



Daniel Salomon <dansalomon12@gmail.com>

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## hb 194

1 message

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**Mike Leishman** <Mike@cattlemensclub.com>  
To: dansalomon12@gmail.com

Tue, Jan 11, 2011 at 10:33 AM

Dan

Please give support to this bill.

Thanks



**Mike Leishman**

406-366-1628

[mike@cattlemensclub.com](mailto:mike@cattlemensclub.com)

Thomas Brosam  
437 N Pacific St  
Dillon, MT 59725

Although it was four & one half years ago it seems like only yesterday that I had to see Josi & her family, endure the hardship of losing Jami. To see firsthand the effect that losing a loved one has not only on a family but also on a community makes me a supporter of any bill that makes it easier & more expedient to pursue justice. That is why I support HB-194. Thank you for your time.

Thomas Brosam

Josi (Sherman) Brosam  
437 N Pacific St  
Dillon, MT 59725

When my sister Jami Sherman was killed 4 ½ years ago by a hit-n-run driver, I could not believe that someone who witnessed the crime would withhold the evidence of what happened. Since the passengers in the vehicle chose to remain silent we will never know why they left my sister dead in the road. This bill will hold those passengers, who purposely or knowingly fail to make a timely report, accountable for the driver's actions. If this bill saves even one life, it is worth passing. Thank you for your time.

Josi Brosam



Daniel Salomon <dansalomon12@gmail.com>

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## Jamie Sherman

1 message

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**Brenda Cook** <blcook59864@yahoo.com>

**Tue, Jan 11, 2011 at 9:56 PM**

To: dansalomon12@gmail.com

Dan,

I am writing you in support of the law that Russ and Joan Sherman are trying to pass in honor of their daughter Jamie. I think that if anyone is in an accident they should have to report the accident if they are the driver or occupant in the car. I think it is time people start being responsible for their actions.

Thank you very much for your time. Brenda Cook 46989 Pache Lane Ronan MT 59864 406-676-4020

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Daniel Salomon <dansalomon12@gmail.com>

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## Sherman auto accident law

1 message

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**Brenda Cook** <blcook59864@yahoo.com>  
To: dansalomon12@gmail.com

**Tue, Jan 11, 2011 at 10:03 PM**

Dan

I am in favor of making a state law that would require anyone that has an accident, involving personal injury or death, must be reported by quickest means possible. Darrell Cook 46989 Pache Lane Ronan MT 59864  
406-676-4020



Daniel Salomon &lt;dansalomon12@gmail.com&gt;

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**HOUSE BILL NO. 194**

1 message

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**Nina Cook <cooknlc@yahoo.com>****Tue, Jan 11, 2011 at 10:52 PM**

To: dansalomon12@gmail.com

To Whom This May Concern:

I'm writing this letter as the friend of Jami Sherman. My friend was killed by a hit and run driver on July 1st . She was then buried on mine and her fathers birthday July 8Th, it was my 25Th birthday. The hardest part of that day was still not knowing who or how it all happened. There were passengers in the vehicle that struck and killed my friend. They did not come forward, the passengers should have been held accountable for knowing information and withholding it from law enforcement. I am 100% in support of House bill No. 194. It is about time that people are held responsible for their actions!

Thank you for taking the time to hear my words! Please pass House Bill no. 194. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Nina Lee Cook  
211 3rd Ave East  
Polson, MT 59860

(406)241-5693



Mr./Ms. Chairman and members of the committee,

I am sending testimony in today in support of HB 194. I testified a similar bill in front of committee in 2007. I remember listening to the discussion after my testimony and the committee kept asking the question "how and why should a person not in the driver's seat be held accountable for the actions of the driver? And ultimately the bill did not pass as the legislators did not find a concrete answer to that question so they could pass this bill. They all empathized with the Sherman family and offered their sincere condolences' but did not pass the bill.

The members of the committee made compelling arguments against this bill and I have spent several years now personally wrestling with the questions they asked. In my searched for the answers to the question "why is this bill necessary to our society and law enforcement?" to answer the question, I first had to distance myself from the Sherman family's personal tragedy, yes, their loss was tragic and also very personal for me, loosing Jami was the hardest thing that I have ever been through in my life. But to get this bill passed there has to be a need for HB 194 and a benefit all of our society.

The statues have other laws that pertain to accountability and being an accessory. They include laws that require professionals such as teachers and daycare providers that suspect child abuse to report their suspicions to authorities or face disciplinary and criminal consequences, and laws that allow law enforcement to hold a person that are part of a of a gun crime as an accessory to the crime, even if they did not pull the trigger. And similar to a gun, a car can be a VERY dangerous weapon, especially in the hands of someone under the influence.

