



The Big Sky Country

EXHIBIT 4
DATE 1/12/05
HB 42

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 12, 2005

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Judiciary Committee,

For the record my name is Wayne Stahl. I represent House District 35 in Northeast Montana. I live in Saco, Montana. I have served on the Saco Town Council and as the Mayor of the town of Saco. I have also served as a commissioner of Phillips County.

Throughout those years of public service I have had many opportunities to work directly with many of the state agencies. Personnel from those agencies have personally informed me many times that to solve a "problem" with a law there would be no need to seek new legislation because they could simply adopt an administrative rule.

I strongly believe in the Separation of Power Doctrine. I also believe that any law without substantive consequence is a poor law.

I do realize and sympathize with the agencies somewhat. It has to be hard to know that a problem needs to be dealt with when a law doesn't fit. Knowing that dealing with a specific problem may need to wait until the next legislature convenes could have dire consequences. However, because we have a citizen legislature, sometimes we must err on the side of caution and let the people of the State of Montana have their input.

Please look at House Bill 42 and I will explain the changes.

Mr Chairman members of the Committee, thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne Stahl".