

February 2013
EXHIBIT 10
DATE 2/14/2013
HB 370

Dear Members of the Montana Legislature,

We, the undersigned faith leaders, reflecting the rich diversity of faith traditions and spiritual practices observed in Montana, stand together in expressing our opposition to our state's death penalty. As faith leaders, the public often seeks our guidance and direction on tough issues. We write to you today to ask you to support House Bill 370, which will repeal Montana's death penalty and replace it with a sentence of life without parole.

We join the many Montanans questioning our state's death penalty system, which has consistently proved to be ineffective, unfair, and inaccurate. The death penalty not only applies disproportionately to the poor and to people of color, but also continues to make fatal mistakes, with 142 people now freed from death rows across the country due to innocence. The more we execute, the more likely it is that we will execute an innocent person, if we haven't already.

We also have concerns about the way the death penalty fails murder victims' family members. As religious leaders, we are sometimes looked to as resources for victims' families in the aftermath of murder. As such, we have a special interest in advocating for policies that serve their needs and promote healing and well-being. Yet there is growing evidence that the death penalty does the opposite; it actually prolongs victims' pain and delays healing while appeals and reversals force families to relive their trauma again and again.

Finally, we write to voice our unease about the way our state's death penalty diverts funds from other needs. With the prosecution of a single capital case costing millions of dollars and in light of the serious economic challenges that face our nation, the valuable resources that are expended to carry out death sentences would be better spent investing in programs that work to prevent crime, such as improving education, providing services to those with mental illness, and putting more law enforcement officers on our streets. We should make sure that money is spent to improve life, not destroy it.

As people of faith, we take this opportunity to reaffirm our opposition to the death penalty and to express our belief in the sacredness of human life and in the human capacity for change. It is this respect for all life that prompts us to join with other death penalty opponents across the state now advocating for abolition of Montana's death penalty. When a human life is at stake, there is simply no room for error.

We urge you to take a closer look at the reality of capital punishment in Montana and seek ways to achieve true healing and restorative justice for all those who suffer because of violent crimes. Please support death penalty abolition; the time is right for Montana to take a stand.

Sincerely,

Pastor Morie Adams-Griffin, Belgrade
United Methodist Church

Pastor Avis R. Anderson, Glendive
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Kelly Addy, Huntley
United Methodist Church

Retired Pastor Dee Anna, Boulder, Whitehall
United Methodist Church

Sandra Alessi, President, Whitefish
Unitarian Universalist

Father Jim Antoine, OFM Cap., Lodge Grass,
Big Horn County
Roman Catholic

Reverend Dave Andersen, Helena
United Methodist Church

Reverend Mark D. Arnold, Baker
United Church of Christ

Joseph Balkovatz, Anaconda
Roman Catholic

Reverend Cathy Barker, Helena
United Church of Christ

The Reverend Robyn Barnes, Diocese of
Montana
Episcopalian

Reverend Sarah Beck, Hamilton
United Methodist Church, American Baptist
Churches USA

Reverend Pattiann Bennett, Eureka
Episcopalian

Pastor Steven Benson, Libby
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Jeffrey P. Benusa, Harlowton
Roman Catholic

Deacon John C. Board, Diocese of Montana
Episcopalian

Sandie Bolles, Clinton
Religious Society of Friends (Quaker)

Sister Catrina Bones, SCL, Billings
Roman Catholic

**Bishop Franklin Brookhart, Diocese of
Montana
Episcopalian**

Very Reverend Raymond Brown, Helena
Episcopalian

Pastor Laurie Budlong-Morse, Helena
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Pastor Scott Budlong, Helena
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Reverend Bradn Buerkle, Plevna
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Father Rudy Bullman, Kalispell
Roman Catholic

Father William T. Burke, S.J., Billings,
Yellowstone County
Roman Catholic

Deacon Jim Butts, Bigfork
Roman Catholic

Reverend Mark Calhoun, Polson
United Methodist Church

Pastor Patricia Callaghan, Sunburst
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Amy M. Carter, Missoula
United Church of Christ

Sister Dorothy Jean Casey, SCL, Billings
Roman Catholic

Reverend William M. Cawley, Great Falls-
Billings Diocese
Roman Catholic

Reverend Lindean Barnett Christenson,
Bozeman
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Kevin Christofferson, Frenchtown
Roman Catholic

