



SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE & SAFETY

EXHIBIT NO. 8

DATE: 1-17-05

BILL NO. SB 137

Monday, January 17, 2005

Senate Public Health, Safety and Health Committee
RE: SB 137

Chairman Cromley and members of the committee,

My name is Jim Carlson. I am Director of Environmental Health at the Missoula City-County Health Department.

As drafted, Senate Bill 137 fulfills the needs of many interests. It provides for the mandatory statewide regulation of tattooing and body piercing establishments which has been invited and encouraged by the responsible members of the industry. It requires that DPHHS develop rules and license fees for the industry. It allows those counties that want to continue their own inspection program to do so. It allows other counties who are willing to license and inspect these establishments to do so. It provides for State conducted inspections in counties that do not want to train for and take on this responsibility. Finally, it serves to improve protection of public health from inadequate practices that can occur during the tattoo and piercing process.

The Missoula City-County Health Department supports this bill. We ask that you also support Senate Bill 137.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Carlson, R.S
Director of Environmental Health