

EXHIBIT 5  
DATE 1-22-13  
HB 249

Mary Ann Murray  
487 S Sand Creek Rd.  
Jordan, MT 59337

I am speaking as a proponent for HB 249. The key words to me in this bill are "private lands". Article 2 Section 3 of Montana Constitution guarantees my right to defend myself and protect my private property. This bill addresses only wild bison on private property. Whereas bison are unpredictable and migratory animals by nature, I need to be able to take action to minimize my risk. Bison bulls will breed cows thereby compromising my breeding program. Bison wallow and would cause immense damage in wheat fields or other crops. Bison are generally very hard to handle and could pose a risk especially to younger persons who might encounter them while gathering cattle, or in routine ranch and farm activities.

It is for these reasons I speak in favor of HB 249.

Thanks you.