

January 17, 2007

Rep. Margaret Campbell  
P.O. Box 200400  
Helena, Montana 59620-0400

Dear Representative Campbell:

Greetings! My name is Cheryl Werk, a resident of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation in Montana and a former tribal college student.

Today, I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for your sponsorship of House Bill No. 283. As a former low income, first generation and non-beneficiary student, I know first hand the benefits of attending a tribally controlled community college. My choice to attend Fort Belknap College was based on the usual cost of attendance as well as the distance from my home and the transferability of credits for my eventual transfer to a state college or university. I am now enrolled at Montana State University-Bozeman through distance learning.

My experience as a non-beneficiary student at Fort Belknap College was great. The staff and faculty are great supporters of not only their tribally enrolled students but of all of their students. Furthermore, I received an excellent education which would normally have been out of reach for me.

Again, thank you for your sponsorship of House Bill No. 283 which increases the funding for the non-beneficiary students at Montana's tribal colleges. It will greatly benefit them as they strive to attain an education at Fort Belknap College as well as other Montana tribally controlled community colleges.

Sincerely,

  
Ms. Cheryl Werk  
P.O. 303  
Hays, Montana 59527

January 18, 2007

Rep. Margaret Campbell  
P.O. Box 200400  
Helena, Montana 59620-0400

Dear Representative Campbell:

Good Morning to your colleagues and yourself! You may remember me as I was an employee of Fort Belknap College when you were their President. I am Cathy Bear, a resident of Dodson, Montana and now a student at Fort Belknap College.

Today, I am writing to extend my support for House Bill 283 Non-Beneficiary Bill. I also thank you for having the ability to see the benefits of how an increase in funding would help the low income and 1<sup>st</sup> generation non-beneficiary student's on your former campus Fort Belknap College and other tribally controlled colleges across the state of Montana.

My choice to attend Fort Belknap College was based on many factors which included the accessibility and afford-ability of the institution, the ability of the institution to prepare me to transfer another four-year college or university and/or the world of work and the distance from my home and family.

My experience as a non-beneficiary student at Fort Belknap College has been rewarding. The staff and faculty are truly committed to the success of all students not just the tribally enrolled students. The academic support such as tutoring, transfer assistance, career guidance and testing which is available to all students is exceptional. The atmosphere of the institution is very inviting especially to those low income and first generation students such as me. I fear I would not have the opportunity to attend any institution if it wasn't for the tribal colleges.

Again, thank you for your sponsorship of House Bill 283 which increases the funding for the non-beneficiary students at Montana's tribal colleges. It will greatly benefit them as they strive to attain an education and later join the work force in this great state of Montana.

Sincerely,



Ms. Cathy Bear  
205 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.  
Dodson, Montana 59524

January 17, 2007

Rep. Margaret Campbell  
P.O. Box 200400  
Helena, Montana 59620-0400

Dear Representative Campbell:

Good Day to you! My name is Kain Bishop, a resident of Chinook, Montana. Currently, I am a full-time student at Fort Belknap College in Harlem, Montana. Being a former President of Fort Belknap College, you know the College is a Tribally Controlled Community College established to serve the educational needs of the Whiteclay "Gros Ventre" and Nakoda "Assiniboine" people of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation and the people of the surrounding communities.

Today, I am writing to express my support and sincere gratitude for your sponsorship of House Bill No. 283. As a low income and non-beneficiary student, I know first hand the benefits of attending a tribally controlled community college. My choice to attend Fort Belknap College was based on the cost of attendance as well as the distance from my home and the transferability of credits for my eventual transfer to a state college or university.

My experience as a non-beneficiary student at Fort Belknap College has been great. The staff and faculty are great supporters of not only their tribally enrolled students but of all of their students. Furthermore, I am receiving an excellent education in an open and welcoming environment which would normally have been out of reach for me.

Again, thank you for sponsoring House Bill No. 283, the increases in funding will greatly benefit the non-beneficiary students attending Fort Belknap College as well as other Montana tribally controlled community colleges.

