

Bardash, Donci

From: Tony Brockman [tony_brockman_@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2007 3:13 PM
To: Bardash, Donci
Subject: FW: House Bill 525

Attachments: February16.doc



February16.doc (30 KB)

Ms. Bardadash:

This is the Public testimony from Kevin A. Nalty on 16 Feb. 2007 to the House Education Committee on House Bill 525.

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>From: "Kevin Nalty" <brother_nalty@hotmail.com>
>To: tony_brockman_@hotmail.com
>Subject: House Bill 525
>Date: Fri, 16 Feb 2007 12:41:15 -0700
>
>Here you go, for the House Committee of Education:
>
>

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February 16, 2007

From:

Kevin Nalty
2250A Everard Court
Missoula, MT 59801

To:

The House Education Committee
Rep. Rick Jore – Chairperson

Chairman Jore and the honorable members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Kevin Nalty and I am a Christian student at the University of Montana. I have written to address the bill which has come before you today, HB 525. As a Christian student with more conservative leanings, I felt the need to write to oppose this bill. While I applaud the committee and the author of HB 525 on their desire to see intellectual diversity in our university system, I must disagree with this bill. I do not see how forcing intellectual diversity by law will help the situation any more than turning all discussions in classes to be moderate lectures of empty facts. For me, as a student in a more liberal university with more liberal teachers I have found the beauty of a dialogue a great benefit to my education. A dialogue is designed to challenge students not only to think in a new way, but to also question why they and their professors have such views. If we enact a law which limits this dialogue for fear of breaking some sort of diversity code, it will be a detriment to professors, both conservative and liberal. It will also limit the conversation that students may be able to talk about in class. I will not be able to ask questions that are shaped by a more Christian perspective because the teacher will not be able to answer them with their own views because of a diversity code. Granted, this bill would end the strong influence of liberalism at our universities, but it would also end this dialogue between students and faculty. Rather than our universities being a forum for diverse perspectives, all would fall into moderation with no feelings thoroughly behind the thoughts. Please, allow me this dialogue and allow Montana students to have their own views and allow them to clash with our professors'. I thank the committee for its time.

With best regards,

Kevin Nalty
Senior in Psychology