

EXHIBIT 1DATE 4/2/09SB 38**Aubyn Curtiss**

From: "la crowley" <lacrowley@onewest.net>
To: <senatorcurtissd1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2009 4:58 PM
Subject: re SB 38

Dear Senator Curtiss,

I am writing as chair of the Missoula Farmers' Market to support SB38. I am referring especially to the changes in Section 80-7-106, 3(a) and the fee schedule exempting a firm, nursery or plant dealer who earns less than \$1,000 in gross annual sales of nursery stock.

I know we have between 15-20 backyard growers just in Missoula who sell bedding plants in late spring at the two Farmers' Markets. They certainly are not in the same category as full time nurseries and should be exempted.

SB38 allows firms, nurseries and plant dealers to pay their fair share and not burden the backyard grower unduly.

Thank you for sponsoring this bill,
Lou Ann Crowley
Missoula Farmers' Market

Sent: Tuesday, December 30, 2008 12:53 PM
Subject: Re: Plant Bill

Hi Aubyn,

I read the bill and surely will support any measure like this that takes government off the backs of the little guy. The original bill is not spelled out in enough detail as with many laws, and leaves far too much in the hands of government agents. We need a rule of LAW in our state, not the rule of men.

Your bill clarifies the law and details who is responsible. It also exempts some cottage industries that many people need to survive in these tough economic times.

Paul Stramer
Republican Precinct Committeeman Precinct 3
Lincoln County Montana

Aubyn Curtiss

From: <linda.mycek@curlewseed.com>
To: <SenatorCurtissSD1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 26, 2009 5:50 PM
Subject: nursery license fee revision

Senator Aubyn Curtiss
Helena, Montana

Dear Senator Curtiss,

I am replying to your letter to the Montanian, Libby, Montana dated January 14, 2009 regarding the newly required annual \$100 licensing fee of coniferous products and plant dealers and nurseries for sales less than \$1,000.00. The license used to be free-no fee for sales less than \$1,000.00. I did not pay the fee for 2009. My business is new-three years old. In 2008 I took my business to Washington State and got a license there for \$25.00

Also, I did not like getting threatening letters from the licensing department in Montana for not renewing my license for 2008. I sent them an email explaining that I had no sales in Montana and that I had a nursery license from Washington State.

Profits on sales usually run about 10% of gross. Paying \$100 on less than \$1,000.00 worth of sales is not affordable.

Thank you for your support.

Good luck passing the bill to exempt plant dealers earning less than \$1,000.00 per year!

Sincerely,

Linda Mycek
President
Curlew Seed, Inc.
300 Kroupa Road
Curlew, WA 99118
509-540-7167
linda.mycek@curlewseed.com
www.curlewseed.com

Aubyn Curtiss

From: "Blanche Flanagan" <santaselves@interbel.net>
To: "Aubyn Curtiss" <aubyna@interbel.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 04, 2009 7:57 PM
Subject: My comments

Aubyn, Here are some thoughts on the bill you are proposing. I hope you can share these. I wish I could be there, but with few sub bus drivers, it is hard for me to get away.

First I would like to say that it is important to keep diseases from our plants in Montana. I feel that every company bringing in plants and fruits to Montana should be required to get a license and have their things inspected. It only takes one disease to slip through and we will be devastated. Many of the small groups and companies that make wreaths and sell them with either trees or just as a money maker do so with an honest heart. Small groups that buy from me are usually just trying to make some money to help go to Washington or some other worthy cause. Why should they be penalized because they are using the resources around to help themselves instead of standing around and asking for a handout? We in northwest Montana (Eureka specifically) have taught our children that if you want something work for it. So why would we penalize them for this?

My business is a small business. I employ 20 -25 people per year. I have to have my products inspected and have had a hard time with the license issue; however, I feel it is something I must do to keep my business. I have had my wreaths inspected for the last 15 or so years because I ship to states that require it. I have paid taxes on my income so I am not trying to beat the state of Montana out of anything. However, I know of about 5 or 6 people that have gone out of business because of the law that was passed last time. Please consider that your bill is a compromise for the issues that arose from that bill. Will those people start back up again because of the bill change? I highly doubt it. However, we appreciate you trying to make this right.

I will always have to buy a license and that is OK. I just didn't like the way the bill was pushed through as if it was a secret.

Thank you for keeping me in the loop. I will be there (if I can find a sub) on Legislative Breakfast day and would be willing to meet with anyone to discuss this further.

Thank you,

Blanche Flanagan
Santa's Elves Wreaths and Greenery.

Aubyn Curtiss

From: "Darlene" <3jump-rauthe9@bresnan.net>
To: "Aubyn Curtiss" <senatorcurtissd1@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 11, 2009 3:47 PM
Subject: RE: Legislative Report January 11, 2009

Dear Aubyn Curtiss, The paragraph about coniferous products concerns me. I do make wreaths, etc. at Christmas, not to sell, yet, I may do that at some time in the future though. Currently they are only gifts. The material for them comes from privately owned land. SB38 would be very advantageous to the person who sells less than \$1,000 worth of coniferous products. I, for one, never dreamed that a "license" was remotely necessary. Thank you for your Legislative Report. Darlene Jump-Rauthe

Phone Message

Message # 18784

Operator CL0069

Message taken: 4/2/2009 10:21:51 AM

Caller **Kathleen Johnson**

Title/Company

pobox 343

Fortine, MT 59918

Home Ph. - - 406

Work Ph. - - 406

Cell Ph.

Sent to all Members: Agriculture

Senate

SEN. AUBYN CURTISS

Seat No. 11

CallBack

Vote FOR SB 38: Revise laws governing nurseries and plant dealers.