Sincerely,



Mr. Kain Bishop  
P.O. Box 506  
Chinook, Montana 59523

January 17, 2007

Rep. Margaret Campbell  
P.O. Box 200400  
Helena, Montana 59620-0400

Dear Representative Campbell:

Please allow me to introduce myself. I am Duane Doney, a former resident of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, a former tribal college student at Fort Belknap College and now residing in Chinook, Montana.

Today, I am writing to support and sincerely thank you for your sponsorship of House Bill 283. As a recent Fort Belknap College graduate, December 2006, I know first hand the benefits of attending a tribally controlled community college. My choice to attend Fort Belknap College was based on many factors which included the cost of attendance, the distance from my home and family, the transferability of credits to a state college/ university and the ability of the institution to prepare me for the world of work.

My experience as a non-beneficiary student at Fort Belknap College was great. The staff and faculty are great supporters of not only their tribally enrolled students but of all students. The academic support such as tutoring, transfer assistance, career guidance and testing which is available to all students is exceptional. The atmosphere of the institution is very inviting especially to those low income and first generation students such as me.

Again, thank you for your sponsorship of House Bill 283 which increases the funding for the non-beneficiary students at Montana's tribal colleges. It will greatly benefit them as they strive to attain an education and later join the work force in this great state of Montana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Duane Doney". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Mr. Duane Doney  
P.O. 1777  
Chinook, Montana 59523

January 17, 2007

Rep. Margaret Campbell  
P.O. Box 200400  
Helena, Montana 59620-0400

Dear Representative Campbell:

Good Afternoon to your colleagues and yourself! My name is Vince Mace, a resident Malta Montana and tribal college student at Fort Belknap College.

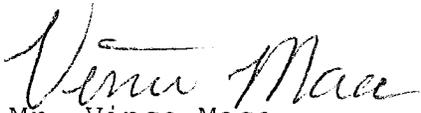
Today, I am writing to extend my support for House Bill 283 Non-Beneficiary Bill. I also thank you for having the foresight to see the benefits of how an increase in funding would help the low income and 1<sup>st</sup> generation non-beneficiary student's on your former campus Fort Belknap College and other tribally controlled colleges across the state of Montana.

My choice to attend Fort Belknap College was based on many factors which included the accessibility and afford-ability of the institution, the ability of the institution to prepare me to transfer another four-year college or university and the world of work, should I chose to work instead of transfer.

My experience as a non-beneficiary student at Fort Belknap College has been rewarding. The staff and faculty are truly committed to the success of all students not just the tribally enrolled students. The academic support such as tutoring, transfer assistance, career guidance and testing which is available to all students is exceptional. The atmosphere of the institution is very inviting especially to those low income and first generation students such as me. I fear I would not have the opportunity to attend any institution if it wasn't for the tribal colleges.

Again, thank you for your sponsorship of House Bill 283 which increases the funding for the non-beneficiary students at Montana's tribal colleges. It will greatly benefit them as they strive to attain an education and later join the work force in this great state of Montana.

Sincerely,



Mr. Vince Mace  
P.O. 106  
Malta, Montana 59538

January 18, 2007

Rep. Margaret Campbell  
P.O. Box 200400  
Helena, Montana 59620-0400

Dear Representative Campbell:

Greetings! My name is Janiece Maloney, a resident of Harlem, Montana and a tribal college student attending Fort Belknap College.

Today, I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for your sponsorship of House Bill No. 283. As a low income, first generation and non-beneficiary student, I know first hand the benefits of attending a tribally controlled community college. My choice to attend Fort Belknap College was based on the usual cost of attendance as well as the distance from my home and the transferability of credits to a state college or university.

My experience as a non-beneficiary student at Fort Belknap College has been great. The staff and faculty are great supporters of not only their tribally enrolled students but of all of their students. I am receiving a great education which would normally be out of reach for me if not for this tribal college.

Again, thank you for your sponsorship of House Bill No. 283 which increases the funding for the non-beneficiary students at Montana's tribal colleges. It will greatly benefit us as we strive to get an education at Fort Belknap College as well as other Montana tribally controlled community colleges.

