

Advancing Agricultural Education

2011-13 Biennium

EXHIBIT 4
DATE 2/14/2011
HB

Success of HB 464 in the past two years 2009-2011 (\$224,000.)

Established 10 new Ag Ed/FFA programs across the state

Assisted virtually every High School Ag Ed program in the state to adopt and

implement the exciting new National Quality Program Standards

Provided an on-line record keeping system for Students' SAE projects

Provided travel, on-the-ground support and mentoring directly into local schools from
the state Ag Ed and FFA Specialists

Decision Package 913 - Governor's Proposed Budget cuts the support to \$110,000.

Agriculture is the brightest sector in Montana's Economy

Montana's Number ONE industry is our state's biggest job-creating engine

This program trains the very leaders who will create the jobs in that sector

Reducing this support at this critical time would be short-sighted and ill-advised

Agriculture is poised for serious growth in years ahead

Montana's biggest industry is meeting the world-wide demand for quality protein

A few dollars spent here will make a huge long-term difference in our economy

We need to invest in the programs that encourage entrepreneurs and risk-takers

These ARE the good-paying local jobs that are key to Montana's future: in the
trades of agricultural, energy, resources