

EXHIBIT 45
DATE 3/27/2013
SB 629

Bill Chandler
Missoula
(406) 531-6780
bill.a.chandler@gmail.com

Vote No on HB 629

I'm an old forester, once part of a vibrant and thriving timber industry.

Yet as I stand before you today, that once great industry is but a skeleton of what it once was. It died on my watch. Each mill shutdown was another death in the family. We mourned. We had failed. And none of us knew why – none of us understood what had happened to us.

I say this because I see another great Montana industry - agriculture, ranching and farming - beginning their death spiral – and for the same reasons.

I'm not politically correct. I've found knowledge is not right or wrong (it's just knowledge) – rather it's an ideology's intolerance that colors knowledge into right or wrong.

So what happened to us? An ideology within our society colored private property as a "wrong". The timber industry became politically incorrect.

It seems that when one peels back the layers of political correctness, environmental activism and social justice what remains is the concept of property. Property has two poles: The timber industry blindly focused on the private property pole while the shutdowns emanated from Karl Marx's "abolish all private property" ideology.

What shut us down was a violent nonconsensual ideological attack against private property by the "anti-property" ideology. And it was all legal.

So what is private property?

Every decision, every choice we make, begins with private property. Private property is far more than a TV set or your home. Private property implies choice – you privately and voluntarily choose to own a TV or your house.

Private property is not a new concept. America rebelled against an absolute sovereign and subsequently wrote a Constitution embracing the philosophy of private property. The Declaration of Independence states:

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.

The Declaration's reference to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness defines the philosophy of private property.

In the future tense: We choose life – to deny life is murder.

In the present tense: Liberty is your choice, your freedom of conscience, thought, association and political liberty. Denial of liberty is imprisonment, servitude, bondage and rape.

In the past tense: the product of your "past" choices, efforts and work, to create a better life for yourself, is your pursuit of happiness – to deny this is theft.

The Founders believed these to be "self-evident" truths. We are all equal in Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. The truths are inseparable and "unalienable" - they cannot be separated from your private person.

Any violent nonconsensual assault on your Life, Liberty or Pursuit of Happiness is a violation of your private property. Unfortunately, this is what the Compact seeks to do through law.

The recent rape case in Missoula elucidates our founder's truths statement. Rape is a violent nonconsensual assault on private property. No one denies this. Yet we, our society, forget the football player was also subjected to a rape of his liberty as evidenced by his incarceration, suspension (from education and football team), spoiled reputation, lost integrity, and lost future rewards. In his case, the State became the aggressor. Yes, he was acquitted, but his liberty has been scarred forever.

As I understand it, this Compact is a treaty between two sovereign nations - where one resides within the borders of the other. The stated intent of the Compact is to deny Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness to those not born by blood into the sovereign nation.

From a private property perspective, this Compact will subject the nontribal citizens of western Montana to a violent nonconsensual rape by its government. With a stroke of a pen, two sovereign nations will seek to abolish private property by denying its citizens their life giving water. It will be a legal theft and, as a consequence, the rewards of our work, our life, our liberty and our pursuit of happiness will also be taken from us.

We will have no recourse. It's the law. This rape is forever - just as it was with Montana's timber industry.

Vote No on HB 629.