

February 1, 2011

**SB195: Revising laws relating to the Montana seed laboratory...**

Introduced by: R. Ripley

Since my husband has been involved in Montana agriculture a lot longer than I have, I ran this bill past him. His reaction was 'why is this necessary?'.  
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All this bill does is grow government by creating a new board and new procedures. The voters sent a clear message last November that they wanted less government, not more.

Not only that, but I find it interesting that this new advisory board would consist of "five members appointed by the director of the agricultural experiment station". It seems to me that the director would select members of like mind, rather than a representative cross section of stakeholders, such as the Montana Department of Agriculture, Montana State University Cooperative Extension Service, seed producers, and Montana grain growers. Each stakeholder group should be allowed to provide a board member.

This bill would only increase testing fees, without providing additional service or real functionality.

I ask the members of the committee to by voting **NO** on this bill.

Thank you,

**Cindy Swank**

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