HB 194 fulfills lends that same accountability and criminal consequence in a crime of vehicular homicide while under the influence. It makes everyone involved in the crime responsible. It makes the passengers of a car, accountable for their actions at the time of the crime. At the same time this bill does not automatically make the passenger a criminal; they have 7 days **to do the right thing**. **Unfortunately in today's society, we have to, at times, legislate laws that make people do the right thing as demonstrated by the other accountability laws.**

IF this law had been on the books when Jamie was killed, law enforcement officials would have had one more piece of leverage as they investigated. It was an older family member

of a passenger in the car that hit Jamie that came forward with her suspicions that gave the officials the information they needed to find the driver that killed Jamie; it took nearly a month for that family member to come forward. In that time it tore apart the community with rumor and innuendo and left the our family adrift wondering how someone could commit such a crime.

**HB 194 will give law enforcement another tool when conducting an investigation that will enable them to find answers so that families of victims can have answers.**

I stated above that I had to step back from this tragedy that happened to my family and community to answer "Is this bill was the right one for this time and this type of crime?" I found the answer to be YES, I urge you to find the answer to be yes also. Thank you for your time.

Lea Ann Larson, Bozeman, MT

pomonamt@yahoo.com

I, Lucky Larson fully support House Bill # 194 introduced by Dan Salomon.

I am a retired Lake County Sheriff from Polson, Montana and I fully understand the importance of this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lucky Larson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and phone number.

Lucky Larson  
406-250-9042



Daniel Salomon <dansalomon12@gmail.com>

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## Support of House Bill 194

1 message

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**Doug Chase** <polsonpolicechief@centurytel.net>  
To: dansalomon12@gmail.com

**Mon, Jan 10, 2011 at 4:22 PM**

Suffice it say this is a very reasonable and prudent bill and is endorsed by me . Doug Chase. Chief of Police ,Polson Police Department.

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Daniel Salomon &lt;dansalomon12@gmail.com&gt;

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**House bill 194**

2 messages

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**Jay Doyle <jdoyle@lakecountymtso.com>**  
To: dansalomon12@gmail.com**Mon, Jan 10, 2011 at 2:21 PM**

Dear Mr. Salomon, my name is Jay Doyle, newly elected Sheriff of Lake County. I whole heartedly support House Bill 194. As you may already know, this proposed bill was a direct result of a hit & run in Lake County which ended in the death of a young woman. As with any death of a young person, this case was tragic. Not only because of the death of a young lady but due to the fact that not only did the driver not report the hit & run but neither did the passenger/s. It can only be surmised that if the accident would have been reported, the end result may have ended differently.

Respectfully

Jay Doyle

Lake County Sheriff

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**Daniel Salomon <dansalomon12@gmail.com>**  
To: Jay Doyle <jdoyle@lakecountymtso.com>**Mon, Jan 10, 2011 at 2:43 PM**

Jay,

Thank you for the letter and support on this issue. Dan

[Quoted text hidden]

To Whom it May Concern:

I am Jami Sherman's oldest sister. It has been 4 ½ years since she was tragically taken from us. As her birthday gets closer it is another reminder that she is not with us. Another celebration we don't get to share with her. It has been five years of holidays and birthday celebrations without her. She loved her family very much, especially her nieces and nephews. It breaks my heart that she isn't here to watch them grow up or even meet her youngest two nieces. She would have loved to watch them all play sports and be their biggest cheerleader. She has missed out on so much since her death, we have missed her even more.

It angers me that there are two people who could have possibly helped her or at least eased our pain by coming forward with information regarding her death. These passengers involved in the accident should be held accountable for their actions or non action in this case. They could have lessened the pain for our family by one phone call. To think that they have had no consequences for their roll in my sisters death is unthinkable. I also think it speaks the strength of our family to get these laws changed so other families do not have to go through the same heartache.

Toni Sherman Taylor

# KerAnd Real Estate

Kermit Andersen - Broker/Owner

Box 699

Ronan, Montana 59864

Cell (406) 253-2721

Fax (406) 676-2773

1-11-11

To: Whom It May Concern  
House Judiciary Committee  
RE: House Bill No. 194

Please give this bill your full support.  
This is not a political, racist or anything other than  
a common sense piece of legislation that should have  
become law many years ago.

Most of us ordinary private citizens are not aware that  
this legislation is necessary until someone we love  
is directly involved as a victim.

This is the 3rd time the Sherman family and  
supporters have tried to get legislation passed and  
I hope this is the time for success.

If you have any reservations about supporting this  
piece of legislation please feel free to call me at  
anytime.

Thank You  
Sincerely,  
Kermit Andersen