

EXHIBIT 27  
DATE 2/17/09  
HB 548

AD  
oppose HB 548

Dear Montana Legislators,

I come to dog shows in your state and I want the right to visit, show my own dogs, and to buy good purebred dogs from Montana breeders.

Please OPPOSE HB 548.

On my last show trip to Montana I had two dogs entered in 8 shows across the state at a cost of \$248.00 for entries.

Hotels were \$942.00

Fuel was \$88.77

Restaurant expenses came to \$197.00

Total dollars spent by me alone, not counting souvenirs for family members back home: \$1475.77. If this or other similar bills pass, I will not return to the state.

There were 22 other exhibitors present from all over the western and upper midwestern states in my breed alone on this show circuit, and this circuit has exploded in popularity each year going forward.

If I round each of their expenses down to \$1000.00 each, that's \$22,000 generated from just my breed alone for the state of Montana.

Here are some more statistics for you about dog events and the money they generate for your state:

2006- 70 events, 19,067 dogs participated  
2007- 75 events, 19,926 dogs participated  
2008- 83 events, 17,291 dogs participated

Totals: 56,284 dogs participated in 228 events in Montana over the past 3 years

Here is a revenue projection:

So here are the MT tourism estimates using the smallest estimates (-1000 entries):

2006 --- \$22,344,000  
2007 --- \$23,940,000  
2008 --- \$26,493,600

So over \$72 million in 3 years.