EXHIBIT 6
DATE 2/16/2011
HB 456

HB456 Right of Parents to Protect Their Children

B456 is the Right-of-Parents-to-Protect-Their-Children Amendment. This amendment would both preserve and reclaim certain parental rights. I feel each of the parental rights suggested in this amendment is pertinent and needful. A "parent-do-what-I say" committee may have its place, but it does not necessarily constitute parental input. This amendment is a step in the right direction as far as making parents and schools co-partners in the educational process—both taking responsibility and both pursuing excellence in education, and this sort of partnership is needful not only in Helena but in all public schools.

Most of us learned in a government class that any powerful government organization ought to have checks and balances. It only makes sense for there to be checks and balances in the power that schools have over children. Currently, letting children opt out of material isn't a "right" guaranteed by Montana State Law. School officials can allow our children to opt out if they feel like it. Note, I said, "if they feel like it." That allows schools a lot of leeway. Allowing parents the following: the **right to certain notifications**, the **right to opt their child out** of any concerning sex ed materials, and the **right to preview sex ed materials** before presentation is a great check and balance. By the way, I support this bill, but I think an opt-in would have even more benefits than an opt-out.

Schools and offices of public instruction should welcome having more co-partners in protecting the best interests of children during the educational process. A group called SIECUS has pointed out the vulnerability of all schools in the state of Montana to sexually explicit material: (See state profiles on siecus.org)

Due to the autonomous nature of Montana school districts, standards for the sexuality education portion of the health enhancement program are not defined. Furthermore, there is no oversight of what is being taught or who is teaching these classes.

Montana neither requires parental permission for students to participate in sexuality or HIV/AIDS education nor does it say whether parents or guardians may remove their children from such classes.

This proposed amendment gives schools as well as parents an increased ability to protect the individual child from a person or group whose priorities don't benefit

children. For example, this amendment gives the parent--me an increased ability to protect my child from any controversial trend that might be happening in sex ed. It also gives me an increased ability to protect my child from any sexual predator who is masquerading as an educator.

Finally, I want to speak about pro-abortion groups being in our schools. These groups certainly have the right to lobby for their point of view but not in my child's school. I believe having these groups in our schools constitutes a huge conflict of interest.

I've been studying materials written, sponsored and/or supported by pro-abortion groups, and I feel that many goals of these groups are not in keeping with the goals of parents. Nowhere is this seen so clearly as at the planned parenthood site. The written material for teenagers at this site is pornographic in content, and the site openly encourages sexual activity and promotes pornography and masturbation. The few positive statements they make about the benefits of abstinence are dwarfed by much encouragement to the contrary. This material is not supportive of my goals for my children.

It appears to me that having pro-abortion groups in our schools is a conflict of interest in more ways than one. A nationwide study has shown that most parents believe abstinence-based sex ed is the most healthy choice for children. But guess which groups promote and/or support both activism and studies **against** abstinence-focused programs? Don't take my word for it. Go check out almost any pro-abortion site—even those who are particular to Montana. As far as I can find, pro-abortion groups who don't take a "direct" stance against abstinence still promote and support other groups who do. When abstinence-focused programs go out of schools, guess who moves in and guess who benefits? If you guessed pro-abortion groups, you are right on the mark. Doesn't this constitute conflict of interest after conflict of interest in your mind?

I'm mainly a parent, not a statistical analyst. But it seems like common sense to me to eliminate any conflict of interest or even any potential conflict of interest by keeping abortion providers and their affiliates out of our schools educational process. Please support HB456.

See siecus.org under state profiles.

http://www.siecus.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.ViewPage&PageID=1230

Montana State Profile

Montana received no federal funding for abstinence-only-until-marriage programs in Fiscal Year 2007.[1]

Sexuality Education Law and Policy | Recent Legislation | Events of Note | Youth Statistical Information of Note | Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Funding |Community-Based Abstinence Education (CBAE) and Adolescent Family Life Act (AFLA) Grantees | Federal and State Funding for Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Programs |Adolescent Health Contact | Organizations that Support Comprehensive Sexuality Education | Organizations that Oppose Comprehensive Sexuality Education | Local Newspapers | References

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Montana Sexuality Education Law and Policy

Montana's public education systemis supervised by the Montana Board of Public Education, which sets standards for curricula in public schools. According to the Montana Office of Public Instruction, the Board of Public Education requires a "health enhancement" program. According to the health enhancement program's content standards, "a student must have basic knowledge and understanding of concepts that promote comprehensive health." Specifically, by the end of fourth grade, students should be able to "identify personal health-enhancing strategies…that encompass injury/disease prevention, including HIV/AIDS prevention." By the end of eighth grade, students should be able to understand the reproductive system as well as personal health-enhancing strategies about sexual activity and HIV/AIDS prevention. By graduation, students should be able to understand the impact of personal behaviors on the body, including the reproductive system, and have personal health-enhancing strategies about sexual activity and HIV/AIDS prevention. The Montana Board of Public Education released a *Position Statement on HIV/AIDS* that states, "All Montana school districts are strongly encouraged to develop appropriate communicable disease policies that specifically include HIV and AIDS, and which address age-appropriate education, rights and accommodations of students and staff who are infected, and safety procedures."

