

Honorable Chairman, Committee members,
Art Plowman from Carbon County, ~~DATE 2-7-05~~ ~~SJ-8~~ ~~myself~~ ~~EXHIBIT 18~~

February 7, 2005
TESTIMONY, SJ8

This bill is about evolution, although the word is not even mentioned in the bill. Evolution is a theory that is discredited more every day as we discover the complexities of life. Either evolution is correct or it is not. If creation is correct than evolution is not. Who could possibly object to an intelligent design theory without theism attached? Certainly dumb design does not make a good car, computer or jumbo jet, yet some would ask us to believe that the dumbest design of all created all things, that is, blind chance created all things. Nothing ever goes from simple, inert, elemental and non-functional to complex, active and highly-functional. If someone can explain this, I have a few non-functional vehicles at my house which need to be morphed into leer jets.

Creationism does require a Creator but I do not see any religious connotation needing to be applied here. ~~Some one who has a problem with a generic Creator does not need a school, he needs a psychiatrist.~~

How does intelligent design/creationism hamper science learning? I can not think how believing in creation has to do with getting a quality education. Many brilliant scientists are creat^{ists}. All of our children, totally steeped in creationism, are now in college. The oldest has a bachelors in math, a masters in physics and is working on his Ph.D in physics. Another will have his bachelors in history this spring. Another has a bachelors in math, magna cum laud, and is now working on a masters in statistics. Our other two children are at MSU-Billings, working on a bachelors in language and in math.

It has been said that Kansas was held up for national ridicule for allowing creation theory to be taught in its schools. Who held them up for ridicule? Dan Rather and the media? I'm impressed... In the beginning of the last century another "scientific" theory was held up as immutable fact. Persons who disagreed were ridiculed and called reactionary. Famous people signed on to this theory as fact including Winston Churchill, Teddy Roosevelt, Oliver W. Holmes, Margaret Sanger and many others. Legislation was enacted that the worst negative affects of this scientific fact were mitigated and those who enacted such laws were thought of as very progressive and hailed as leaders in the brave fight. The theory: eugenics, which led to sterilization of the non-white race, especially Jews and minorities, and was brought to it's logical conclusion by the National Socialists (Nazis).

My last point is that this legislation, according to the wording of this law, would be supported by local communities. How, I ask? Is my community suddenly being overrun by atheists? I think most of us believe in God and also believe at some point an intelligent Being intervned to create what is here.

Please oppose SJ8; this is very bad and unnecessary legislation.
Sincerely,

Arthur L. Plowman

SENATE EDUCATION
EXHIBIT NO. 18
DATE 2-7-05
BILL NO. SJ-8