

EXHIBIT NO. 7
DATE 2-18-11
BILL NO. SB 294Amendments to Senate Bill No. 294
1st Reading Copy

Requested by Senator Joe Balyeat

For the Senate Business, Labor, and Economic Affairs Committee

Prepared by Pat Murdo
February 18, 2011 (7:53am)

1. Title, page 1, line 9.

Following: "EMPLOYED;"**Insert:** "PROVIDING ALTERNATE CRITERIA FOR WAGES FOR NEW JOBS;"

2. Page 3, line 30.

Following: "~~employed.~~"**Insert:** "A grant may be provided only for a new job for which the average weekly wage is at least 75% of the current average weekly wage of the county in which the employee is to be principally employed or 150% of the state's minimum wage, whichever is less."

- END -

Explanation - Montana minimum wage is currently \$7.35. 150% of that is \$11.025. The lowest county average weekly wage is \$8.88 in Petroleum County. 75% of that is \$6.66, below the minimum wage. The highest average weekly wage is in Fallon County at \$21.70. 75% of \$21.70 is \$16.275. Lake County's average weekly wage is \$14.35 and 75% of that is \$10.76.