

# THE MONTANA LEGISLATURE

EXHIBIT 17  
DATE 01/14/2013  
HB 30



January 14, 2013

State Administration Committee  
House of Representatives  
Montana State Legislature  
Capitol Building, P.O. Box 200500  
Helena, Montana 59620-0500

Dear House Committee Members:

The American Indian Caucus of the Montana State Legislature opposes House Bill 30. House Bill 30 proposes to eliminate same day registration for elections. Our data indicates 14% of the total late registrations in Montana were in Native American counties in 2012. These counties have been integral in deciding State-wide, National and local elections through their participation. All Montanans have been afforded the opportunity to register and vote on the same day. Late registration is very important and not a burden to anyone.

In particular, late registration in American Indian counties has steadily increased from 2006. Without late registration, 1160 individuals within these counties would have been turned away and not allowed to vote during the 2012 elections.

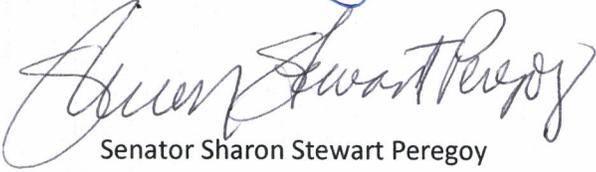
We, the American Indian Caucus of the Montana State Legislature believe that House Bill 30 is another attempt to suppress American Indians right to vote. We urge this august body to vote NO and TABLE House Bill 30.

Sincerely,



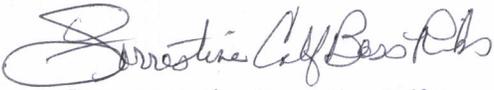
Senator Shannon J. Augare

Senator Jonathan Windy Boy



Senator Sharon Stewart Peregoy

Representative Clarena Brockie



Representative Forrestina Calf Boss Ribs



Representative Lea Whitford

Representative Rae Peppers



Representative Carolyn Pease Lopez

Cc/attachment 1