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PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY

Exhibit No. 18

Date 1/14/2011

Bill No. 832

January 14, 2011

Senator Terry Murphy, Chairman  
Members of the Senate Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee  
Montana State Capitol

Dear Chairman Murphy and members of the Senate Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee:

On behalf of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana (BCBSMT) I would like to express support for Senate Bill 2, a bill to allow dental hygienists to conduct school-based sealant programs.

BCBSMT has been a strong supporter over the years of wellness and prevention for our members. Senate Bill 2, as I am sure you will hear in testimony today, will help Montana children to get that needed preventive care.

Recently, our Caring Foundation granted money to the Healthy Montana Kids program to enable some dental care to be provided to those children insured under that program. We believe that donation will be rewarded, with not only brighter smiles, but with better health for those children.

BCBSMT hopes this committee will pass Senate Bill 2. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Frank G. Cote  
Senior Director of Government Relations  
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana