

EXHIBIT  
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HB 340

Subj: MT. Family Testimony on HB240  
Date: 1/13/2005 8:16:38 PM Mountain Standard Time  
From: jeff@montanafamily.org  
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Gilda, Here is the e-mail I sent to Rachel. Thanks for your help. Blessings, Jeff

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Rachel,

Let's zero in on the law itself being unnecessary.

I've pasted the testimony below.

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Good morning Madam Chairman and members of the Committee

For the record I'm Rachel Roberts representing the Montana Family Foundation

When considering legislation, the first thing we need to ask ourselves is, "Is this law really necessary?" With respect to HB 240 the answer is no.

Before we add more groups to the list already covered under the statute, we should determine if the statute is necessary and useful for the 7 classes of people that it currently covers.

You may be surprised to know that according to the Montana Department of Corrections, in the 26 years that this law has been on the books there is no record of it having ever been used.

Let me say that again. This law was enacted in 1989 and so far, according to the Dept of Corrections it's never been used.

Instead of adding more groups to the list in order to make ourselves feel good, we should be looking at doing away with statute altogether. If we haven't used it in 26 years I would submit that it's not necessary.

This is a classic example of a solution in search of a problem.

And for this reason Madam Chair, members of the committee, I would respectfully request that you vote no on HB 240.

Thank You

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If they ask you who at the DOC gave you the information on the law never being used you can say it was Dewey Hall at 444-6719