

EXHIBIT 6  
DATE 1-31-05  
HB 435

Madame Chairwomen, Members of the committee thank you for your time this afternoon. For the record my name is Kimberly Pappas, I'm a junior in History at the University of Montana. I drove down from Missoula this afternoon to show my strong support for House Bill 435 which will support Montana students seeking post secondary education.

Everyday at UM I see my friends struggle to pay bills. They are paying there way through school, balancing a job, school work and for many students' family commitments. No longer are after school jobs used to pay for spring break trips to Mexico. Rather, it's a necessity in buying groceries.

We all know higher education is no longer a privilege but a requirement for decent paying jobs in changing job market.

We applaud Governor Schweitzer and Rep. Branae for introducing a bill that provides 970 scholarships for Montana students attending 4 year schools, colleges of technology, community colleges, and tribal colleges. We are thrilled that access to higher education is a priority for this legislative session.

Thank you for your time and I urge for a do pass recommendation.