

EXHIBIT 10
DATE 3-10-05
HB 593

MONTANA MAGISTRATES ASSOCIATION

POSITION ON HB593

The Montana Magistrates Association opposes HB593. This bill, if enacted, will limit the Legislature's access to valuable sources of information on the potential operational and fiscal impact of legislative proposals, as well as information of possible unintended consequences. As written, this bill will exclude employed public servants from testifying to those effects on programs about which they have unique and thorough knowledge unless they are invited to do so by the Legislature or are able to somehow provide testimony on their personal time. Further, this bill denies a class of citizen its right to provide relevant testimony on bills of interest and effect on them and the state, again unless they are invited to do so or can arrange to give testimony on their own time.

The Montana Magistrates Association asks that you give this bill a do not pass recommendation.