

EXHIBIT **82**
DATE 3/16/05
SB 199

Please vote NO on SB 199. I have 3 comments that I would like to make on this BILL.

1. In section 1 under the definition section doesn't include people who are celibate. This was probably an oversight but it certainly undermines the bill's integrity.
2. Section #2 concerns me greatly when I consider how this bill would impact my 5th grade daughter's school. I've joined with numerous other like minded parents who consider it a important responsibility to educate our children not only in reading writing and arithmetic but also faith and moral values. SB 199 would force Sacred Heart Grade School to 'not discriminate" against a prospective teacher who chooses to live a life style that is converse to our moral values. Article II , section 5 of our state constitution clearly establishes "Freedom of religion " and SB 199 is in conflict on this issue.
3. Section #14 includes a sentence that is as follows. "A state or local facility may not be used in the furtherance of any discriminatory practice". It appears that this portion of the law is aimed straight at the Boy Scouts because they have taken a stand opposing "gays" as leaders. I don't need to tell you about the great program that the Boy Scouts have and how many boys have been helped over the years by this wonderful organization. This sentence in this bill would in effect make sure that the Boy Scouts and any other equally onerous groups would not be able to use state or local facilities. Camp grounds, school gym, state parks...all off limits. It looks to me like a Boy Scout driving on a state road would be a violation of this misguided bill.

SB 199 will make criminals out of Montana Citizens who care deeply about their children's education as I do. SB 199 will make criminals out of Montana Citizens who give back to their communities by being Boy Scout leaders. Please Do NOT sacrifice these Montana citizens on the alter of political correctness. Vote NO on SB 199

Curtis Almy
28 N Montana
Miles City MT 59301
406-234-0700