

Dear Senators:

I am finding it difficult to understand the logic of HB 516. On the one hand, this senate has proposed legislation that nullifies actions of the federal government, because you believe in local control. On the other hand, in this bill, you are considering nullifying the actions of city governments.

If you really believe in local control and smaller government, let local governments make their own decisions.

There is already a system of judicial review for determining if local governments have overstepped their authority. That is the job of the courts.

I believe that House Bill 516 is an attack on the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community. The only reason this bill has been proposed is to promote discrimination.

I urge you to vote no on HB516, and additionally I ask for your support in expanding the protected classes listed in the Montana Human Rights Act to include gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people. I again thank the cities of Missoula and Bozeman for passing these ordinances.

Sincerely,

Bryher Herak  
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