

EXHIBIT 30  
DATE 2/17/09  
HB 548

AD  
OPPOSE HB548

Dear Montana Representative:

Please Oppose HB 548. As a Montana native, I am greatly disturbed by this bill, which violates 4th Amendment Rights.

The inspection provision within the bill is tantamount to coercion. If this bill were to pass, a commercial breeder or pet seller could not breed or sell dogs without an inspection. Yet, by the very act of submitting to the required inspection, the dog breeder/pet seller must necessarily give up his/her 4th amendment right to privacy -- the right to be secure in one's person, house, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures -- and submit to warrantless searches of his/her premises with no probable cause that the breeder is committing any offense. In this way, the breeder is coerced -- strong-armed into giving up his/her 4th amendment right to privacy as a requirement for compliance -- by a governmental agency. Such an "inspection" is even more glaringly unconstitutional if the "facility" is a breeder/pet seller's home.

In the past I've traveled to Montana to purchase high end home furnishings without sales tax. Should this bill pass, I will no longer spend any money Montana.

Sincerely,

Judie Lucas  
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