

Harkins Law Firm, P.C.

6th Avenue Plaza
3021 6th Ave North, Suite 205
Billings, MT 59101

SENATE EDUCATION

EXHIBIT NO. 27

DATE 2-14-05

SEN. NO. 58-291

(406) 255-7183

FAX (406) 294-7111

February 14th, 2005

Montana Legislature
Helena Montana

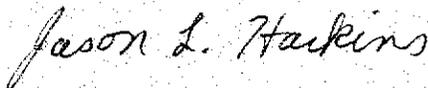
Dear Senate Education Committee Members:

I am an attorney in Billings. I am also the father of five children. My wife and I have chosen to school our children in our home for several reasons. I am very concerned about SB 291. **PLEASE KILL THIS BILL IN COMMITTEE!**

SB 291 will place a huge burden of record keeping on the parent who chooses to school his or her child at home. I realize that in your quest to provide a "basic system of free quality public elementary and secondary schools" that you want to insure all children receive the same quality education. This is noble goal. However, the freedom to choose the method in which we raise and educate our children is more important. SB 291 removes our freedom to choose how to raise and educate our children. **PLEASE VOTE AGAINST THIS BILL!**

Thank you for serving in the legislature and for considering my opposition to this bill or any other similar bills.

Very truly yours,



Jason L. Harkins