



For Immediate Release: May 27, 2008

National Rifle Association Endorses Governor Brian Schweitzer

Schweitzer Earns "A" Rating

Billings, MT - This morning, the National Rifle Association Political Victory Fund (NRA-PVF) announced its endorsement of incumbent Governor Brian Schweitzer for re-election.

Announcing the NRA-PVF endorsement at a press conference in Billings, MT, NRA Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre stated, "Governor Schweitzer is a strong advocate for freedom and for preserving the rights of Montana's gun owners, hunters and sportsmen. He has dedicated his time as governor to ensuring the preservation of Montana's great outdoor traditions for current and future generations. He has earned the endorsement of NRA's Political Victory Fund."

"I'm proud to have the support and endorsement of the NRA," Schweitzer said. "Gun ownership and responsibility are values that get passed down from one generation to another in Montana. No Montanan will forget the days learning gun safety from their father, their mother, or even their uncle."

An enthusiastic outdoorsman, Brian Schweitzer has worked to promote access to public lands, preserve places to hunt and shoot, and has emphasized the importance of habitat protection. During his first term, Governor Schweitzer provided \$10 million for a new public land access acquisition program that secures key sites for state parks and access to large tracts of public land for hunting and other outdoor activities.

In addition, Schweitzer reinstated Montana's buffalo hunt after a 16-year moratorium, increased funding for shooting ranges in Montana by 500 percent, and made Hunter Management and Block Management programs permanent in Montana.

Last year, Governor Schweitzer signed Montana's Emergency Powers Protection Act into law. His steadfast support for the Second Amendment has earned Brian Schweitzer an "A" rating and endorsement from NRA-PVF.

"I urge all NRA members and Montana gun owners to vote for Governor Brian Schweitzer," Wayne LaPierre concluded. "People in Montana value their freedom, and Brian Schweitzer is the best candidate to serve them."

Established in 1871, the National Rifle Association is America's oldest civil rights and sportsmen's group. Four million members strong, NRA continues to uphold the Second Amendment and advocates enforcement of existing laws against violent offenders to reduce crime. The Association remains the nation's leader in firearm education and training for law-abiding gun owners, law enforcement and the armed services.