

Exhibit No. 3Dear Honorable Chairman Murphy and Committee members: Date 1/14/2011Bill No. SB 2

Testimony to answer questions regarding including "All" schools in SB2:

This bill is meant to serve the under served children of Montana. Percentages of students qualifying for free and reduced lunch can be used to make determinations about eligibility for services to schools. Why would standards for a free lunch be used to determine who receives a preventive oral health service? It is definitely possible that there are parents that don't want or can't participate in a free/reduced lunch program, but have other life circumstances that prevent them from getting their children to the dentist on a regular basis. The schools not reflecting 40-50% or more free and reduced lunch percentages will invariably have children attending that are in need of preventative oral health in the way of sealants. **By determining care by a standard of 50% free and reduced lunches, we will fail to serve 60% of the schools in our state. At a 40% standard, we will fail by 40%.** Should these children be denied care because they happen to go to the wrong school? One that doesn't qualify? These are children that continue to fall through the proverbial cracks as a result of decisions limiting access.

You may hear or have heard that this state will not receive federal grants if these limitations are not included. That is a misstatement. As of now there are no rules in place concerning federal school sealant grants.

This bill is all about **increasing** access to care for the under served. Some are trying to **limit** access to the under served. I ask this committee to pass this bill as is and let **all** schools be available to receive more oral preventative services in the way of sealants for the children of this state.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Wordal, RDH
Immediate Past President of MDHA