

EXHIBIT 8
DATE 1-8-09
HB 62

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board,

Hello. My name is Thomas Ticknor, and I am 9 years old.

I like to trap, and have been trapping with my big brothers since I was 5 years old. I help them to harvest mink, muskrat, and beaver. I also have some of my own traps that I set for mink and muskrat.

I think that being taught about good trapping ways is a good thing, but it should not be a law. I have been to 3 of the Montana Youth Annual Trapping Camps that are set up by the Montana Trappers Association and the Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. They take 3 days, and have lots of hands on stuff to do. I learned a lot more at one of these than I would have learned in a classroom or on the computer. Please don't take the money that Fish, Wildlife, and Parks uses to help the camp and put it for a class.

By the time that I am 12 years old and have to take this class, I will have been trapping for 7 years! I don't think that I should have to take a class because it is a law. Even though I might want to take the class just to learn more, it should not be a law. Laws are supposed to keep us free, not give us even more rules than there already are.

Please vote **against** House Bill 62.

Thank you.

Thomas Ticknor
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