

Exhibit Number: 14

The following exhibit is a folder that has an assortment of pamphlets, and other documents that cannot be scanned. The exhibit is on file at the Montana Historical Society and can be viewed there.

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EXHIBIT 14
DATE 2-1-05
SB 332



United We Stand

To The LEGISLATURE!

My husband and I
are elderly people with
severe medical problems.
My husband had a stroke
and I am on oxygen.

Without the wonderful
help from S.H.H.'s, we could
not stay in our home and
end up a financial burden
in a nursing home.

I hope you will vote
for the 5¢ tax on soda pop.
What a help that would be

Josephine Ferguson

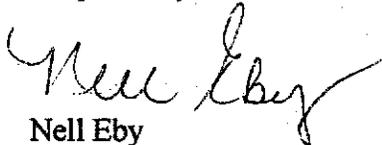
Montana Legislature:

I recently moved my 85-year old father, a WWII veteran, from Wolf Point to Billings. Other than severe short-term memory loss, my father is in good health. He is living in an apartment in a retirement community and he seems very pleased with his surroundings. I not only work full-time, but attend graduate school half-time in the evenings, and have a family. My work also requires some travel. I visit my father 3-4 times a week. During these visits I take him on rides, do some shopping, or take him home with me for dinners. My brother also lives in Billings and helps out as frequently as he can, but he also works full-time and has a family. Our primary concern was having someone check on my father and provide some nursing services with medications and personal care.

I contacted Senior Helping Hands and was immediately impressed with the cost-effective services offered and the professionalism and dedication of the staff. I applied for services for my father and have been very pleased. Their efforts have allowed my father to live in the least restrictive environment and still meet his needs. It would be extremely difficult for me to juggle all of my professional and family obligations without the assistance of the Senior Helping Hands Program. The staff goes above and beyond in providing quality services for my father, and in working with our family to ensure that our loved one is provided services specific to his needs. It is reassuring to know that someone is not only providing the care you expect, but also possess a passion for the work.

I strongly recommend continued funding for this valuable service for the senior citizens of our state. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (406) 255-0835. Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted,



Nell Eby
721 Cave Road
Billings, MT 59101

Department of Public Health & Human Services
Senior Long Term Care Division
Appropriations Subcommittee
Attention: Chairperson Edith Clark

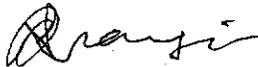
Dear Ms. Clark,

I am writing this letter out of concern for the Senior Helping Hands program, which receives a significant portion of their funding from the State. The continued funding of this program at the current level is vital to the quality of life enjoyed by many seniors in the Billings area.

This program has enabled my mother-in-law to remain in her home and enjoy her pets and familiar surroundings while receiving excellent care from the well-trained staff at Senior Helping Hands. Without this critical service, my mother-in-law would have to be placed in a nursing home, not because she is ill, but because there would be no affordable service available to provide the housekeeping and monthly nursing care she currently receives. Placement outside of her home would not only be cost prohibitive but it would severely disrupt the quality of her remaining years.

I strongly urge you to resist any further attempts to cut the budget for this essential service. Our senior citizens deserve compassion, consideration and appropriately funded services as their lives come to a close - not budget cuts.

Sincerely,



Peggy Grainger
Billings

Senior Helping Hands was a great home services for Ardys Olin mother Thelma Olin. Ardys was happy to have Senior Helping Hands assist mother with personal care twice a week. She remained in her home and active until she was admitted in hospital on October 22, 2002 with an pneumonia. Ardys thinks that cuts should be made from the top and not at the bottom. It also costs the State less to provide care in homes as compared to nursing homes.

Ardys Olin
27 Pine St
Billings MT 59101
(406) 259-7519

In support of in-home care funding

As a member of the Board of Directors for Senior Helping Hands Program, I volunteer my time because I firmly believe that it provides services not available to seniors from other sources. The program allows seniors to remain in their homes in familiar surroundings for a longer period of time. By receiving home health care, housekeeping assistance, personal services and companionship, these elders are able to maintain a high quality of life. Because the fees are income-based, a broad range of clients receive services. Costs are much lower for this type of care than if the elder was forced to move into a nursing home setting.

I visited a number of clients just before Christmas and can attest to the positive benefits offered by Senior Helping Hands Program. Many of the elders said they could not stay in their homes without this service. Many of these seniors fall between the cracks. They are not able to stay in their homes without assistance, yet do not require the more comprehensive care provided by nursing homes. In many instances, they cannot afford assisted living units.