Due to the autonomous nature of Montana school districts, standards for the sexuality education portion of the health enhancement program are not defined. Furthermore, there is no oversight of what is being taught or who is teaching these classes.

Montana neither requires parental permission for students to participate in sexuality or HIV/AIDS education nor does it say whether parents or guardians may remove their children from such classes.

See Montana Administrative Rules 10.54.7011, 7012, and 7013, 10.54.2501, and 10.55.905 and *Montana Board of Public EducationPosition Statement on HIV/AIDS.*

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Recent Legislation

Healthy Youth Program Act Introduced

House Bill 612, introduced in February 2007, would have established a grant program within the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) to fund cities, counties, or tribal health councils to carry out age-appropriate sexuality education that follows a specific curriculum. Components included that the instruction "must be age-appropriate and medically accurate; may not teach or promote religion; must stress the benefits of sexual abstinence while addressing the health needs of adolescents who have had or who are engaged in a sexual relationship; must provide information about the health benefits and side effects of all contraceptives and barrier methods as a means to reduce the risk of contracting sexually transmitted infections, HIV, AIDS, and other diseases and preventing unintended pregnancy; and must encourage family communication about sexuality among parents, other adult household members, and children." Programs may not be out of compliance with any of the components. The bill addressed eligibility for Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage funds, stating that "because the requirements set forth in each program are in direct conflict, an eligible entity may not accept contracts from both programs." DPHHS would have been responsible for overseeing all procedures, contracts, and awards related to the "Healthy Youth Program." The bill died after it was tabled in the House Committee on Human Services on a party-line vote and missed the deadline for general bill transmittal.

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Events of Note

School Board Defends Contentious High School Reading Selection

May 2007; Billings, MT

A school board panel in Billings School District Two refused a request by a group of parents to pull Richard Bradford's *Red Sky At Morning* from the reading list for freshman English classes.

In February, one parent filed a complaint against the book, which details a young boy's transition from life in Alabama to New Mexico during World War II, for "excessive profanity and…sexually suggestive passages."[2] When the parent contacted the teacher about the book her daughter was given an alternative book to read, but she pursued the complaint anyway, arguing that the book is inappropriate for all 14-year-olds.[3]

The parent and other supporters voiced their complaints to a review panel set up by the board of directors, but panel stood behind the novel, which has been used by the school district for over twenty years. The committee, composed of a principal, librarian, teacher, and parent, voted to keep the book. One member, an English teacher suggested that most high school reading selections include contentious themes and potentially offensive language. If they didn't, she

continued, "I can think of very few that would be left ...No Nobel Prize books would be left or any of the books used in the AP classes."[4]

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Montana's Youth: Statistical Information of Note[5]

1. In 2007, 46% of female high school students and 45% of male high school students in Montana reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 50% of male high school students nationwide.
2. In 2007; 3% of female high school students and 7% of male high school students in Montana reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students nationwide.
3. In 2007, 13% of female high school students and 15% of male high school students in Montana reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 12% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students nationwide.
4. In 2007, 35% of female high school students and 28% of male high school students in Montana reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 36% of female high school students and 34% of male high school students nationwide.
5. In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 56% of females and 73% of males in Montana reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 55% of females and 69% of males nationwide.
6. In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 30% of females and 15% of males in Montana reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 19% of females and 13% of males nationwide.
7. In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 21% of females and 32% of males in Montana reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 18% of females and 28% of males nationwide.
8. In 2007, 90% of high school students in Montana reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 90% of high school students nationwide.

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Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Funding

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services would have been eligible for $161,398 in Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Funding in Fiscal Year 2007. The Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage grant requires states to provide three state-raised dollars or the equivalent in services for every four federal dollars received. The state match may be provided in part or in full by local groups. The state does not apply for these funds due to the extraordinary restrictions upon how the money must be spent. Therefore, the state does not match funds nor does it have organizations supported by this type of federal money.

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Community-Based Abstinence Education (CBAE) and Adolescent Family Life Act (AFLA) Grantees

There are no CBAE or AFLA grantees in Montana.

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Federal and State Funding for Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Programs in FY 2007

Montana did not receive abstinence-only-until-marriage funding in Fiscal Year 2007.

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Adolescent Health Contact[6]

Jo Ann Dotson

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services

Director's Office

P.O. Box 4210

111 N. Sanders

Helena, MT 59620

Phone: (406) 444-4743

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Montana Organizations that Support Comprehensive Sexuality Education

ACLU of Montana
P.O. Box 1317
Helena, MT 59624
Phone: (406) 443-8590
www.aclumontana.org

NARAL Pro-Choice Montana
P.O. Box 279
Helena, MT 59624
Phone: (406) 443-0276
www.prochoicemontana.org

Blue Mountain Clinic
610 North California St.
Missoula, MT 59802
Phone: (406) 721-1646
www.bluemountainclinic.org

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Montana Organizations that Oppose Comprehensive Sexuality Education

Montana Family Foundation
P.O. Box 485
Laurel, MT 59044
Phone: (406) 628-1141
www.montanafamily.org

Right to Life of Montana
1900 Last Chance Gulch
P.O. Box 6787
Helena, MT 59601
Phone: (406) 443-0827
www.rtlmt.org

Newspapers in Montana[7]

Billings Gazette
Newsroom
P.O. Box 36300
Billings, MT 59107
Phone: (406) 657-1200
www.billingsgazette.net

The Livingston Enterprise
Newsroom
P.O. Box 2000
Livingston, MT 59047
Phone: (406) 222-2000
www.livingstonenterprise.com

Miles City Star
Newsroom
P.O. Box 1216
Miles City, MY 59301
Phone: (406) 234-0450
www.milescitystar.com

Montana Standard
Newsroom
25 W. Granite St.

