

HB 628

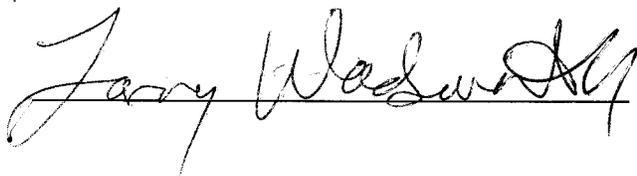
Larry Wadsworth of Thompson Falls,
Oppose this bill on the grounds of fairness, and equality.

My employment duties include the operation and management of an underground storage tank. I am therefore quite familiar with the Labor, equipment, and other expenses incurred to keep an underground storage tank in compliance with State and Federal Laws and Rules. Those operation and management costs along with the petroleum fund co-payments are costs associated with having the ability to receive benefits from the petroleum fund.

Implementing the federal underground storage tank requirements at the State level through compliance is part of a state program that has been approved at the federal level and this bill is not requiring that compliance for a group of those regulated tanks. Since this bill removes the compliance component currently required for eligibility to the petroleum fund for a group of federally regulated underground storage tanks of which the tanks I manage and operate are included and for which my organization incurs costs, I consider this proposed language to be inequitable.

In my opinion, it is only fair to require underground storage tanks that are State and Federally regulated to the same standard of operation, compliance, and benefits.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to present this opposition statement.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry Wadsworth". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed text of the statement.