

# [***How Zooey Zephyr, Montana's first trans legislator, became a national celebrity***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:693F-2XB1-JCK6-600W-00000-00&context=1516831)

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Rebecca Stumpf for NBC News

Rep. Zooey Zephyr and fiancÃ© Erin Reed enjoy a stroll through downtown Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9, 2023.

Rep. Zooey Zephyr and fiancÃ© Erin Reed enjoy a stroll through downtown Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9, 2023.

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Rebecca Stumpf for NBC News

Rep. Zooey Zephyr and fiancÃ©e Erin Reed enjoy a stroll through downtown Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9, 2023.

Rep. Zooey Zephyr and her fiancÃ©e, Erin Reed, enjoy a stroll through downtown Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9.

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Rep. Zooey Zephyr and fiancÃ©e Erin Reed chat with a constituent at Cylde Coffee in Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9, 2023.

Rep. Zooey Zephyr and her fiancÃ©e, Erin Reed, chat with a constituent at Clyde Coffee in Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9.

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Rep. Zooey Zephyr in the upper level of Gild in Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9, 2023, where she held her election night watch party in November.

Rep. Zooey Zephyr in the upper level of Gild in Missoula, Mont., where she held her watch party for her campaign Aug. 9.

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Thom Bridge

Rep. Zooey Zephyr, D-Missoula, alone on the house floor stands in protest as demonstrators are arrested in the house gallery on April 24, 2023 in the Montana State Capitol.

Rep. Zooey Zephyr, D-Missoula, alone on the House floor, stands in protest as demonstrators are arrested in the gallery April 24.

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Justin Sullivan

Transgender rights activists hold signs as they march through the University of Montana campus on May 3, 2023 in Missoula, Mont.

Transgender rights activists hold signs as they march through the University of Montana campus May 3 in Missoula.

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Rep. Zooey Zephyr walks out of Gild in downtown Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9, 2023.

Rep. Zooey Zephyr walks out of Gild in downtown Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9.

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Tommy Martino

Rep. Zooey Zephyr hugs a supporter at the Montana State Capitol in Helena, Mont., on April 26, 2023.

Rep. Zooey Zephyr hugs a supporter at the Montana State Capitol in Helena on April 26.

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Brittany Peterson

State Rep. Zooey Zephyr begins her first day of remote voting at the State Capitol, on April 27, 2023 in Helena, Mont.

State Rep. Zooey Zephyr begins her first day of remote voting at the State Capitol in Helena, Mont., on April 27.

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Rep. Zooey Zephyr and fiancÃ©e Erin Reed at Gild in Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9, 2023, where she held her election night watch party in November.

Rep. Zooey Zephyr and her fiancÃ©e, Erin Reed, at Gild in Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9.

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Rep. Zooey Zephyr and her fiancÃ©e Erin Reed kiss in between funnel cake at the Western Montana Fair in Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9, 2023.

Rep. Zooey Zephyr and her fiancÃ©e, Erin Reed, kiss in between funnel cakes at the Western Montana Fair in Missoula on Aug. 9.

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Rep. Zooey Zephyr and fiancÃ©e Erin Reed at the Western Montana Fair in Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9, 2023, riding rides and taking photos with constituents.

Rep. Zooey Zephyr and her fiancÃ©e, Erin Reed, at the Western Montana Fair in Missoula on Aug. 9, riding rides and taking photos with constituents, including Landon Roberts, an 18-year-old trans man, and his friends.

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Rebecca Stumpf for NBC News

Rep. Zooey Zephyr chats with constituents at the Western Montana Fair in Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9, 2023.

Rep. Zooey Zephyr chats with John Driscoll at the Western Montana Fair in Missoula on Aug. 9.

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A campaign manager with Rep. Zooey Zephyr changes campaign signs from House District 100 to 95 after redistricting; Rep. Zooey Zephyr goes through mail she received and has been unable to read since the legislative session.

A campaign manager with Rep. Zooey Zephyr changes campaign signs from House District 100 to 95 after redistricting; Rep. Zooey Zephyr goes through mail she has been unable to read since the legislative session.

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Rebecca Stumpf for NBC News

Rep. Zooey Zephyr hugs a constituent who stopped her to chat while walking through downtown Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9, 2023.

Rep. Zooey Zephyr hugs a constituent who stopped her to chat while walking through downtown Missoula, Mont., on Aug. 9.

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