Sincerely,

*Janiece Maloney*

Ms. Janiece Maloney  
P.O. 313  
Harlem, Montana 59526

January 11, 2007

Sirs:

My name is Jennifer Marmon, I have been attending FPCC for 2 years and will be finishing my degree in May. I have received financial assistance from the college and this has been great. Right in the middle of my schooling I found out I was pregnant and even so I was able to stay in school and finish with the help of the Non-beneficiary waiver of tuition. I am not Indian and so these funds really came in handy when I needed gas to travel back and forth from where I live in Wolf Point.

Also, I work full-time and was also taking extra courses for a double degree.

I would like to ask you to support the Non-beneficiary request that the tribal colleges are asking for.

*Jennifer Marmon*

Thank you

*Box 206*

*Wolf Point, MT 59201*

January 9, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Dave E. Scott and I am 27 years old. I have 3 children and will be getting married soon and have enrolled full-time at Fort Peck Community College. I decided to attend Fort Peck because I can attend school, stay home and take care of my family and be able to afford to live.

I am not Native American, but here on campus I do not feel any different than all the other students. We are all equal here.

Please give your support to the Tribal college for providing funds for non-Indians.

Thanks.

Dave E. Scott

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dave E. Scott". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name.

Box 785

Culbertson, MT 59218

January 10, 2007

I am working and attending college at Fort Peck Community College in Poplar, Montana. I am asking for your support for the Non-Beneficiary bill that is being reviewed currently. I am a non-Indian and am a full-time student here. I and other non-Indians really do depend on these funds to help us get through school. Most tribal colleges have very limited funding and this is one that is very critical since there are not many internal funds for us.

My family asks that you support this request for the Non-Beneficiary waiver funds.

Sincerely Yours,

Bob Paulson

January 9, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Christina Smith and I live in Wolf Point Montana. I am working as a clerk at Bryan's and I am a tax payer in the state. I am asking for your support in the Non-Beneficiary bill that will be presented to you. I have four children and am married and we both file taxes, but we are still a low-income family. The waiver that this can provide me will help a lot in my being able to attend college and get a Business Administration/Accounting degree so that I can get a better paying job and thereby will be paying more taxes.

Thank you for your support.

*Christina Smith*  
*1/11/07*

Dear Sir or Madam:

January 11, 2007

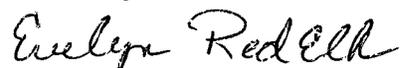
I am attending Fort Peck Community College to get a degree in Education so that I can get a higher paying job, one with retirement and insurance and one that I enjoy. Currently I work as a paraprofessional in the Poplar School system. I am white and married to a Native American.

I have been watching other people, both white and Indian graduate from FPCC, go on through Distance education through Rocky and Northern and come back as teachers. I decided that I can do it also, even though I am 48 years old.

It is wonderful to be able to attend a good college without having to leave my home and job. I can get a degree and not have huge amounts of debt when I finish. I have attended here and received the non-beneficiary waiver and so I know how much it helps and how much it can do for a person. It is very important to white individuals here because we need to attend school also and we have the same economic problems as our Native neighbors.

Please support the non-beneficiary bill that is being proposed.

Sincerely,



Evelyn Red Elk

January 9, 2007

Dear Committee:

Please support the non-beneficiary program that is being proposed to you. I have lived on the reservation my whole life. My parents are farmers and I have spent my life helping them. I am attending Fort Peck so that I can continue to help on the farm since my father is getting up in age. My parents are good tax payers and they always support the State of Montana and love living and raising their family here. I am lucky to have the college here so that I can still help my family and pursue my goals as the same time. We live about 55 miles outside of Poplar and driving the distance will be a challenge, but with the help of the financial aid I am going to be able to manage it. That is why it is so important to have the non-beneficiary waiver because I am receiving one and this will help me get back and forth to school.

I, and my parents would like to ask for your support in the non-beneficiary bill being presented to you and your constituents.

