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Madame Chair and Committee Members,

I come before you to oppose House Bill 410 because it directly violates section 5 of the Voting Rights Act and would not be enforceable.

Under Section 5, any change with respect to voting in a covered jurisdiction -- or any political subunit within it -- cannot legally be enforced unless and until the jurisdiction first obtains the requisite determination by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or makes a submission to the Attorney General. This requires proof that the proposed voting change does not deny or abridge the right to vote on account of race, color, or membership in a language minority group. If the jurisdiction is unable to prove the absence of such discrimination, the District Court denies the requested judgment, or in the case of administrative submissions, the Attorney General objects to the change, and it remains legally unenforceable.

In Florida they tried to enforce registrations on third-party voter registration groups but a federal judge blocked the law in May of 2012. House Bill 410 is unconstitutional and "plainly" in violation of the National Voter Registration Act. House Bill 410 and other voter suppression tactics, which the sponsor keeps trying to bring into Montana Legislation, are basically support **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)** views and outside groups.

Western Native Voice a nonpartisan group which worked on all seven reservations and four cities in Montana, registered over 6,300 new voters in the 2012 election, which was a record number. To my knowledge, Montana Native Americans had one of the highest turnouts in the country for NA, which says how progressive our state has become. A Elderly woman who was 89 years old who could not speak English, this was her first time registering to vote not because she didn't want to be registered or didn't vote, but the simple fact she couldn't read English and her first language was Cheyenne. I had one of our workers speak to her in Cheyenne and explain to her the process. She registered and to my knowledge voted. Voting is new in Native Country and having third party nonpartisan groups on reservations is essential and if you take this away, it would violate Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act.

Being in the military, I have been to various countries, where they are just beginning to learn democracy. They are excited to vote, to be able to have their voice heard finally. In some of the bills like House Bill 410, it seems like we are trying to take away the basic rights of American citizens. To my knowledge, no voting fraud was found this election cycle and some races were looked at in full detail from recounts but no such fraud was found. We have a system in Montana that works, concerning regulating voter fraud in Montana. So why change something that works. What I would love to see as a voter is progressive policy that enhances or encourages voting in Montana not these continuous bills that suppress voters.

Please Table House Bill 410 today, Thank you