SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE & SAFETY
EXHIBIT NO. 1
DATE 3-21-05
BILL NO. SJ 30

Amendments to Senate Joint Resolution No. 30
1st Reading Copy

Requested by Senator Dan Weinberg

For the Senate Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee

Prepared by Lois Steinbeck
March 21, 2005 (12:10pm)

1. Page 1.
Following: line 11
Insert: "WHEREAS, Medicaid programs provide a very basic component of the safety net for many Montanans; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid programs support the disabled, elderly, children, and pregnant women and the poorest of the poor; and

WHEREAS, proposed federal Medicaid cuts could harm a great many vulnerable Montanans who could suffer devastating health and economic consequences as a result of federal Medicaid cuts; and

WHEREAS, per capita incomes in Montana are proportionally lower than the national average, and a large number of Montanans rely on Medicaid programs; and

WHEREAS, Montana eligibility standards for Medicaid programs are at or near federally required minimum eligibility standards; and

WHEREAS, Montana is a rural state with a very low population density throughout most of the state, and the public Medicaid health system helps ensure that services are available statewide for all persons; and

WHEREAS, local governments do not have enough surplus funds to offset Medicaid funding reductions for local nursing homes and hospitals; and"

2. Page 1, lines 26 through 30.
Following: "standards" on line 26
Strike: "; and" on page 1, line 26 through "cuts" on page 1, line 30

- END -