EXHIBIT 4
DATE 2.8.07
HB 398

Re: HB 398

I am Mary Ellen Schnur, chair of the Montana Outfitters and Guides Association Fish & Wildlife committee. I reside at Townsend.

We recommend that HB 398 not pass. It creates an unfair opportunity for the very wealthy to hunt bighorn sheep, goat, bison, or antlered moose multiple times, while the ordinary hunter could succeed in the drawing only once in a lifetime.

We'd all like to draw that special license. The fact of the matter is that tens of thousands of hunters apply each year for a few hundred of these licenses. Most hunters will never draw one.

Drawing a license doesn't mean that the hunter will succeed in bagging the desired game, or even get to hunt for it. Fish Wildlife & Parks information is that several people who draw a license in any given year do not even hunt, for reasons such as health or military service.

The very few people who re-apply after seven years for another license do not statistically affect the odds of anyone else drawing a license. A very small number of hunters have ever drawn twice for the same species.

Adopting a new law which exempts the very wealthy, who can pay amazing amounts of money for an auction tag, and which does not benefit the ordinary hunter, is not appropriate.