

SENATE EDUCATION

EXHIBIT NO. 25

DATE 2-14-05

BILL NO. SB-291

**J & B CONTRACTING**

61395 US HWY 87  
LOMA, MT, 59460

February 14, 2005

Re: **Senate Bill 291**

Dear Senator,

We have been home educating our children for 8 years. Our concern is that their education would be Biblically based and of quality. It is not a choice made lightly as it takes utmost dedication and sacrifice. SB291 infers in sections 6 and 7 that "quality" education will occur in the home with monitoring of the local school district. This assumes the monitor's interest in the child to be more vital than the parent's. This is unlikely from a local school district who will be asked to pick up the monetary tab as well as invest additional time. Sections 5-10 appear to suggest that public school or it's equivalent may take place at home. We monitor our children's progress and function productively without these restrictions. It is our right, as parents, to be solely responsible for the education of our children. When we have opted to have them tested with "standardized" (which Webster's dictionary defines as "reduce to" or "compare with") tests, they have scored well above average. Those who claim to home school their children, yet neglect or abuse them, will not be found by testing or monitoring. We believe that state regulation and involvement of the local school district will not enhance the quality of our children's education.

We appreciate your concern, as a legislator, for our children's education but hold that the existing laws are sufficient as they stand.

Please vote against Senate Bill 291. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Brook and Renee Anderson