Georgina Clark, LEM, Park City
Episcopalian

Pastor Dolly Collins, Shelby
United Methodist Church

Reverend Jerry L. Collins, Harlowton
United Methodist Church

Sister Marie Corr, BVM, Missoula
Roman Catholic

**Bishop Jessica Crist, Montana Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America**

Pastor John Daniels, ca
United Methodist Church

Father John J. Darragh, Hamilton
Roman Catholic

Daniel Davis, Whitefish
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Reverend Dr. Richard L. Davis, Anaconda
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Sister Jean M. Dawson, SCL, Billings
Roman Catholic

Reverend Su DeBree, District Superintendent,
Western Mountains Yellowstone Conference
United Methodist Church

Reverend Daniel Disch, Missoula
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Pastor Karen Disney, Dillon
United Methodist Church

Reverend Dan Dixon, Missoula
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Sister Roxanne Dolak, RSM, Kalispell
Roman Catholic

Pastor Mark J. Donald, Billings
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Deacon William Andy Dorrington, Ruby and
Madison Valleys
Roman Catholic

Reverend John Duckworth, Great Falls
American Baptist Churches USA

Deacon Tony Duvernay, Helena
Roman Catholic

Pastor Kent H. Elliott, Clancy
United Methodist Church

Harold Everson, Billings
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Sister Doris Faber, Missoula
Roman Catholic

The Reverend Michael Fay, Glasgow
Episcopalian

Reverend Duane V. Ferchen, Billings
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Father Jeff Fleming, Missoula
Roman Catholic

**Reverend Dr. Ruth A. Fletcher, Regional
Minister, Christian Church in Montana
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**

Reverend Chris Flohr, Missoula
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Father Kenneth E. Fortney, Sanders County
Roman Catholic

Reverend Kristi Foster, Billings
United Church of Christ
Chaplain, Rocky Mountain College

Father Richard G. Francesco, Whitefish
Roman Catholic

Laurie Franklin, Missoula
Reform Jewish

Reverend Randolph Graczyk, OFM Cap., Pryor
Roman Catholic

Reverend Rick Green, Joliet
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Ron Greene, Great Falls
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Reverend Gail Greener, Missoula
United Church of Christ

Pastor John V. Gronli, Martinsdale
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Karl Guhn, Billings
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Larry Guilbault, Great Falls
Roman Catholic

Reverend David Gunderson, Livingston
Episcopalian

Pastor Loren Gustafson, Helena
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Lyle Hamilton, Helena
United Methodist Church

Reverend Curtis B. Haney, Billings
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Msgr. Joseph D. Harrington, Helena
Roman Catholic

Reverend Mike Hart, Superior/St. Regis,
Alberton
United Methodist Church

Yvonne Hauwiller, Bozeman
Roman Catholic

Carol Heath, Billings
United Methodist Church

Chuck Heath, Hospital Chaplain, Billings
United Methodist Church

Reverend Scott Hedegaard, Glasgow
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Jim Heikes, Butte
United Methodist Church

Reverend Dan. E. Heskett, Kalispell
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Father James J. Hogan, Missoula
Roman Catholic

Sister Margaret Hogan, Hamilton
Roman Catholic

Dr. Christine Holler-Dinsmore, Wolf Point
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Gregory V. Holler-Dinsmore, Wolf
Point
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Cheryl J. Hoops, Harlem
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Vicki Horn, Missoula
United Methodist Church

Father Matthew P. Huber, Stevensville
Roman Catholic

Sister Edna Hunthausen, SCL, Helena
Roman Catholic

Reverend Randall L. Hyvonen, Conference
Minister, Montana-Northern Wyoming
Conference
United Church of Christ

Reverend Terry Jimmerson, Missoula
Roman Catholic

Reverend Doug Johnson, Billings
Prebyterian Church (USA)
MAC Commission

Reverend Jean Johnson, Ennis
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Pastor Aprille Jordan, Missoula
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Greg Karlsgodt, Hamilton, Missoula
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Father Denis Keane, Red Lodge
Roman Catholic

