

March 19, 2007

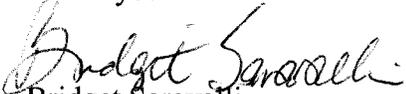
EXHIBIT 6  
DATE 3.19.07  
SB 139

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

I am unable to attend today's hearing on SB 139, Governor Schweitzer's tax rebate for homeowners. I would like to express to you my support for this bill.

SB 139 rewards Montana homeowners who support their communities and this state by paying their fair share of property taxes. This is a good plan, one that will not drain the state's coffers of the funds necessary for good schools, public services, roads and economic growth.

Thank you.



Bridget Saravalli  
845 Lump Gulch Rd.  
Clancy MT 59634

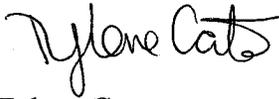
March 19, 2007

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee;

I am unable to attend today's hearing but would like to relay to you my support for SB 139, the Governor's tax rebate for homeowners. My husband and I both support this bill.

Thank you for your attention to this statement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tylene Cato". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Tylene Cato

David and Tylene Cato  
3815 Kitt  
Helena, MT 59602

In Support of SB 139:

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee –

I am a homeowner and a native of Montana. I attended state schools and received a degree from a Montana state university. Since graduating (oh, those many years ago), I've worked hard, along with my husband, to purchase and pay off a home. Both of us have worked a number of jobs over the years, always striving toward a debt-free life that will allow us to retire in comfort.

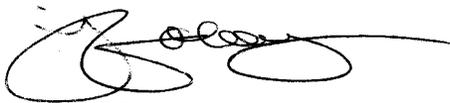
That dream is nearing reality. After more than 20 years of working and saving, we will finish payments on our home at the end of this year. During that time, we have, of course, paid taxes on our home and income – taxes that have gone to support the infrastructure of Montana and our town.

I support SB 139, the \$400 homeowner rebate for two reasons: It rewards middle-class Montanans who've supported their state and communities by paying property taxes and improving their homes and neighborhoods. It does not reward those who have **not** put in years of effort to improve their own lives and the lives of their fellow Montanans by paying their just share of taxes.

I also support this bill because it is a one-time payment. I do not want a tax plan that depletes state coffers of the monies Montanans need to ensure good schools, reliable public services, decent roads and continuing economic growth.

Again, as a native Montanan and homeowner – who has seen many tax plans come and go, usually at the expense of people in my income bracket – I ask you to support SB 139.

Thank you.



Jennifer O'Loughlin  
1764 Spruce Drive  
Helena, MT 59601

This letter is written in support of the Governor's Property Tax Rebate.

As a lifelong resident of Montana I would like to voice support of the Governor's proposal to give resident Montana Homeowners a one time \$400.00 property tax rebate.

I find it to be offensive that some elected officials would support a proposal that would give out-of-state corporations and wealthy individuals pro rata tax plans. I don't think this serves the interests of year around residents of Montana or the State of Montana as a whole. Also under this plan local school systems will suffer and no one should need to be reminded that the future of not only our state but our country will be in the hands of those children currently attending our school systems.

Craig Davis  
P.O. Box 3145  
Kalispell, MT 59903

406-250-1370

**Sandi Curriero**

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**From:** Erik Nylund [ecnylund@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 18, 2007 9:17 PM  
**To:** Sandi Curriero  
**Subject:** sb139

March 19, 2007

Dear Senators:

My name is Erik Nylund. I am a full-time Montana resident and a homeowner in Missoula. I cannot take time off work to come testify. My friend Sandi Curriero Lucky is kind enough to deliver my message.

I ask you to support SB 139. Tax relief is desperately needed by Montana families who own homes. We are the people who live, work, and build Montana. We have paid for the infrastructure and services of this state through property and other taxes. The people who have made Montana a lifetime home deserve relief more than those who simply own vacation homes or corporations who temporarily do business in Montana.

