EXHIBIT 4
DATE 3/7/05
SB 198

March 7, 2005

Dear House Education Committee Members-

My Name is Lana Rae R-A-E, I am from Billings. I am testifying as a citizen in support of SB 198, requiring anti-bullying policies in our schools.

My son, now 23, was born with a very serious birth defect. That defect, although covered by clothing, meant that he was incontinent until 6th grade. Although he had many surgeries and we tried everything we could, we finally had to choose surgery that allows him to be continent artificially.

The life that he led included harassment not only by his classmates, but even by his teachers. It was ugly and cruel and very painful. The ugliness and pain not only affected my son, but his siblings and his parents and the pain and affects of the bullying continue to this day. Yesterday my son called me, when I told him that I was planning on testifying, his response was "I know why you are doing it. I just don't remember anything good about school when I was little." There was no policy for us to rely on, no policy for the school to follow. I believe to this day Billings still has no specific anti-harassment policy.

To vote against this bill, means that you vote to allow that kind of harassment and bullying to continue with no protection of young lives. No one should be bullied by anyone whether those persons are children or adults. We do, however, have the chance to protect our children. Please vote for SB 198. Your support is truly appreciated.

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