Butte, MT 59701
Phone: (406) 496-5500
www.mtstandard.com

Bozeman Daily Chronicle
Newsroom
P.O. Box 1190
Bozeman, MT 59771
Phone: (406) 587-4491
www.bozemandailychronicle.com

Independent Record
Newsroom
P.O. Box 4249
Helena, MT 59604
Phone: (406) **447-4000**
www.helenair.com

Missoulian

Newsroom

P.O. Box 8029
Missoula, MT 59807

Phone: (406) 523-5200
www.missoulian.com

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References

1. This refers to the fiscal year for the Federal Government which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. The fiscal year is designated by the calendar year in which it ends; for example, Fiscal Year 2007 begins on October 1, 2006 and ends on September 30, 2007.
2. Laura. Tode, "Panel Refuses Request To Remove Book From School Curriculum,"*Helena Independent Record*, 11 May 2007, accessed 16 May 2007, <www.helenair.com/articles/2007/05/11/montana/a07051107_04.txt>.
3. Ibid.
4. Ibid.
5. Unless otherwise cited, all statistical information comes from: Danice K. Eaton, et. al., "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2007," Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report 57.SS-4 (6 June 2008), accessed 4 June 2008, http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>.
6. SIECUS has identified this person as a state-based contact for information on adolescent health and if applicable, abstinence-only-until-marriage programs.
7. This section is a list of major newspapers in your state with contact information for their newsrooms.This list is by no means inclusive and does not contain the local level newspapers which are integral to getting your message out to your community. SIECUS strongly urges you to follow stories about the issues that concern you on the national, state, and local level by using an internet news alert service such as Google alerts, becoming an avid reader of your local papers, and establishing relationships with reporters who cover your issues.For more information on how to achieve your media goals visit the SIECUS Community Action Kit.

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Bibleography

MONTANA

Abortion Education Providers

NARAL Pro-choice Montana

www.prochoiceamerica.org

Blue Mountain Clinic

www.bluemountainclinic.org

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others

www.siecus.org

www.plannedparenthood.org

www.advocatesforyouth.org

- This study has been referenced by groups all over.
(FOOTNOTE 2)

http://www.opposingviews.com/i/accept-it-obama-parents-teens-favor-abstinence

Accept it, Obama: Parents & Teens Favor Abstinence

Opinion by Heritage Foundation
(August 26, 2010) in Politics
By Rachel Sheffield

A recent national study shows that the majority of U.S. parents and their teens support sexual abstinencebefore marriage. But the Obama Administration doesn't want you to know this.
Early last year, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) completed the *National Survey of Adolescents and Their Parents: Attitudes and Opinions about Sex and Abstinence*. Results show that the majority of parents favor abstinence and the abstinence message. However, while HHS released a brief summary of the results, when researcher Dr. Lisa Rue of the University of Northern Colorado requested to see the full report of the taxpayer-funded study, HHS repeatedly refused. **They told her it was not public information. However, the study had been shared at two public venues**.
Finally, at the beginning of this week, after pressure from the public, HHS released the full study.

Dr. Rue **points out** that taxpayers and citizens have a right to such information and that access to these results is necessary to aid in the designing of school and community sex education programs.

However, this may be precisely why the Obama Administration was reluctant to release the study. According to the **National Abstinence Education Association**:

> [The study] calls into question whether recent sex education policy decisions truly reflect cultural norms or clear evidence-based trends.

Last year, President Obama eliminated all funding for abstinence education. **While an amendment to the health care bill reauthorized $50 million for abstinence funding, also included in the bill was an additional $75 million funding stream for comprehensive sex education**. Yet the **results of the HHS study** indicate that 70 percent of parents are opposed to premarital sex in general as well as for their teens. (The majority of teens also reported opposition to premarital sex.) Moreover, the study shows that 83 percent of parents support their teens receiving the abstinence message in school.
It's no surprise that parents and teens support abstinence. Adolescents who abstain from sexual activity**report greater academic achievement and lower rates of depression and are less likely to have a child outside of marriage. Furthermore, they are less likely to experience poverty or end up on**welfare. **A variety of abstinence education programs have shown positive benefits for youth, including at-risk youth**.

Such a divide between Washington's ideals and those of the people—in this case, parents and youth—is yet another example of a disconnected government pushing its own interests.

Instead of covering or simply ignoring the facts, policymakers would be wise to support measures that help youth remain abstinent. Parents—and even their teens—know that abstinence is best. It's time the Obama