Reverend Alice Ebi Kestler, Brady, Dutton
United Methodist Church

Reverend Tom King, Missoula
Evangelical Covenant Church

Reverend Waveland King, Whitehall
United Methodist Church

Sister Catherine Kinsella, OP, Great Falls
Roman Catholic

The Venerable Archdeacon Roxanne
Klingensmith, Diocese of Montana
Episcopalian

Reverend Dr. Vern L. Klingman, Billings
United Methodist Church

Father Ed Kohler, Browning
Roman Catholic

Reverend Dan Krebill, Bozeman
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Deacon Robert Lane, Three Forks, Belgrade
Roman Catholic

Reverend Darius Larsen, Big Sky
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Beverly J. Larson, Kalispell
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Jean Larson, Bonner
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Robert K. Leaverton, Absarokee
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Thomas Lee, Missoula
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Charlane Lines, Sidney
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Tim Ljunggren, Great Falls
Episcopalian

Pastor Brentley E. Long, Billings
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Betty Lovelady, Co-Clerk, Helena
Religious Society of Friends (Quaker)

Bill Lovelady, Clerk, Helena
Religious Society of Friends (Quaker)

Grace Lucas, Missoula
Religious Society of Friends (Quaker)

Robert Lucas, Missoula
Religious Society of Friends (Quaker)

Pastor John Lund, Missoula
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Andrew Maddock, S.J., St. Ignatius
Roman Catholic

Reverend Janet Malone, Hamilton
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Deacon Don Marks, Townsend
Roman Catholic

Carol March, Missoula
Unitarian Universalist

Pastor Melanie Martin-Dent, Anaconda
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Pastor Phillip Masters, Anaconda
Assemblies of God

Reverend Deacon Thomas McCarthy, Missoula
Roman Catholic

Sister Valerie McGeough, RSM, Billings
Roman Catholic

Deacon Dan McGrath, Butte
Roman Catholic

Reverend Mark McGregor, S.J., Missoula
Roman Catholic

Reverend Don Melchert, Missoula
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend David Merkel, Billings
United Methodist Church

Reverend Val Metropoulos, Big Sandy
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

The Reverend Deacon John Moran, Helena
Episcopalian

Reverend Timothy Moriarty, Anaconda
Roman Catholic

**Reverend Kama Hamilton Morton, Great Falls
United Methodist Church**

Reverend Dr. Kenneth P. Mottram, Bozeman
American Baptist Churches USA

Reverend Glen Moyer, Missoula
Non-Denominational Christian

Reverend Leslie M. Nelson, Libby
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Marianne Niesen, Helena
United Methodist Church

Reverend Robert Nilsen, Kalispell
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Mary Nordhagen, Missoula
Unitarian Universalist

Father Thomas O'Dennell, East Helena
Roman Catholic

Monsignor Kevin S. O'Neill, Helena
Roman Catholic

Sister Elizabeth Olsen, BVM, Missoula
Roman Catholic

Kathy Olson, Helena
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Alvina Olstead, Opheim
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Steve Oreskovich, Missoula
Episcopalian

Pastor Barry Padget, Missoula
United Methodist Church

Reverend John Payne, Polson
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Reverend Carolyn Pease-Lopez, Lodge Grass
American Baptist Churches USA

Father Rich Perry, S.J., Missoula
Roman Catholic

Pastor Tom Peterman, Billings
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Dave Peters, Billings
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend James G. Petersen, Great Falls
United Church of Christ

Very Reverend Jay H. Peterson, Great Falls-
Billings Diocese
Roman Catholic

Father Herbert Joseph Pins, Dillon
Roman Catholic

Reverend Domenico Pizzonia, STL, Black
Eagle, Great Falls
Roman Catholic

Father Michael Poole, Bonner
Roman Catholic

Sister Francis X. Porter, OSU, Great Falls
Roman Catholic

Reverend Robert A. Porter, Deer Lodge
Roman Catholic

Reverend Robert Quam, Billings
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Larry D. Quanbeck, Butte
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Sister Mary Jo Quinn, SCL, Missoula
Roman Catholic

