EXHIBIT 14
DATE 3/23/11
HB 618

THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES
OF THE FLATHEAD NATION
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A People of Vision

A Confederation of the Salish,
Upper Pend d'Oreilles
and Kootenai Tribes

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:
E.T. "Bud" Moran – Chairman
Joe Durglo – Vice Chair
Steve Lozar – Secretary
Jim Malatare – Treasurer
Michel Kenmille
Carole Lankford
Reuben A. Mathias
Charles L. Morigeau
Terry L. Pitts
James Steele Jr.

House Bill 618
House Taxation Committee March 22, 2011

Good morning Mr. Chairman, committee members and guests:

My name is E.T. "Bud" Moran. I am the Chairman of the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

I am here to address House Bill 618.

I want to offer a few comments and then Tribal staff will also enter public comments into the record.

- The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) have a long history of collaboration with the reservation community. It is a reservation - but we know our neighbors, we go to church together, we recreate together and our children play together.

- When the Tribes began working on property tax issues, the immediate response is what about the loss in revenue to the tax base.

- In our opinion, the CSKT donate far more to the community than we pay in tax revenues. Our financial donations and community contributions greatly exceed the amount paid in annual taxes. Our donations help organizations that provide basic infrastructure to the reservation community.

- Attached to this statement is a variety of photos that demonstrate the Tribal commitment to community.

- The first photo is a picture of the Arlee volunteer fire department building. The Tribes lease this land to the fire department for a $1.00 annually for the use of .874 Tribal acres. The fire department has a 25 year lease with

a 25 year renewal option. This provides a community benefit and Tribal land is the anchor for the fire department.

- The next photo is one of the Big Arm Volunteer Fire Department. This building is built on Tribal land. The CSKT charge nothing for this 25 year lease, for the use of .48 acres.

- The next photo is a picture of Elder's Park in St. Ignatius. Local baseball teams use the property, people picnic and walk and children play there.

- The next photo is a baseball park in Ronan, Mt. The land used by the baseball association is a mix of county, city and Tribal property with the CSKT Tribes owing the majority. The CSKT Tribes also provided land to the county for the County fair grounds. Children and families have children have grown up around the recreational areas provided by the Tribes.

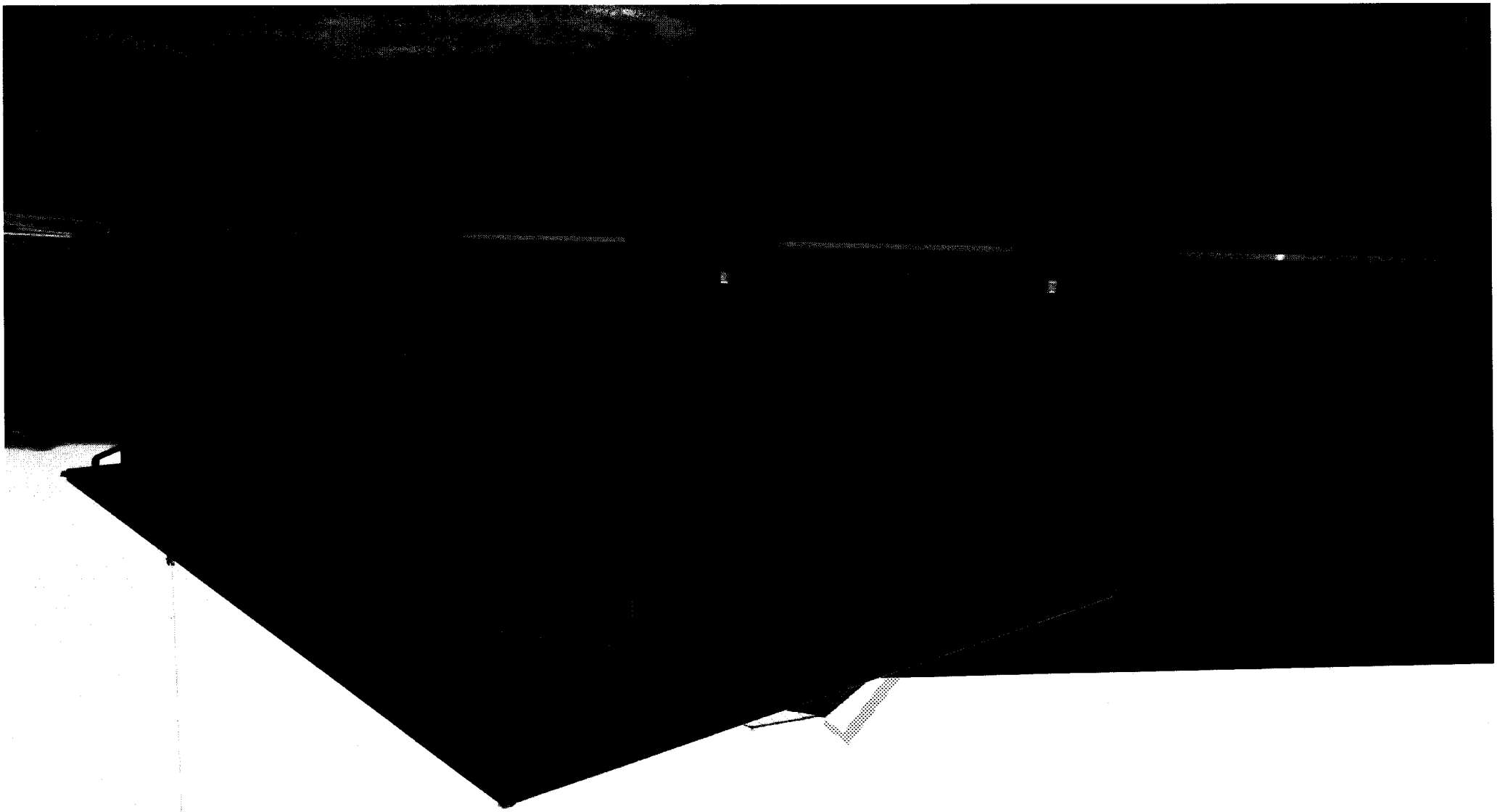
HB 618 corrects an omission in the Montana tax code. It provides for equity and allows us the same opportunity as the city, state and counties. We are good neighbors and work cooperatively to meet the needs of the reservation residents. Our record demonstrates this.

Sincerely,

E.T. "Bud" Moran, Chairman
CSKT Tribal Council

Attachment

Copy to:
House Taxation Committee
Chair: Mark Blasdel
Vice Chair: Mike Miller
Vice Chair: Dick Barrett
Steve Fitzpatrick
Kelly Flynn
Alan Hale
Brian Hoven
Austin Knudsen
Steve Lavin
Sue Malek
Edie McClafferty
Mary McNally
Jerry O'Neil



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