

Testimony for House Bill 652

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SENATE EDUCATION

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Montana has many situations where school district boundaries do not correspond to road systems and access to property. East Helena District #9 is but one example of a school district that has situations where bus service to rural students is limited by the ability of the school district to transport kids across school district boundaries. This amendment would allow easier access to bus transportation situations where crossing school district boundaries are necessary.

Put together with this sheet is a simple example of a conflict for you to consider. The arrows point to one home that would be eligible for bus service but is inaccessible except by crossing through another elementary school district. The dark grey areas of the map represent another elementary school district. As you will notice Danny K Drive is the only access to this home which crosses through the other school district, yet the home lies in the East Helena School District attendance area.

I believe that Representative Cohenour's amendment to 20-10-126 MCA would make it more efficient for School Districts to deliver transportation services to children. For this reason I would request your support for House Bill 652.