Revered Sally Ralston, Hall
United Methodist Church

Pastor Matt Randles, Helena
Evangelical Covenant Church

Terri Revealy, Diocese of Great Falls-Billings
Roman Catholic

Reverend David Reichling, Billings
Roman Catholic

Reverend Gary W. Reller, Missoula
Roman Catholic

Very Reverend John Robertson, Chancellor,
Diocese of Helena
Roman Catholic

Pastor John S. Rohwer, White Sulphur Springs
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Saharadevi, Bozeman
Dances of Universal Peace Hindu Community

Reverend Brenda Satrum, Hamilton
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend David Reichling, Billings
Roman Catholic

Reverend Deborah Schmidt, Whitefish
United Methodist Church

Reverend Charlotte Schmiedeskamp, Thompson
Falls
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Jim Shelden, Helena
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

The Reverend Jane Shipp, Dillon
Episcopalian

Reverend Peter Shoher, Missoula
United Church of Christ
President, Montana Association of Churches

Reverend Nancy Slabaugh, Stevensville
United Methodist Church

Father Elton Smith, Butte
Episcopalian

Reverend John Soderberg, Bozeman
United Methodist Church

Rabbi Ed Stafman, Bozeman
Reform Jewish

Dorothy Starshine, Great Falls
Religious Society of Friends (Quaker)

Reverend Tom Steenberg, Missoula
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Sister Therese Steiner, SCL, Billings
Roman Catholic

Dr. Edwin Stickney, Billings
United Church of Christ

Dr. Jessica Stickney, Billings
United Church of Christ

Reverend Herbert E. Strom, Bozeman
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Pastor Becky Taylor, Billings
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Dave Thompson, Billings
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Reverend Eric Thorson, Billings
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Kathryn Trucano, Bozeman
Interfaith Minister

Reverend Stephen Van Gilder, Great Falls
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Pastor Randy Van Osdol, Belgrade
Christian Reformed Church

Pastor Celia VandeCreek, Bozeman
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Pastor Larry VandeCreek, Bozeman
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Reverend Lois Van Leer, Bozeman
Unitarian Universalist

Sister Mary Vincentia, SCL, Billings
Roman Catholic

Reverend Joe Wahlin, Superior
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend George A. Walter, Polson
Episcopalian

Ann Pressman Walters, Billings
United Methodist Church

**Bishop Michael W. Warfel, Diocese of Great
Falls-Billings
Roman Catholic**

**Reverend Alan Warneke, Superintendent,
Montana District
Assemblies of God**

The Reverend Dr. Susan Watterson, Glasgow,
Hinsdale
United Church of Christ / United Methodist
Church

Reverend Richard Weaver, Helena
United Church of Christ

Reverend Linda Webster, Box Elder, Rocky Boy
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Joel Westby, Missoula
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Rita Whittington, Billings
Roman Catholic

Reverend Kendra Wilde, Helena
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Reverend Kim L. Wilker, Red Lodge
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Martha Winford, Anaconda
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Sister Marilyn A. Winter, OP, Great Falls
Roman Catholic

The Reverend Canon Bradley S. Wirth,
Whitefish, Columbia Falls
Episcopalian

Reverend Donna J. Young, Plains, Paradise
United Methodist Church

Reverend Ernest G. Young, Polson
United Methodist Church

Reverend Kathy Young, Bigfork
United Methodist Church

Deacon Mark Zenner, Diocese of Great Falls-
Billings
Roman Catholic

Reverend Peter Erickson,, Columbia Falls
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Robert Staigmiller, Absarokee
United Church of Christ

Nancy Staigmiller, Absarokee
United Church of Christ

Reverend Steven Yurosko, Polson
Episcopalian

**Reverend George Goodrich, Bozeman
Presbyterian Church (USA)**

Reverend Jean G. Collins, Lewistown
Episcopalian

Reverend Jean McLean, Diocese of Montana
Episcopalian

Reverend Linda McCloud, Billings
Episcopal Church

Reverend Ed Steveson, Helena
United Methodist Church

Reverend Dan Wanders, Bozeman
United Methodist Church

Reverend Canon Clark M. Sherman, Bozeman
Episcopalian

Reverend Thomas R. Boller, Livingston
United Methodist Church

Reverend Doctor Nina D. Gray, Bozeman
Unitarian Universalist