

In Favor of HB 387 Senate Fish & Game Committee 3-31-11

Chairman Brenden, and members of the Committee:

My name is Mary Ellen Schnur. I reside east of Townsend. I ask your support today of HB387.

I have been active in tourism promotion for many years, both as a member of Gold West Country, and as a past member of the Tourism Advisory Council. In tourism promotion circles, we're always talking about ways to attract tourists, and to keep them coming back to Montana. Hospitality and good customer service are key.

This bill is about customer service. Montana's hunting license drawing is so late in the spring, that many people who would like to hunt in Montana cannot plan to come. Many union employees in production jobs must claim their vacation days by the end of January. Likewise, many doctors who are employed at major medical centers must confirm their vacation days by mid-February.

*prevention  
police*

The early bird opportunity will allow these people to plan a hunting trip in Montana. Their hunts here will bring added money to public hunting access funds through the premium price of the license, as well as bring new money to the communities in which they hunt.

Thank you for your vote in favor of HB387.