Exhibit No 4
Date 2-2-05
Bill No. SB 330

February 2,2005

Senate Judiciary Hearing Committee
Montana Senate
PO Box 200500
Helena, MT 59620-0500

Dear Committee Member,
I want to urge you to support SB330. I believe it is crucial that we put this law in place as quickly as possible. It is hard to believe that a teenage girl cannot be given medication at school without permission from her parents, but she can have an abortion without their consent or knowledge. The threat to a girl's health is immense. The risk of her developing serious bleeding and other complications is a real possibility. I worked at a crisis pregnancy center here in town for a number of years and I was amazed at the lack of knowledge many young women had about their cycles, let alone how to identify and deal with complications resulting from an abortion. I have had two miscarriages myself and found that I needed to have a lot of questions answered as a result of the things that were going on in my body. I can only imagine how much more intensified those results would be, especially from a young girl trying to hide the fact of the abortion from her parents. Parents are the greatest support system for these girls. Our society tells parents and kids to openly talk about drugs and alcohol, but when it comes to abortion, it tells kids it's OK to keep that secret from mom and dad. This sends a double message. The parents are the ones that are going to eventually have to be there to pick up all the broken pieces. Please work with parents, not against them in supporting a bill which will assure a parent that they will be notified before their underage daughter is taken into surgery.

Sincerely,

Irene Fenlason

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