

My name is Connie Summers, and I am the lobbyist for the Associated Students of Montana State University- Billings. On our campus, voting is a high priority. This past year we successfully conducted "Political Action Week" and we actually had a 70% student voter turnout. We are very supportive of anything that promotes voter turnout whether it is for students or whomever. So the students of MSU-B want to thank Sen. Squires for introducing this bill. This bill would help students, who are Montana registered voters, who commute to and from campus daily and the ones who are from outside the Yellowstone County area but live in the dorms. In addition, this bill insures that permanently disable and shut in voters will be entitle to partake of our great responsibility and privilege- that of voting.

However, we did have concerns with accountability issues. I spoke to Dwayne Winslow of the Yellowstone County Election Office in Billings and found that they too had the same issues. We discussed, what we felt, were good amendments to the bill to prevent someone from moving and actually voting more than one time in any given election. I have been assured that amendments addressing these concerns have been attached to SB 88, therefore, the students of MSU-B strongly support, or shall I say cast our votes, for SB 88 as amended and we ask you to vote yes on SB 88 as amended and by doing so, you are helping insure all Montanan accessibility to voting.