Very Thankfully,

*Kyle Schagnum*

Box 588  
Scobey, Montana 59263

January 2007

I am from Culbertson, Montana and I work at the schools in Poplar, MT. I am attending FPCC to get a degree in Education. I am married with no children at this time. I would like to say how much the college here has done for my family. My mother in law and brother in law both got their teaching certificates (Bachelor) through FPCC and distance education. They both work in the school systems here and have a much better quality of life. The college here offers non-Indians funds just as they do the Indian students. I can attest that we are all treated alike and I really appreciate that being they are a Tribal College.

I hope you will support the Non-Beneficiary bill that is being proposed to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessica Marchwick".

Jessica Marchwick

Box 191

Culbertson, MT 59218

January 16, 2007

Hello, my name is Melissa Berger and I attend the Fort Peck College in Poplar Montana. I have been going to school part-time for about 4 years. I work full-time and have a couple of small children so I can't afford to be away from work too much because I have to support them. I am getting a degree in Business Administration and hope to get into one of the distance programs so that I can get a Bachelor degree.

I have been working full-time since I was 16 years old. I pay state and federal taxes and with my degree I will be paying even more in taxes.

Please support the non-beneficiary bill that is coming before you.

Thank you for you time and consideration,

*Missy Berger*  
Melissa Berger

Poplar, Montana 59255

Dear Sir:

My name is Katherine Archdale and I live in Wolf Point, Montana. Before attending Fort Peck Community College I was living most of my life on Welfare. I have been going to FPCC for 2 years and will graduate this year. I have also been working part-time while I go to school. Live is getting better. I will get a full-time job when I am done with my degree in Business. The waiver helps with tuition and this in return helps me with other school expense like books, etc.

My family is so happy for me and I am happy for myself. My life is turning around and it will affect many people. Please support the bill for waivers for non-Indian students.

I look forward to a long and productive career.

*Katherine Archdale*

215 Benton, #1  
Wolf Point, MT 59201

January 11, 2007

To Who It Concerns:

I am going to college on the Ft. Peck reservation at Fort Peck Community College. I would like to ask for your support for the NonBeneficiary bill that is going to be coming your way. I am not a Native American, but I sure do appreciate the fact that I can attend college here and receive funds just like all the other students. I am happy to be able to ask for your support. I work full time as does my wife.

Again, please support the Nonbeneficiary.

Thank you,

Jay/Usome

January 8, 2007

Support Letter for Non-Beneficiary

I am 20 years old and live at home with my mom. My mom is a single parent of two children. My brother and I both go to school at Fort Peck Community College. My mother is a teacher at the Poplar School and has been paying taxes for many years. She is very happy that the college here can provide us with financial aid that helps to at least pay our tuition and books. I am happy to attend here because my friends do too. I think the classes are great as are the teachers.

My mom was not able to save enough money for us to go to college without taking a bunch of loans out and since the college here can help us and we won't have loans, it was our best choice.

Please support the Tribal colleges in the Non-beneficiary bill.

Sincerely,

*Victoria Lytle*

January 11, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

I am attending Fort Peck Community College, which is a Tribal College in Montana. Although I am not an Indian I have lived on the reservation my whole life and decided to attend our local college because the cost is very reasonable and the degree choices are great.

My parents are middle-income and I would qualify for some federal assistance, but very little. My parents are tax payers in the state and they are very appreciative of my being able to go to school. They could not afford a college with higher tuition. I am working part-time and going to school full-time.

The school here tries to help all the students that they can. I even got a scholarship that paid for my books and I received a Non-Beneficiary waiver for my whole tuition.

Please support the Tribal Colleges and give them support for the Non-Beneficiary bill in the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jed Jankes".

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**To:** mcampbellhd31@yahoo.com

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I,m writing in support of HB 283.I,m a non-beneficiary student and have been attending Chief Dull Knife Collage for the past few years working on getting a degree in business. I all so work at the western Energy Mine at Coalstrip.The only way I can got to school and work is because the school is only a short drive from work.

Attending classes with the Indian students has been a great way to develop better under standing of the native American culture  
Craig Nile.

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