To Montana.** “Longtime Queen Anne's County resident Matthew Rosendale, who was well-known on Kent Island and in Centreville for many years as a real estate broker, is wearing couple of different hats these days, far removed from the Eastern Shore... The son of Chris and Mary Lou Rosendale who owned Rosendale Realty and founded the Bay Times, Rosendale has lived in Montana since June 2002. Today, in addition to his work in the state legislature, he is also a rancher and is in the developing and consulting business.” [Easton Star-Democrat, [2/23/11](#)]

**August 2001: Easton Star-Democrat: Matt Rosendale Purchased A Ranch In Montana With The Idea That “He And Jean Would Spend A Number Of Months There Each Year.”** “In August 2001 he finally bought the ranch he wanted and spent the entire month there with the whole family working to spruce it up. They knew the neighbors and a lot of people in the community and felt ‘very comfortable.’ Rosendale described the countryside as ‘these big rolling plains,’ which he found appealing. The original idea was that he and Jean would spend a number of months there each year, but in 2002 they decided that all five of them would move to the ranch full-time. He worked with his brother on the transition at the family business and in June 2002 the family headed west to an area near Glendive, Mont., in the eastern part of the state about 1,789 miles west of Kent Island, give or take a few miles.” [Easton Star-Democrat, [2/23/11](#)]

**August 2002: Matt Rosendale Purchased A Working Ranch At Auction For \$2.175 Million In Glendive.** “The Sobotkas worked hard to make their place an exceptional unit, Mike Carlson of the Eastern Plains RC & D, noted. Carlson worked with them for 22 years, giving them ideas and encouragement, as they made improvements to their land which included 1.7 miles of river front property, irrigated crop land and pastures, dry land crop land with good soil, and range land with recently added artesian wells, stock pipelines and fiberglass stock tanks... Kniepkamp tried to start the bidding at \$2 million, dropped it to \$1 million and then to \$700 thousand. The bidding opened there and went up rapidly in \$50 thousand increments until it reached \$2 million. At that point, Kniepkamp stopped to take a breath and get a drink of water, then worked the remaining bidders up to a final bid of \$2,175,000. [...] But in the end, it was a neighbor, Matt Rosendale, who made the final bid. Rosendale, his wife Jean and their three boys live on the old Tomalino place adjacent to the Sobotka land.” [Glendive Ranger-Review, [8/22/02](#)]

**Rosendale Was A Real Estate Developer.** “Rep. Matt Rosendale, R-Glendive, himself a real estate developer, said the bill’s requirement of peer-reviewed material to support government comments prevents those entities from making ‘arbitrary and subjective comments.’” [Billings Gazette, [2/22/11](#)]

**Matt Rosendale Voted For And Spoke In Support Of A “Pro-Developer” Change To Montana Subdivision Review Laws That Would Restrict How Planners Could Consider A Development’s Impacts On Agriculture Or Future Land Use.** On April 2, 2011, Matt Rosendale voted in favor of HB 542 on the third reading. The Billings Gazette reported: “The Montana House on Tuesday endorsed a bill making pro-developer changes in Montana's subdivision review laws to restrict how planners can consider a housing development's impacts on agriculture or future land use. House Bill 542, endorsed on a 54-46 vote, also says any government commenting on the proposed subdivision must submit a ‘scientific, peer-reviewed report’ to support its opinion... Rep. Matt Rosendale, R-Glendive, himself a real estate developer, said the bill's requirement of peer-reviewed material to support government comments prevents those entities from making ‘arbitrary and subjective comments.’” The measure was passed by a vote of 64-32, and was vetoed by the governor. [Vote 1516, HB 542, [4/2/11](#); Billings Gazette, [2/22/11](#)]

**2013: Associated Press: Matt Rosendale Voted For Measure That “Would Have Restricted Local Governments’ Authority To Review A Subdivision’s Effect On Agricultural Operations.”** On February 1, 2013, Matt Rosendale voted in favor of SB 147 on the third reading. The Associated Press reported: “Three other

measures were among the governor's vetoes Monday: • Senate Bill 147 would have restricted local governments' authority to review a subdivision's effect on agricultural operations." The measure was passed by a vote of 30-20 and vetoed by the governor. [Vote 249, SB 147, [2/1/13](#); Associated Press, [4/23/13](#)]

**Ravalli County Rancher Alan Mackey Opposed Senate Bill 147, Noting Many Subdivisions That Had Cropped Up Around Him Had Affected His Operations, Adding "This Take Away Control From The Local Level And Gives More To The State."** "Late Thursday afternoon, the House Local Government committee heard testimony on Senate Bill 147, which would reduce the area and thus the number of neighbors that local governments have to consider when reviewing the impact of a proposed subdivision...But Alan Mackey, a Ravalli County rancher, said many subdivisions have popped up around him, and they all affect his operation, from limiting his water to incidents of vandalism. Several farmers from around the state echoed similar difficulties. The details of farming are different in different parts of the state, so local governments should determine what's best, Mackey said. 'This takes away control from the local level and gives more to the state,' Mackey said." [Bozeman Daily Chronicle, [3/16/13](#)]