Our population is aging rapidly. More and more seniors will be needing care-giving support. The most cost-effective way to care for them is in their homes. Senior Helping Hands receives 27 percent of its budget from state funds, 11.5 percent from city/county funds and 9.8 percent from federal funds. Nearly 49 percent of the Senior Helping Hands budget relies on government funding. Client revenues account for 24.8 percent. The remaining monies must be raised through donations, fundraising activities and grants. This is no small task.

I urge the legislators to look at the age of of population, to look at their parents needs and their own future needs when considering the portion of the budget that funds in-home care. Despite difficult economic times, this portion of the budget should not be cut, it should be augmented.

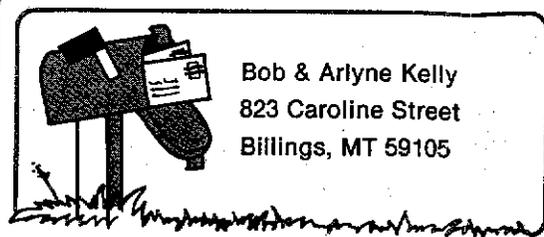
Thank you for your consideration.

Libby Laird

Libby Laird
Cooper Creative Advertising & Design

*Cooper
Creative*
advertising & design

January 23, 2005



MT. St. Legislature

Dear Representatives and Senators:

Without the assistance of Helping Hands in Billings Montana we would not be able to stay in our own home. They provide us with a cleaning lady every week. My wife has had several strokes and is no longer able to cook or clean. I am 78 years old and suffer with back problems. Without the assistance of Helping Hands we would not be able to enjoy a clean house or change our bed sheets.

Please vote to approve a tax on bottles so that the money can be used to provide social services to the elderly. Without this assistance we would have to file for Medicaid and live in a nursing home. The help we now receive is vital to our continued independence at home.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Kelly
O. Arlyne Kelly

Robert A. Kelly
O. Arlyne Kelly

Robert W. Higgs
1562 Foothill Dr.
Billings, MT. 59105
January 25, 2005

To: Senior Helping Hands &
Members of the Montana State Legislature

I would like to thank the staff of the "Senior Helping Hands" program for helping to make it possible for me to remain in my home. I am a 76 year old with bad feet and a bum knee, which limits the time I can be on my feet and my mobility in general. My wife has advanced Alzheimers and had to be put in a Nursing Home a year and a half ago, so I'm on my own, and paying out twice as much as I take in each month.

The cleaning assistance I receive every other week is invaluable to me, getting to places I have trouble reaching or am afraid to try doing due to balance problems. The co-ordinated yard help program in Spring and Fall has helped me keep the outside of my home presentable.

I realize budgets are tight all over (my own isn't very good either) and that there are many programs seeking more money. With the senior population growing at such a fast pace, straining the available resources, I believe that funding for these programs needs to be increased to try to meet the need for senior services. I fully support a bill that would place a five-cent per can tax on soft drinks across the State. It would both raise a large amount of money and help to fight the growing obesity problem our country faces. This would be the same tax amount per unit as just went into effect on a pack of cigarettes, so it's hardly unfair. (I'm not a smoker)

Thanks again to all the staff at Senior Helping Hands.

Sincerely,

Bob Higgs

Billings, Montana
January 23, 2005

Dear Friends:

I think there should be a tax
on the Bottling business. I get help from
senior Helping Hands program, with a
bath and hairdo and homemaking, please support
them with funding, so I can live in my own
house.

yours truly,
myrtle sparoslaski

45 Prince Charles Drive
Billings, Montana,

59105



11/20/05

Dear Senator Max & Conrad:

I support the POP tax for seniors. I especially would like to support Senior Helping Hands Program that enables a lot of seniors to be able to stay in their homes.

By having a monthly nursing assessment, ^{if needed} ~~hair~~ help with a both or housework. As time goes on I feel more confident in knowing I could have this help & stay home. Please consider funding S.H.H.P so they can serve more people.

I also want you to know I thank you so much for the consideration you are giving older people.

Sincerely Ruth Heth
2119 8th Ave. # 2
Billings Montana
59101

Manana de guerra

Sis Turylah Burnett
Sis on a low social
security payment.

Sis 94 years old, will
be 95 April 14-05.

Could get help from the
Council on Aging and
the Helping Hand
of Bilings, so I can
assist. There are

many elderly people here
just like Ma who need
help. We need help
with your pap tax
and any other taxes
and ways you can
to help the seniors
We are all looking

forward to all
the needed help
you can give
us in 2005 to
the Senior Centers
in Billings. We
are thankful to you
all.

Sincerely
Turylah Burnett