In many areas of Montana, our property values have increased, but so have our taxes. Our homes are not a means to make profit, they are a means to live and work in Montana. The rising value of real estate does no good for the people who call Montana home. Those increases are not caused by Montana working families. Values are driven up by wealthy individuals purchasing vacation homes. With that in mind, the tax increases we have faced are in part due to inflated prices caused by part-time residents who do not pay income taxes in Montana. As a result, many Montanans have a hard time paying inflated property taxes. In my case, a private golf course with luxury homes built down my street has caused my property taxes to increase. The developers of this golf course seem to view the increased property value as a gift, but I cannot afford to sell or buy a new home on my middle class salary. In effect, I am being punished by out of state developers because I've chosen to spend my life in Montana.

SB 139 grants relief to people like me who pay taxes based on an inflated value caused by neighbors who simply want a vacation home. It does not place an additional burden on anyone. SB 139 is a small bit of relief for people who have paid a lifetime of taxes in Montana.

I ask you to support SB 139 and give tax relief to those who contribute the most to this state over the course of a lifetime. Those people live, work, and build Montana.

Sincerely,

Erik Nylund  
8820 Warbler Dr  
Missoula, MT 59808  
406-360-0345

3/19/2007

**Sandi Curriero**

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**From:** Joseph Pennington [jcqs@blackfoot.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 18, 2007 9:47 PM  
**To:** Se [REDACTED]om  
**Subject:** Fw: letter

Sandi could you please check this letter for accuracy. If it is wrong, please do not read it to the committee. Thank you. I will not be able to attend the hearing because I'm working. Joe

Dear Committee Members,

I support the \$400 tax rebate for all MT Property Owners that Governor Schweitzer is proposing. I support this over the Republican plan because I think it will have a more positive impact on MT's economy and citizens.

1- Under Governor Schweitzer's plan every MT resident homeowner gets a "sizable break" - think of it as a monetary award for living in MT - we definitely don't get many of those.

2- Almost everyone who gets this rebate will be spending those dollars in Montana. I highly doubt that any out of stater's will take their Republican rebate check and buy a T.V. from the local appliance store, go out and buy a little extra at the grocery store or splurge on a night on the town - MT town that is.

3- Governor Schweitzer's plan does not take funding earmarked for public schools while the Republican plan does. Most of our public schools are already on a shoestring budget and cannot take this hit. I know this from personal experience being on our local school board.

The Republican Plan is nothing more than a property tax deduction that benefits the upper class and out of state property owners, not the majority of the hard working people of Montana.

I feel as a working citizen of Montana, I am always under attack. It seems I am always giving more in taxes, more for insurance, and getting less and less in return. I know a lot of others feel the same way I do. Governor Schweitzer's plan is a step in the right direction in making the average Montana citizen feel a little more appreciated.

Joe Pennington

PO Box 115

Elliston, MT 59728

March 19, 2007

Hi Sandy,

Sorry that I can't be there to testify as a proponent to SB-139.

It is about time that the ordinary homeowner, working class people of Montana receive a benefit to help in this time of ever increasing daily costs to live and support their household.

Please add my name as a homeowner in the State of Montana that I too proudly support SB-139

Kim Greco  
514 James Street  
Butte, MT 59701

**From:** John Johnson [outofwork400@theglobal.net]  
**To:** [curriero@bresnan.net](mailto:curriero@bresnan.net)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 19, 2007 8:11 AM  
**Subject:** Legislation 8:30 Monday morning

I John Johnson support SB139 I reside at 202 west groschell in East helena MT. 59635

**Sandi Curriero**

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**From:** IUOE400GrFalls@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 18, 2007 6:41 PM  
**To:** sar [REDACTED] om  
**Subject:** Re: Legislation 8:30 Monday morning

Dear member of the legislature:

I would just like to voice my support for the Governor's proposal of a \$400.00 rebate for resident home owners.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Earl Salley  
1104 19th ST. S.  
Great Falls, MT .59405

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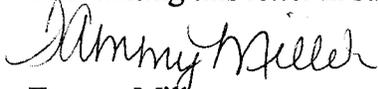
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[REDACTED]

March 19, 2007

Dear Members of the Legislature,

I am writing this letter in support of the Governor's tax proposal.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tammy Miller".

Tammy Miller  
2575 Cody Drive  
East Helena MT 59635